



**BULLETIN!**  
*19 August 2009*  
**PRELIMINARY REPORT ON CAPB CONFERENCE  
& 2009 RESOLUTIONS**

The Canadian Association of Police Boards (CAPB) held its 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference in Sydney, Nova Scotia, August 14 - 16, 2009.

This year's conference theme was "A Fine Balance: Meeting the Challenges of Police Governance in a Changing World" highlights included:

Opening ceremonies concluded with an inspiring address by Her Honour the Honourable Mayann E. Francis, O.N.S., DHumL, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia. Delegates were riveted to their seats as Her Honour spoke from the heart on the importance of policing in Canada, her own experience and a vision for the future.

In the opening plenary on Crisis In Policing: Growing Needs & Shrinking Resources, Fred Biro, Randy Goulden and Alok Mukherjee reinforced the fact that there is a crisis looming over municipal policing in Canada due to expanding demands, escalating costs, and an inefficient funding system, to name a few factors, and that it has been widely accepted for some time among police oversight agencies and police leaders. The engaging discussion with delegates clearly underlines the overarching need for clearly defined roles and responsibilities for policing in Canada.

Professor Pat Knoll, David Emerson, and Chief William Reid tackled a series of six scenarios in the "Policy/Operations Continuum: What are the Boundaries". When asked the following question: "For the last several months prostitutes have been plying their trade on Alpha Street. The Chief of Police has allocated available resources for the arrest and charging of these offenders (and their customers) but the trade has continued apace. The Alpha Street Merchants Association have expressed their continued dismay over these goings on, and have advanced inquiries to the police, and the Solicitor General for the Province, seeking an end to this trade. They have skipped over the Board offering the view that the Board is merely a gang of "cheerleaders" for the police. The Board had nevertheless placed the matter on its agenda for its next meeting. This step is against the express wishes of the Chief who maintains that this is an operational matter involving investigation, arrest, and charging. Does the Board have any jurisdiction over such a matter?" the discussion was lively. It was an excellent

opportunity to illustrate the dynamic between the concepts of policy and operations and the lines drawn and crossed between police boards and police chiefs.

Mental Health Issues in Policing were examined by a capable team of experts: Sarah Peddle, Researcher from Dalhousie University; Dr. Linda Courey, Director of the Mental Health Services, Cape Breton District Health Authority; Constable Delton McDonald, Mental Health Liaison Officer with the CBRPS; and Detective Fiona Wilson-Bates, Vancouver Police Department and author of 'Lost in Transition: How a Lack of Capacity in the Mental Health System is Failing Vancouver's Mentally Ill and Draining Police Resources'. Each speaker reinforced the alarmingly high number of calls for police services to incidents that involve mentally ill people in crisis. Officers are bearing the burden of a mental health system that lacks resources and efficient information sharing practices, often with tragic consequences.

Another panel session included Paul Kennedy, Chair of the Commission for Public Complaints Against the RCMP; Fred Sanford, Director of Policing Services, Nova Scotia Department of Justice; Chief Myles F. Burke, M.O.M., CBRPS; and Brian Gibson, Chair, Edmonton Police Commission discussing the role of oversight in police use of force.

Workshops were very well attended and provided participants with useful tools to bring back to their own service. Full details of all sessions will be covered in detail in the Conference Report later this fall.

The two sessions closing the conference were very dynamic and interesting. Andrew Graham challenged board members to examine themselves as leaders, to see what was missing, what was working and what needed to change. CAPB founding President, Dr. Zaheer Lakhani complemented the previous session, focusing on how the organization came to be, how much civilian governance of policing has changed and strengthened in the last 20 years and how critical a role board governance plays in ensuring policing has public trust and accountability.

