



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer Commandant divisionnaire

July 1st, 2023

Minister R.J. Simpson  
 Department of Justice  
 Government of the Northwest Territories  
 PO Box 1320  
 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Dear Minister Simpson,

***Re: Territorial Police Service Agreement – RCMP Annual Report (2022-2023)***

Pursuant to Article 7.2 (c) of the 2012-2032 Territorial Police Service Agreement (TPSA), I am happy to provide you with our report on the implementation of the Territory's objectives, priorities and goals for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

The Minister of Justice determined that the 2022-2023 GNWT Policing Priorities were to:

- 1) Promote Trust and Confidence in Policing Services;
- 2) Effective Response to Illegal Drugs and Alcohol;
- 3) Operational and Fiscal Innovation

**Promote Trust and Confidence in Policing Services**

Promoting trust and confidence in policing services is paramount to ensuring effective law enforcement and cultivating harmonious relationships between the communities and the police.

The RCMP is unwavering in its commitment to reconciliation and forging strong partnerships between the police and indigenous communities in the Northwest Territories. The RCMP Reconciliation Strategy serves as a guiding principle for the organization, outlining the framework for its reconciliation efforts. Within "G" Division, leadership recognizes the significance of member engagement within the community and promotes the embrace of appropriate cultural practices and traditional ways of life. To facilitate this engagement, "G" Division mandates Community Orientation for members who transfer into new communities. This orientation serves as an effective introduction for incoming members to familiarize themselves with their new community and its unique dynamics. Moreover, "G" Division remains dedicated to providing comprehensive training to its employees, covering various essential areas such as de-escalation techniques, identifying emotionally distressed individuals, crisis intervention, bias awareness, cultural sensitivity, and humility. This ongoing training ensures that RCMP members are equipped with the necessary skills and understanding to sensitive and effectively serve diverse communities.

The Commanding Officer is dedicated to fostering the ongoing advancement of Public Safety Protocols alongside Indigenous communities. The primary objective of these protocols is to cultivate mutual trust and cooperation with the communities served, to prevent crises and promptly address any potential disputes. Over the course of the year, the Commanding Officer and senior leadership have actively maintained involvement with the leaders of the Indigenous communities, working towards renewing expired protocols with the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and the Dene Nation, aiming for a positive and harmonious way forward.

Canada



Royal Canadian Mounted Police    Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer    Commandant divisionnaire

The Commanding Officer ensures that all detachments in the division create and maintain an Annual Performance Plan (APP) to ensure the RCMP priorities align with those of the community. APP's are developed in consultation with local community leaders and officials to support both Territorial and RCMP policing priorities. Additionally, detachments create Community Action Plans (CAP) that establish yearly objectives addressing the identified priorities. The CAP represents a collaborative effort between the police and community resources, working together towards providing the desired level of service within the community. Detachments provide monthly progress reports through the Mayor/Chief Reports and quarterly reports through the CAP. These reports demonstrate the progress made in relation to the identified priorities and highlight the exceptional work performed by the membership on a daily basis.

The Commanding Officer recognizes the importance of maintaining high visibility among community leaders and members. To achieve this, the Commanding Officer, together with divisional senior management, actively engaged in numerous community visits throughout the year, meeting with community members and officials. Notably, the Commanding Officer hosted the Commanding Officers Indigenous Consultative Committee (COICC), which consists of ten elders representing various communities across the Territory. The primary purpose of the COICC is to provide guidance and support to all RCMP members, facilitating respectful and functional relationships between the RCMP and the Indigenous communities.

In order to cultivate trust and ensure the safety of the public, "G" Division RCMP places a central emphasis on the principles of transparency and accountability. The "G" Division RCMP firmly upholds the value of preserving public trust and support, actively striving for maximum transparency and openness. Recognizing the significance of disclosure, the RCMP acknowledges the necessity of proactively sharing information pertaining to various aspects, including police interventions (including use of force), calls for service (including those related to mental health and wellness checks), and statistics on RCMP employee diversity. In line with their continued dedication to heightened transparency, the RCMP is actively engaging in sharing this information with the public, with the aim of fostering trust. It is important to note that this initiative has a nationwide reach, with the information being presented at a provincial and territorial level rather than in a national summary. The breakdown of information encompasses categories such as the type of intervention, inquiries into the subject and officer involved, and subject characteristics (including whether the subject was perceived to be under the influence of substances).

