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## **Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police**

### **Aviation Security Committee (ASC)**

**Chair: Supt. Joe Oliver, RCMP**

## **Annual Report 2011- 12**

**August 2012**

## BACKGROUND

1. The Aviation Security Committee (ASC) is mandated to make recommendations, influence and advance aviation security through collective leadership.
2. The Committee's work is guided by three strategic priorities:
  - a. Addressing threats to aviation security,
  - b. Strengthening coordination, collaboration and integration amongst aviation security partners; and
  - c. Addressing criminal exploitation of the aviation transportation system through progressive policing.
3. Recognizing that aviation security is a shared responsibility the ASC membership consists of representation from municipal, provincial and federal police services; Canadian airport authorities; airline security; and federal departments and agencies including Transport Canada, Canadian Security Intelligence Service and the Canada Border Services Agency.
4. In March 2011, the ASC developed a multi-year work plan and identified the following initiatives in support of its strategic priorities:
  - a. Establish protocols to enhance information sharing within the airport environment,
  - b. Develop recommendations in response to the threat posed by laser strikes on aircraft and prohibited weapons in the airport environment.
  - c. Develop recommendations in relation to non-passenger screening practices to combat internal conspiracies, organized crime and would be terrorist activities.
  - d. Research and share best practices in relation to airport policing.
  - e. Establish policing standards for Canadian airports and establish a national training program.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2011-12

5. During this reporting period, the ASC met on two occasions (Calgary, October 2011; Ottawa, March 2012) and continued to make progress against its strategic work plan:
  - a. **Information Sharing** – Aviation security and emergency management in the airport environment involves numerous partners and stakeholders including police, border guards, airport screeners, airline security and airport operators. Committee meetings provided the opportunity for the membership to present on their information sharing authorities and policies. An information sharing matrix for private industry, regulatory authorities, law enforcement agencies and airport authorities has been drafted and has been returned to the contributors to ensure prior to being finalized.

- b. **Laser Strikes** – The ASC is continuing to explore options to address the increasing incidence of laser strikes against aircraft. ASC members participated in the Rogue Laser Workshop hosted by the Canadian Police Research Centre.
  - c. **Training** – The policing community expressed an interest in the development of a national airport policing training program. The RCMP lead the creation of an on-line training program which is intended for all uniform police officers at Canada’s major airports. The course has been completed and is now available to all Canadian police agencies via the Canadian Police Knowledge Network (CPKN) and to RCMP members on AGORA via the RCMP Infoweb.
  - d. **Threat assessments** – CSIS, on behalf of the Committee, was leading the development of an aviation threat risk assessment. However, this initiative has been put on hold pending the completion of a similar initiative being undertaken by Transport Canada to ensure that efforts are not duplicated and to determine how the results of the Transport Canada initiative might be incorporated into the ASC’s.
6. The Committee continued to be an appropriate forum to share information and best practices relating to its mandate. For example, Transport Canada provided briefings on its airport security programs including the security assessment process and the role of the multi-agency advisory committees (MACC) in Canada’s Class 1 airports. The Committee also received a presentation on the International Airport Watch Association.

#### **ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2012- 13**

- Maintain focus on advancing the Committee’s work plan.
- Review progress toward achieving the objectives outlined in resolution 03-2009 to determine next steps.
- Monitor the rollout of the Airport Policing course to determine if the needs of the police community are being met.
- Collaborate with the Information, Communications and Technology Committee on dangerous technologies, i.e. lasers.
- Continue to share best practices and receive briefings on the implementation of new aviation security regulations.