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Leading Progressive Change in Policing  
À l'avant-garde du progrès policier



## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Annual General Meeting  
98<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003**

**President Gwen M. Boniface speaking to the members  
of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police at the  
Annual General Meeting**

Prior to speaking on official matters of our Association I want to say a special thank you to our host chief and his magnificent organizing team. Your dedication to the conference is apparent in every aspect: from the wonderful social and companion program to a very important and topical professional program. The generosity of your hospitality, the friendliness of your staff and civic volunteers has left our delegates and their companions with wonderful memories of your city and its people. You created a conference that Chief McKinnon would have been extremely proud of.

Canada's police community is charged with protecting our citizens. While we are gathered here together in Halifax our thoughts and prayers go out to the brave men and women of Canada's armed forces. The members of our armed forces face many dangers in protecting the citizens of the countries in which they serve. We pray for their safe return. There will be many happy Canadian families due to HMCS Fredericton's imminent return from service abroad.

I would also like to take a brief moment to express my sympathy to the all residents of British Columbia, particularly those who have been affected personally by the tragic forest fires.

Over the past two years the support, guidance, energy, dedication and enthusiasm of the staff of our National Office has been remarkable and unwavering. We faced many challenges and opportunities together, some anticipated and some not anticipated. The challenges were met and you are to be congratulated for your efforts. The progress that the CACP has made and continues to make is by and large attributable to the work of these very dedicated people. Thank you Peter Cuthbert, Magda Mitilineos, Laurie Farrell, Angie Howe, and also to Liz Robertson, Laura Gomez and Chandra McDonald. One last special mention, Trevor McCagherty, our CACP consultant, thank you for your wise counsel, it has been truly appreciated and I 'm sure will be continued to be valued by our incoming president.

On Sunday morning at the Board of Directors and Committee and Function Chairs Meeting, I had the opportunity to thank the Committee Chairs for their support and active involvement. I would also like to express thanks on behalf of the membership of CACP to all members of the committees and functions. There is no doubt that you work diligently on behalf of the objectives of the Association and you continually advance the CACP mandate of "leading progressive change in policing". I would be remiss if I did not mention all our members: active,

associate, corporate and life. The members continue to be involved in our activities and we are deeply appreciative of your work.

I wish to thank the members of the Board of Directors for their hard work on behalf of the Association. Your efforts and dedication to the CACP, on top of your full time commitments, are commendable. Your guidance and support to me personally and the association as a whole is valued.

Each of our Past Presidents will be keenly aware of the organizational pressures created in their own Services when the 'Chief' or in my case 'Commissioner' is also C.A.C.P. President. I have enjoyed tremendous support from my deputy commissioners, Moe Pilon, Vaughn Collins, Gwen Strachan, Bill Currie, my executive officer and assistants and indeed all of the wonderful people at the O.P.P. My personal thanks to everyone.

My two years as President have been challenging and rewarding. One of the great challenges we face is the diversity of the membership of our Association. How do we best to serve each and every member?

The potential for conflict in policing between the big and the small, the have little and the have mores, the east and the west, the north and the south, the federal, provincial and municipal and on and on. We have, and need to continue to, build upon the harmony of purpose our Association stands for. In the words of famous sports psychologist, Peter Jensen, "we cannot continue to do things in the same way and expect different results." We must strive for unity. It is when we stand united, as one strong voice, that our words are heard!

## **Report of the President: 2002-2003**

As I mentioned last year in my report previous presidents had begun a process of organizational change designed to improve the overall effectiveness of the Association and to better enable the Association to meet the many challenges facing Canada's police leadership community.

Building upon the work of Past President John Moodie and Immediate Past President Larry Gravill, we have charted a course of action resulting in many major activities and initiatives.

Please allow me the opportunity to comment briefly on some of those activities and initiatives:

One of the goals of the executive of the CACP was to identify and engage a new Executive Director. I am pleased to announce that we have accomplished that goal; Superintendent Peter Cuthbert is now officially our Executive Director. Peter is making, and we have no doubt he will continue to make, a very substantial contribution to the success of our national initiatives and leading the national office team, and we are happy to have him on our team full time. Unfortunately Chief Bevan had to cancel his participation in this conference, but I would like to again, thank him for his patience in this matter, and in allowing Peter to remain in a seconded position at the CACP.

In addition to that we have fully implemented our decision to acquire property for the CACP office by purchasing an office building. The national office is now firmly established in the new building on Somerset Street. This was a big step for the CACP and one that has worked out superbly. We are quite proud of our new surroundings and encourage you to come and visit.

The CACP Business Action Task Force was initiated in 2001. The overall goal of this task was two fold, first achieve financial stability by budget year 2004 and second, to achieve revenues beyond current expenditure rates sufficient to advance the aims and objectives of the Association. Following two years of expenditures exceeding revenues we have now achieved a

balanced budget. Chief Barry King, our CACP Treasurer, and Magda Mitilineos, thank you for your tireless budgeting efforts.

I am proud to advise that we have completed and implemented all of the recommendations of the Organization Renewal Project and the Communications Committee Report.

I believe that we, as a association, have made major advancements in this area with our new, interactive web site; the workshops; the Forum Series; revitalizing our publications, such as the E Bulletins; the Chief's Magazine, the Magazine "Not for Adults", and the CACP Annual Review, just to name a few. You will have recently received our CACP summer bulletin; it is a great publication that brings members up to date on the CACP business and items of professional interest. On that note I would like to add that we encourage all members to submit articles for our publications, it is your expertise that has made us leaders in policing.