### **Effective Response to Illegal Drugs and Alcohol**

"G" Division RCMP implements a comprehensive Illicit Alcohol and Drug Strategy aimed at detecting and deterring the trafficking of illicit substances within the communities they serve. Through collaborative efforts with community members, "G" Division RCMP has established strong partnerships that enables intelligence gathering and effective disruption of the flow of these substances into and within the communities. "G" Division RCMP strategies rely on intelligence-led investigations, allowing "G" Division RCMP to target and dismantle illicit drug networks. By focussing on prolific offenders, "G" Division RCMP aims to disrupt their operations and prevent them from exploiting vulnerable community members. Furthermore, "G" Division RCMP has established cooperative relationships with community partners, including postal services and air carriers, which have proven invaluable in intercepting suspicious packages destined for the communities.



To further enhance efforts, "G" Division RCMP increased presence on waterways during the summer months. This proactive measure helps deter the transport of illicit alcohol into communities, thereby minimizing its harmful effects. Additionally, "G" Division RCMP conducted extensive check stops throughout the year, resulting in the seizure of significant quantities of illicit drugs and alcohol bound for the communities.

The Illicit Alcohol and Drug Strategy demonstrates "G" Divisions commitment to protecting community well-being. By working closely with the community, leveraging intelligence, and collaborating with partners, "G" Division strives to create safer environments, free from the impacts of illicit substances.

### **Operational and Fiscal Innovation**

"G" Division RCMP prioritizes stewardship by managing the budget prudently while maintaining operational effectiveness. "G" Division Commanding Officer understands the importance of fiscal responsibility and strives to maximize the value of every dollar allocated to the division. Through careful planning, financial monitoring, and strategic decision-making, "G" Division RCMP ensure that resources are utilized efficiently and effectively to achieve divisional priorities and deliver quality service to the communities served. By implementing cost-saving measures, such as virtual meeting and training opportunities, and continually seeking innovative solutions, and continuously evaluating expenditures, "G" Division RCMP aims to optimize the use of funds while upholding a commitment to operational excellence. This approach to budget management enables "G" Division RCMP to maintain the highest standards of service provision while being responsible custodians of public finances.

### **Showcasing G Division RCMP**

#### ***North District***

The North District encompasses 11 Detachments and a Relief Unit that are responsible for providing policing services to 13 communities in the Beaufort Delta and Sahtu regions. Policing in this district combines traditional enforcement methods with community-based approaches. This approach aims to foster engagement between RCMP members and the communities they serve, allowing members to learn about the local Indigenous culture.

The year 2022/2023 posed significant challenges for policing in the North District, as the population emerged from the isolation imposed by the Covid-19 Pandemic. Despite these challenges, policing services continued uninterrupted in all Beaufort Delta and Sahtu communities throughout the past year.

Policing priorities in the North District are aligned with national policing strategies, which prioritize the creation of safe communities, as well as specific policing priorities by the Minister of Justice of the Government of the Northwest Territories. The determination of localized community policing priorities involves a consultative process led by Detachment Commanders in collaboration with community and Indigenous leaders.

Throughout the previous year, key community enforcement priorities in the North District remained consistent and focused on addressing issues such as Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Bootlegging, and Impaired Driving. In terms of community-based policing efforts, all North District Detachments



emphasized member wellness and activities aimed at enhancing the relationship between RCMP personnel and Indigenous communities. Recognizing the significance of this relationship to the RCMP's commitment to reconciliation, efforts are made to understand and acknowledge past events that have had a lasting impact on Indigenous culture across generations.

#### Highlights from within North District:

##### Aklavik

- Participated in various after school sports activities for example: members started coaching a hockey team for young girls being introduced into playing hockey.
- Members continue to talks with youths about Water, Bike and ATV safety.
- Members held a BBQ and cooking for the communities, the teachers and nurses.

##### Deline

- Members of Deline detachment provided numerous school talks and set up a presentation with an Addictions Specialist to high school students focused on alcohol, drug abuse, and addiction.
- Members engaged in after school sports activities with the youth such as the bike rodeo.

##### Fort Good Hope

- Members participated in various cultural events including but not limited to: MMIWG vigil; wellness gathering; and other community events.
- Donated diverse items (Toys for the North) to the church and schools. (including Colville)
- Organized the Moose Hide Campaign to raise awareness of family abuse and Elder abuse

##### Fort McPherson

- Embraced learning the Indigenous cultures and have participated in many cultural events and celebrations. Some events include hosting community BBQs, participating in Feeding the Fire Ceremonies, hosting a Moose Hide Campaign designed to raise awareness of intimate partner violence, and participating in radio shows to address various community concerns.
- Donated diverse items to the church and schools. (including Tsiigehtchic)

##### Inuvik

- Member's continue to make great efforts to attend and participate in community events and took part in the Suicidal Awareness Walk as well as the walk-in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.
- Members continue to provide talks to community members and students on a regular basis. They participated in cooking and serving food on numerous occasions, and deliver Safety Talk to the kids.

##### Norman Wells

- Participating in celebrations such as Feed the fire, Anniversary Land Claims, Chief and Counsel Swearing.
- Embraced learning the Indigenous cultures and have participated in culture camp
- Participating in Truth and Reconciliation Day community walk and Detachment display.



### **Paulatuk**

- Participated in a number of community events and engaged in after school sports activities with the youth.
- Members continue to provide talks to community members and students on a regular basis. They engaged students on Family violence, bullying, and ATV and snowmobile safety.

### **Sachs Harbour**

- Participated in various school sports activities and assisting in teaching gym class.
- Assisted on traditional hunting/ trapping methods while travelling with local hunters on hunting trips.

### **Tulita**

- Members participated in work-out program at the gym with youth, and played baseball and basketball with youth in the evenings, and engaged at the Children's day camp.
- Members gifted moose meat to numerous elders in Tulita and to the Youth Drop in Centre so meals could be made for children and youth.

### **Ulukhaktok**

- Participated in radio shows to address various community concerns.
- Participated in various after school sports activities for example: members and their family attended the school gym many times in the evening, playing with a number of youths throughout the evenings, after school wrestling program and has been attending the Tuesday evenings basketball games.

### **South District**

The South District comprises 11 Detachments that provide policing services to 18 communities. Through the 2022-2023 fiscal year, South District has worked collaboratively with internal and external partners, regional agencies, and community leader groups to improve policing service and tailor an approach to meet the unique needs and expectations of each community.

During the development of the 2022-2023 RCMP Annual Performance Plan, each detachment commander held consultations with community leaders from their respective communities to identify priorities that align with the specific needs of each community. This consultative process emphasized the importance of community input in shaping priorities. Through the year, detachments presented monthly policing reports to their respective community leadership, fostering ongoing communication and an opportunity for maintaining an open dialogue.

Community engagement is a vital aspect of promoting confidence in policing services. South District detachments actively participate in various activities that aim to enhance community engagement. Efforts are constantly made to approach calls for service with empathy and respect. For instance, every attempt is made to avoid arresting and detaining individuals whenever possible. Instead, emphasis is placed on de-escalation and finding alternative for individuals involved in conflicts or those who may be intoxicated and unable to care for themselves. The same approach is applied to individuals experiencing mental health distress. Priority is given to taking these individuals to proper medical facilities, recognizing that their mental health should not result in being detained in police custody. Aligned with the principles of reconciliation, detachments regularly employ restorative justice principals and, when



appropriate make referrals to restorative justice committees as an alternative to the formal criminal justice system. Detachments also sought opportunities to divert individuals away from the criminal justice system through proactive measures, such as community programs and initiatives.

Overall, the South District remains committed to working closely with community partners and adopting innovative approaches to ensure effective policing services that meet the unique needs of each community, while promoting trust and reconciliation.

### Highlights from within South District:

#### Behchoko

- Participated in MMIW walk both on foot and escorting the march. Earlier in the year members participated in the march for Truth and Reconciliation.
- Developed a Behchoko Detachment rec volleyball team who plays weekly against other teams from the community. There are also 2 local female members who are part of our team. Members play a few days a week.
- Participated and presented at the youth overnight events hosted by victim services.

#### Fort Liard

- Fort Liard RCMP are very active in the community participating in all community events. Members also made it a point to attend weekend baseball nights for the youth and do school visits throughout the year to engage the youth in Fort Liard.

#### Fort Providence

- Over the winter months, detachments members regularly coach hockey in the community.
- Participated in community activities during the Bison Jamboree.
- Participated in the MMIWG walk on May 5.
- Initiated dialogue with leadership in Fort Providence and Kakisa to discuss their community emergency plan. The leadership in Fort Providence has had one meeting with community stakeholders to review the plan since the start of the KFN/Hay River Wildfires.