There is always room for improvement in the area of communications and in raising the profile of the CACP. We consider this an ongoing process and are proud of our accomplishments to date and look forward to our accomplishments of the future.

Our new web site is up and running successfully. As we heard on Monday the Law Amendments Committee and the National Office have created an exciting and informative section called "Bills, Briefs and Other Business" – what a great way to stay up to date on all topics that affect each of us and to ensure that we all speak from the "same page". I can certainly see this site branching out to all of our committees for their use in keeping members apprised of "hot topics".

I encourage all members to take advantage of this new enhancement to our web site, I think you will be pleased it it's ability to keep you, the police leaders, up to date on issues in policing.

As has been mentioned in previous years the CACP Police Forum Series deals with contemporary leadership issues for police executives in today's policing environment. Responding to member requests that the Forum Series be held on a regional basis, November 2002 the Forum Series was held in Victoria, British Columbia on the topic of 'Maintaining

Public Trust in Police’ In May 2003 of this year the Forum was at St. Andrews by the Sea, New Brunswick, the topic being ‘Managing Risk in a High Risk Organization’. This same topic will be covered in the forthcoming Forum November 2 to November 5 in Banff, Alberta. We hope you will take advantage of these professional development opportunities. Please visit our web site for further information and registration forms.

As introduced at last year’s conference the International Best Practices Project was an executive development learning opportunity for Canada’s police leaders and future police leaders. It was designed to enhance the operating capabilities of the organizations that comprise the Canadian justice community. The CACP conducted this project in fulfillment of our commitment to play an important role in the development of leaders for the future of Canadian Policing.

As we saw and heard yesterday the participants assembled the final results from the project to form a compendium of Challenges for Canada to be shared across the Canadian justice sector. A copy of this document will be available shortly on our website. My congratulations to all participants on your very worthwhile efforts.

The CACP Research Foundation underwent a comprehensive review and audit of its operating finances, investment strategies, procedures, grant obligations and legal responsibilities. This was part of an overall strategy to revitalize the Foundation and to ensure that the Trustees and the members met their commitments of this important charitable foundation. I am pleased to report that this work is now completed.

I am proud to advise that we have fully implemented the support and infrastructure required to maintain the Order of Merit for the Police Services. In April 2003 Her Excellency, Governor General Adrienne Clarkson presented 33 police officers with their medals. Congratulations to all recipients.

Nominations are now being accepted for next year’s Order. Please note that the deadline is September 15, 2003. I urge you to check the website for more information and details. We are proud to advise that the National Office is coordinating this prestigious honour.

We continue to build and improve our relationships with the federal departments of the Solicitor General and Justice. We have successfully collaborated in providing our organizational and logistical support to conduct workshops on topics of importance to the justice community.

The National Office, in conjunction with the Organized Crime Committee developed and presented a workshop on Organized Crime, and further, in conjunction with the Crime Prevention Committee developed a National Symposium on Family Violence. Both of these events were well attended and considered to be extremely successful.

In collaboration with the Informatics Committee the national office is preparing for our next learning opportunity, that being “Police and Enforcement Partnerships: Making Information Sharing Happen”. You will have noticed the exciting program of enablement, exemplification and engagement in your delegate’s packages. The CACP office is are now accepting registrations through the CACP Home Page.

We enjoy an excellent relationship and rapport with representatives of many other federal and provincial government institutions, a number of whom are here today. In numerous projects we partner with national associations such as the Canadian Police Service Boards, Canadian Professional Police Association and the Peace Officers Association, just to name a few. We look forward to future collaborations with these associations.

We continue to renew our relationship with the Canadian Association of Police Boards, Canadian Professional Police Association, and liaison staff from the Department of the Solicitor General of Canada by participating in Joint Committee meetings. This committee will assist all associations in determining areas where collaboration and joint effort could lead to the common good. Just as an example we again collaborated with the CPPA and the CAPB to put forward a joint resolution on lawful access. What an example of one strong voice!!!

This year at separate times we met with Solicitor General Wayne Easter who and Minister of Justice Marin Cauchon, along with senior members of the Department, attended a meeting of our Board of Directors. These meetings are highly beneficial to the CACP and are vital in our efforts to communicate the CACP viewpoint and agenda and to foster improved relations between our Association and senior levels of government.

The Honourable Jean Augustine, Secretary of State (Multiculturalism and Status of Women) made a very exciting announcement yesterday during her luncheon speech. The LEAD (Law Enforcement Aboriginal Diversity Network) initiative will create a network of national, provincial, regional municipal and aboriginal community level police officers from across Canada. It will be a forum for officers to ask questions and share information and best practices about policing in our Aboriginal and diverse communities. There will be a website, E-newsletter and a virtual platform for the network. LEAD is considered a benchmark in the progress towards integrated policing in Canada.

The future of our Association is now on a firm foundation and the next term will be an excellent opportunity to enhance our ability to advocate Association positions as we strive to play our role in building a healthier and safer Canada.

My second year as President of the CACP has been a demanding and incredibly exciting year. It is with deep regret that I pass over the reigns to our incoming President, there is some consolation for me in the fact that I will remain involved in the day-to-day activities of the association in the role of Past President and I look forward to that role with anticipation.

Once again, thank you to everyone. I look forward to working with our new President and Board members.

This concludes the President's Report for the 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and again thank you for the opportunity to serve Canada's police leadership community in the role of President of the CACP. It has truly been an honour.

Thank you.

Gwen M. Boniface  
President