#### Fort Resolution

- Participation in cultural week on Mission Island where detachment staff participated in a canoe race
- Developing an Indigenous Community Consultative Group

#### Fort Simpson and Wrigley

- Started the positive ticketing program where we donate gift cards to youth following rules of the road.
- Participate in all community organized events (Culture Camp, MMIW march, Suicide Prevention week, etc.)
- Participate in local sporting events (IE: Curling, hockey, skating, Judo).



### Fort Smith

- Members and family's regularity participate in community based activities that support community engagement and partnerships between the RCMP and the community.
- Supported road safety over the Christmas and New Years holiday season with positive messaging on a Christmas card.

### Gameti

- Participation by 7 members of the South District and the divisional Police Dog Services Unit in the Gameti Bi-Annual Men's Hand Gameti Tournament March 16-19<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- RCMP led and facilitated clothing drive for female youth attending Northern Youth Abroad without proper clothing

### Hay River

- Detachment members continue to work along side community partners to develop strategies to best support individuals experiencing addictions and homelessness.
- Enhances foot patrols and presence in hot spot areas to detect and deter crime.
- Partnership with community counselling to deliver internet safety presentations to youth.

### Lutsel K'e

- Students from Kindergarten to Grade 4 visited the detachment and were given a tour, and were driven back to school in police trucks.
- Lutsel K'e members attended the sacred fire ceremony to open the annual AGM at the Community Hall. Cpl. HELM played the drums in a drumming circle and offered tobacco to the fire.
- Lutsel K'e members read books to children in kindergarten and Grades 1-4 as part of the RCMP Literacy Program.
- Members attend the Community Hall on the weekends to perform traditional jigging dancing with the locals.

### Wha' Ti

- Detachment members, supported by community elders continue to participate in a weekly Men's group to promote healthy lifestyle choices.
- Participation in the first Wha'Ti Community Safety Plan (CSP). The CSP was developed in coordination with the Public Safety Canada, Aboriginal Community Safety Planning Initiative, and local community partners.

### Yellowknife

The Yellowknife Detachment currently consists of 42 regular members, with 34 of them assigned to general duty policing and 7 in general investigative services (GIS). Yellowknife Detachment maintains a strong working relationship with local partner agencies and community leadership. Yellowknife Detachment, remains committed to working collaboratively with partner agencies to address the needs of the vulnerable individuals, focusing on resolving social issues such as addictions and homelessness, rather than criminalizing them.



Throughout the 2022-23 fiscal year, the general duty operations of the Yellowknife Detachment were involved in 284 impaired driving investigations representing an approximate 9% increase compared to previous year. These investigations were initiated by reports from the public or through self-generated efforts made by general duty members. As a result of public reports and the diligence of the detachment members, approximately 136 criminal charges related to impaired driving were laid and forwarded for prosecution.

Moreover, in the 2022-23 fiscal year, the Yellowknife Detachment's General Investigation Section (GIS) made 40 arrests related to drug trafficking within the City of Yellowknife. These arrests resulted in approximately 100 drug trafficking charges being laid. Additionally, the GIS executed over 10 search warrants across various locations in the city. The efforts of the Yellowknife GIS during the past fiscal year have been commendable, significantly reducing the threat of organized crime in the city. GIS successfully seized approximately \$90k in cash and 3.5 kilograms of cocaine, with an estimated street value of \$525 - \$700k. Additionally, GIS confiscated 10 firearms, including 5 handguns.

The Community Policing and Victim Services (CPVS) unit of the Yellowknife Detachment focused primarily on crime prevention. They delivered educational presentations on topics related to online safety, including identity theft, fraud, harassment, impersonation, threats and sexual consent. Presentations were conducted in schools across the city, including Dettah and N'Dilo, with the target audience in Grades 6-11. CPVS also engaged in various community-oriented initiatives. They collaborated with the Yellowknives Dene First Nation (YKDFN) on a cultural orientation program for members. CPVS participated in the Hand Game event in Dettah, conducted regular community patrols, and engaged in storefront attendance activities. In partnership with the St. Pat's SADD group, CPVS raised awareness about alcohol consumption and impaired driving. During the summer, CPVS conducted boat patrols on Great Slave Lake and bike and foot patrols in the downtown core. Regular bi-monthly meetings were held with community partners, including Good Neighbours Committee and the Community Advisory Board on Homelessness (CABS).

The combined efforts of the Yellowknife General Duty, GIS and CPVS units, have made significant contributions to enhancing public safety, reducing organized crime, and promoting proactive crime prevention strategies within the community.

### **Operational Communication Centre**

The "G" Division OCC provides a 24/7 365 days a year emergency and support services to the Public and RCMP members in 23 Detachments and 33 communities throughout the Northwest Territories.

The full-time establishment of "G" Division OCC consists of 21 positions.

Over the past year the OCC has been working hard on recruitment. Since the spring of 2022 we have had 2 operators transfer in from other divisions. The OCC also has seen a successful trainee candidate who is currently going through training. The OCC ran an ongoing job posting for additional transfers. As well as 2 training job postings and a number of career presentations both virtually and in person.

The OCC has been involved in various training sessions over the past year. Bloc training was held in February for the operators. Alert System training was arranged for the supervisors. Other operators





have had the opportunity to participate in French Language training, Scribe training, Indigenous language training and Field Coaching training.

The OCC management has made efforts to get operators out to the various communities that we serve when operators have allowed.

### **Major Crime Unit**

The "G" Division Major Crime Unit (MCU) continues to provide investigative support and operational guidance on all Northwest Territories Sudden Death investigations, Homicide Investigations, Serious Persons Crimes, Missing Person Investigations, Internet Child Exploitation Investigations and member-involved investigations as directed by Criminal Operations. The Major Crime Unit also provides training, mentoring and support to the members of "G" Division in areas such as Investigative Interviewing, drafting of Judicial Authorizations, both conventional and non-conventional as well as provides investigational oversight to all Detachments within the Division.

In the 2022/2023 fiscal year, Major Crime was deployed 17 times. Of these 17 deployments, 2 were deemed homicide investigations. One investigation has been cleared by charge, while the additional homicide remains under investigation. The additional deployments included several suspicious death investigations, member-involved investigations, as well as an investigation that resulted in the death being ruled as self defence. The Major Crime Unit, was consulted on 98 Sudden Death investigations where investigational guidance and oversight was provided. The Major Crime Unit, provided investigational assistance on 2 occasions to our policing neighbours in Yukon and Nunavut. The Major Crime Unit, is the main point of contact for all investigations within the Division that require/utilize Digital Data Extraction.

The members of the Major Crime Unit participated in the facilitation of formal training in the areas of Investigative Interviewing, both custodial and witness, as well as the drafting of Judicial Authorizations. The Major Crime Unit continues to be the point of contact for the majority of complex investigations through the Division.

### **Forensic Identification Services**

The G Division Forensic Identification Services (FIS) unit consists of 3 officers and provides investigational support to all detachments and units in the Northwest Territories. The primary duty of Forensic Identification officers is to detect, record, recover and preserve evidence from scenes of crimes, ranging from serious persons offences, including Homicides and Assault investigations to property offences, including Break and Enter and Mischief investigations.

As part of the support services role, FIS provides guidance and training to investigators in the areas of securing crime scenes and the protection, preservation, collection and documentation of evidence. FIS officers conduct presentations with detachments and units regarding the scope of services FIS can provide, as well as foster and develop officers who have an interest in the forensic discipline.

The FIS unit participated in the RCMP Open House event held at Yellowknife detachment where members of the public were able to talk with FIS officers and ask questions. FIS officers also welcomed a school visit where students toured the FIS unit and were shown various forensic techniques.



In the 2022/2023 fiscal year, FIS completed 132 examinations. These included 2 deployments for homicide investigations where investigational support was provided to the Major Crime Unit. Additionally, FIS was deployed a further 16 times to assist detachments across the Northwest Territories regarding serious persons crimes offences, including Firearm Offences (shootings), Aggravated Assaults (stabblings) and suspicious death investigations.

FIS consistently assists detachments across the Northwest Territories with property crime investigations and in the 2022/2023 fiscal year, 86 examinations were completed. Due to the conscientious work conducted by G Division FIS officers, the unit has an above the National average rate of evidence located per scene which has assisted detachments and units in advancing their investigations.

### **Historical Case Unit**

The Historical Case Unit (HCU) continues to investigate all historical homicide, suspicious death, and long-term missing persons files in the Northwest Territories. In 2022/2023, HCU investigators concluded one historical homicide where no criminal charge can be laid, reclassified one missing persons occurrence to an active homicide investigation, and began another homicide investigation associated to a previously closed sudden death occurrence. HCU investigators have been working with PPSC to bring resolution to multiple investigations. HCU is also continuing to maintain family contacts, attempting to identify forensic advancements including genetic genealogy practices, populating the National Missing Persons DNA Databank and partnering with Yellowknife Search and Rescue during their training exercises.

The data migration process, consisting of a team of three Public Servants (one Information Systems Application Specialist position, and two internally funded Information Processor administrative positions) are continuing to convert "hard copy" box files in to an electronic format. In terms of the data-migration process, several files are 100 percent completed, meaning uploaded electronically and organized to meet the needs of the investigators. Four other files are 100% uploaded to electronic format, however, will require a significant amount of time to be organized for investigative purposes. Each investigative file includes thousands of documents, photos and audio/video recordings.

### **Internet Child Exploitation Unit**

The "G" Division Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) unit continues to provide investigative support on all Northwest Territories ICE related investigations. The Unit also provides support to detachment members in the area of judicial authorizations specific to electronic devices, electronic evidence preservation, mobile device seizures and liaison with international police agencies, Internet Service Providers and Electronic Service Providers. The ICE unit additionally supports the division for all computer and mobile device forensic examinations and data analysis. The Digital Forensic Services (DFS) member is a part of the unit, DFS provides support for all offences (ICE and non-ICE) involving these types of devices. In the 2022/2023 fiscal year, ICE took on the role of lead investigators of 36 files and provided investigational oversight and support to 25 detachment files. The ICE unit continues to collaborate with the Canadian Center for Child Protection (C3P) on a regular basis, C3P provides resources and additional supports to victims and the families of these offences in the NT.



The ICE unit's mandate includes education to the public and youth to increase internet safety awareness. The unit was unable to fulfill any of the education component during the 22/23 fiscal year due to operational investigations. A business case was approved by the GNWT in spring of 2022 for three additional positions (2 RM's and 1 PSE). One of the RM positions has been staffed, the remaining RM and PSE have yet to be filled. As those positions are staffed, it will help to alleviate some of the current investigational backlog. This will allow some time for the NCO i/c to dedicate time for education and safety presentations to students, parents and the public in the upcoming year.

The Internet Child Exploitation Unit has demonstrated operational innovation by utilizing Semantics 21 software to catalogue/classify child abuse imagery. ICE has also shown operational innovation by overcoming the evolving challenges of extracting data from devices. ICE has also liaised with international partners to identify incidents of local child exploitation, and to notify foreign law-enforcement partners of offences in their jurisdiction.

### **Traffic Services**

The mandate of Traffic Services is to improve traffic/road safety on NWT roads and highways through enforcement and education. Over the 2022/2023 fiscal year, Traffic Services worked with detachments and partner agencies throughout the NWT to increase patrols and enhance visibility/enforcement efforts on NWT highways and roads. Traffic Services has prioritized reducing impaired and aggressive driving throughout all communities in the territory through strategic enforcement and providing specialized training to front line officers.

Traffic Services has organized regular joint patrols with surrounding detachments across the division to ensure that enforcement was conducted along all highway networks, including ice roads and in remote communities. This allowed us to provide educational resources to these detachments and provide enhanced enforcement to areas of concern. Traffic Services has worked with detachments around the NWT to assist with training new officers. Traffic Services takes these officers for working ride along shifts, teaching them about our mandates, strategic frameworks, and legislation surrounding traffic enforcement. Traffic Services has and continues to assist members with detecting alcohol/drug impaired driving offences and provides expert knowledge in respect to serious injury and fatal collision investigations.

Early in 2023, Traffic Services partnered with Department of Transportation officers to conduct several operations in Yellowknife and Enterprise in which officers checked commercial vehicles entering the NWT and those conducting tourism for compliance with safety regulations. Traffic Services has also regularly partnered with Yellowknife Municipal Enforcement officers to conduct impaired driving check-stops, which has led to a highly visible enforcement presence in the community.

Traffic Services conducted trips to the North District in both summer and winter months, in which patrols were conducted from Tuktoyaktuk to the Yukon border, as well along the ice road from Fort Simpson to Deline. Many of these patrols coincided with community events and Traffic Services assisted detachments with maintaining public safety at times when there was a large influx of visitors to small communities.



In partnership with our Media Liaison team, we have increased education through media releases regarding road safety. Specifically, an emphasis was placed on educating the public about drug impaired driving, which was done through radio interviews and information bulletins. Divisional and National Road Safety Strategy initiatives including Operation Gingerbread, Road Safety Week, National Impaired Driving Enforcement Days, and Operation Impact were very successful because of increased patrols. Detachments throughout the NWT took part in these initiatives.

Traffic Services has prioritized increasing the impaired driving detection capabilities of officers across the territory and has facilitated 10 courses for the Approved Screening Device, 3 courses for Approved Drug Screening Devices, and a Standardized Field Sobriety course. In order to share this knowledge with partner agencies, several members from Crown Counsel also participated in this training. Additionally, Traffic Services has facilitated 5 Radar and Laser courses, which has provided officers stationed along the territory's major highways with the necessary skills to conduct speed enforcement. Traffic Services, through partnership with National Traffic Services and G Division Training Section, arranged for the training of 4 new Drug Recognition Officers in the division.

A priority of Traffic Services is the detection and disruption of organized crime groups using the territory's highways to transport contraband. In October, 2022, "G" Division offered training specific to criminal interdiction in vehicles to 23 police officers. Since this training, Traffic Services and local detachments have intercepted large quantities of drugs and cash being transported in vehicles both within the territory and interprovincially. Examples of this include a \$133,410 CAD seizure in Hay River and a \$52,291 CAD and 196g cocaine seizure in Fort Simpson.

### **Critical Incident Program**

The RCMP deploys specialized units such as Emergency Response Teams (ERT), Crisis Negotiations Teams (CNT), Scribes and Critical Incident Commanders (CIC) under the collective umbrella of the Critical Incident Program (CIP). Each segment of the Critical Incident program provides expertise and special tactics to safely and effectively resolve any critical incident in the NWT from armed and barricade situations to executing high risk Search Warrants. All members of the ERT are highly trained and skilled in tactical operations and utilize specialized equipment. ERT are used extensively to resolve inherently complex and high-risk situations, and over the past year "G" Division CIP was deployed on 20 separate occasions. Additionally, ERT has been able to deploy partial resources as a "tactical assist", lending advanced expertise for safe outcomes, without the necessity of deploying the entire team. To ensure sufficient numbers of ERT, G Division established a formal agreement with M Division (Yukon). This partnership has greatly benefited both the NWT and Yukon Territories over the past year ensuring a fully functioning ERT with sufficient numbers of highly trained and qualified personnel to safely and effectively resolve any high-risk situation in either jurisdiction. This partnership was utilized during the homicide and subsequent 3-day manhunt in Fort Good Hope. This resulted in the efficient and successful capture of the suspect, while ensuring the safety of the community.

### **Community and Indigenous Policing**

"G" Division's Community and Indigenous Policing Services (CIPS) consists of a Cpl. NCO i/c and a Cst. Metis Coordinator. The Unit responsibilities include: Promoting Community Policing related initiatives/ programs in all NT communities; Creating new and strengthening existing relationships and partnerships



with Metis and Indigenous leaders/ Communities; provide as liaisons between RCMP Senior Management and Indigenous/ Metis Leaders; and provide advice and guidance to RCMP management on Indigenous/ Metis culture as they relate to RCMP policies and procedures.

Throughout the past year the two members in CIPS travelled to many communities in the Northwest Territories, attended the NWT Metis Nation AGM, Dehcho First Nation AGM and the Dene Nation AGM. The members also attended many trade shows and career fairs in the different communities, promoting the RCMP as a career for the Indigenous and Metis youth.

CIPS co-hosts the Commanding Officer Indigenous Consultative Committee (COICC) with the Commanding Officer. These bi-annual meetings bring together respected Indigenous regional representatives throughout the NT to discuss matters relating to policing and public safety within their respective communities/regions with the Commanding Officer. The outgoing Commanding Officer, Jamie Zettler met with the COICC in July 2022, for the last time before his transfer out of the division. The new Commanding Officer, Sydney Lecky has talked with the committee members over the phone and plans to host an in-person meeting June 2023.

The NCO i/c Community and Indigenous Policing represents the Division on the National Reconciliation Committee. Reconciliation continues to be a priority for the Section with emphasis on understanding Reconciliation and identifying meaningful activities and related initiatives that will continue to build trust and improve relationships between the RCMP and the communities we serve. In August 2022 CIPS were invited to participate in the Deh Gah Art Collective. IPS member taught local artist traditional caribou hair dyeing and tufting, on their traditional area of the Horn River (which is accessible by boat, on the Mackenzie River), this hand-crafted tradition is handed down from generation to generation which originated in that region. The Art Collective was created to teach local artist new and modern techniques and old traditional styles to carry on to the next generations of artist.

### **Proactive Recruiting**

The "G" Division Recruiting Unit has one Pro-active Recruiter that is responsible for the Territory and is based out of Yellowknife. The Pro-active recruiter is continually engaging, supporting and participating in indigenous events where they can actively speak with those interested in policing.

### **National Sex Offender Registry**

The National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR) maintains a database that contains up to date information on registered sexual offenders (RSO). It is important to recognize that once an individual has become a RSO, they are bound to comply with several obligations. These obligations are identified under the Sex Offender Registration Information Act (SOIRA). If an individual has failed to comply with their obligations under SOIRA, then they are non-compliant and could be charged under the Criminal Code. Most commonly, an individual becomes non-complaint when they have failed to complete their annual registration. This database is maintained so that the NSOR can meet their primary objective: to prevent and assist with the investigation of sexually motivated crimes.



## **Federal Policing**

For 2022/2023, the Federal Arctic Unit (FAU) continued to balance the Policing Priorities of the Northwest Territories with the Federal Policing National Priorities. FAU is an integrated unit comprised of Financial Crimes, Serious Organized Crime and Division Criminal Analysis Section.

### **Financial Crimes:**

The Financial Crime Unit has the mandate to investigate complex frauds and assist in the prevention of frauds through public awareness. The majority of the work the unit undertakes involves frauds committed against the GNWT and local governments, although the unit has undertaken large investigations where the size and scope of the file are beyond the operational capabilities found at the Detachment level. The unit has also taken the lead in assisting and providing mentorship to detachments within the Territory on files that fall short of the unit's mandate as well as offering support and training with respect to reviewing judicial authorizations for all detachments in the Division.

### **Border Integrity:**

The Federal Arctic Unit has a mandate to secure the border to contribute to the national security of Canada and protecting Canadians from terrorism, organized crime and other border-related criminality, while allowing for the legal and effective movement of people and goods. In 2022, FAU conducted eight weeks of marine safety, surveillance and security patrols in the near coast waters on the Beaufort Sea and the Mackenzie River Delta.

### **Division Crime Analysis Section (DCAS) :**

DCAS was engaged on the territorial and federal front throughout the year. DCAS continued to produce relevant and actionable intelligence products in relation to the ongoing trend of organized crime networks expanding from the Southern Provinces into the NWT. DCAS continued to expand the network on Foreign Actor Interference (FAI) through partners and training. DCAS has engaged numerous partners both domestically and internationally to ensure accurate reporting. DCAS has provided support to the successes of several Territorial units by assisting Major Crimes Unit, Yellowknife General Investigation Section, and numerous detachments throughout the Division. DCAS has created tactical products that have resulted in investigational, operational, and judicial successes. DCAS has continued its support of human trafficking awareness and investigational support in the NWT through the open source monitoring of illicit electronic marketplaces and social media posts that are in the public domain.

### **Serious Organized Crimes:**

Combatting transnational drug trafficking has long been identified as a priority for the NT due to the negative effects had on our communities, which is aligned with the Federal Policing priorities. Cocaine continues to remain the most common illegal drug in the NT, which is being imported from the southern provinces. Most of the proceeds from illicit drugs in the Northwest Territories are being funnelled to



Royal Canadian Mounted Police    Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer    Commandant divisionnaire

southern organized crime groups and investigation into Proceeds of Crime are a key element to disrupt the sale of illicit drugs. The investigative team continues to collect intelligence for the division. This information is shared throughout the territory to all detachments and assists with the combat of drug trafficking.

**Other Mandates:**

The Federal Arctic Unit is also responsible for the security of VIPs to the NWT. In May 2022, FAU planned the security for the Royal Tour. Within the NWT, FAU also monitors and provides informative presentations on Human Trafficking. This fiscal year the unit presented to classes at the Aurora college. The mandate of FAU also includes other priorities such as national security matters and cybercrime.

**In conclusion**

Thank you for reviewing our annual report. "G" Division RCMP is committed to maintaining a strong working relationship with the Territory, which serves in continuing to build trust and engagement with the people and communities of the Territory. The emphasis on collaboration and cooperation is vital in ensuring the effective delivery of policing services that address the specific needs and challenges of the community's "G" Division RCMP serve. "G" Division RCMP will continue to uphold the highest standards of professionalism and integrity, by consistently striving to exceed expectations. Moving forward, the continued cultivation of a strong working relationship with our partners, will pave the way for a unified and coordinated approach to address emerging challenges and opportunities.

Sincerely,

Commanding Officer  
C/Supt. Sydney Lecky