The entertainment was wonderful and people really enjoyed The Men of Deeps, Bette & Maynard and Mary Jane Lamond. It was a treat to have performers in the hospitality suites and Patrick Drake was one of the most skilled magicians people had seen. We applaud the host committee in Sydney - you pulled out all the stops to give our delegates an experience they will always remember.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

A critical component of each year's Conference is the Annual Meeting when resolutions are considered that assist in setting the Association's priorities for the coming year. This year, nine resolutions covering a range of topics were considered and approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting on August 15, 2009.

CAPB will share the resolutions with federal, provincial and territorial departments responsible for public safety and with other policing partners. The CAPB Board of Directors and staff will be following up on them with the appropriate departments; we encourage local boards to pursue resolutions of provincial or local concern within your own communities as well.

**Resolution 09-01 - Submitted by the Regional Municipality of Peel Police Services Board & by Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board**

**FEDERAL FUNDING - 2500 POLICE OFFICERS**

WHEREAS, during the 2006 federal election campaign, the federal Conservative Party of Canada committed to sustainable funding for the hire of 2,500 new municipal police officers, recognizing the need for additional front-line police resources in communities across Canada; and

WHEREAS, once elected, the federal Conservative Party, as part of its 2008 federal budget, committed \$400 million in a trust fund for five years to fulfill its commitment; and

WHEREAS it is well recognized by the police community that this does not meet the sustainable funding commitment made in 2006; and

WHEREAS police leaders recognize the need for additional police resources is even more vital and urgent in 2009, given the increase in violent crime, and as evidenced by recent statements made by the Prime Minister of Canada and the Minister of Public Safety in response to gang violence in the Vancouver area;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Association of Police Boards urge the Federal Government to fulfill its 2006 commitment for sustainable funding for the permanent hire of 2,500 additional municipal police officers before the federal budget in 2010.

**Resolution 09-02 - Submitted by the Delta Police Board**

**GANG VIOLENCE**

WHEREAS violence, most notably organized crime and gang related homicides has been on a steady increase over the last two decades with no signs of change; and

WHEREAS law enforcement is dealing with increasingly complex legislation surrounding disclosure, search warrants, and lawful access making it increasingly more difficult to arrest, charge and ultimately convict criminals involved in organized crime and gang related violence; and

WHEREAS the proliferation of new technology in communication has not brought with it the ability to manage and monitor these new forms of communication, allowing organized crime circles to freely communicate without risk of interception; and

WHEREAS the CAPB has, along with other government and policing organizations including the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, the RCMP and various research groups, developed resolutions, policy recommendations, in the light of the above concerns since the 1990's;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Association of Police Boards call on the Federal Government to act swiftly and effectively in making those changes recommended by all stakeholders, specifically in the areas of lawful access, disclosure, proceeds of crime as well as organized crime laws, in order to stop the proliferation of gang violence on Canadian streets.

#### **Resolution 09-03 - Submitted by the Calgary Police Commission**

##### **REDUCING FEDERAL CRIME LAB DELAYS**

WHEREAS efficient crime lab services are essential to police investigative abilities; and

WHEREAS long delays in processing evidence impair police services' abilities to investigate serious crime in a timely fashion; and

WHEREAS public safety is adversely impacted due to investigative delays;

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Canadian Association of Police Boards urge the Federal Government to invest additional funds and resources in federal crime labs to increase capacity, improve technology and reduce processing delays.

#### **Resolution 09-04 - Submitted by the Calgary Police Commission**

##### **REDUCING REMAND CREDIT AND DEAD-TIME SENTENCING**

WHEREAS pre-trial custody is required for offenders whose actions and criminal histories pose a risk to public safety; and

WHEREAS offenders create tactical processing delays prior to trial to maximize two-for-one or three-for-one sentencing credit for time served in pre-trial custody; and

WHEREAS public safety and confidence in the justice system is reduced by the public perception that offenders are taking advantage of this loophole in the law; and

WHEREAS the ability to amass credit has led to significant overcrowding and inhumane conditions in remand facilities;

THEREFORE be it resolved that Canadian Association of Police Boards urge all political parties to pass Bill C-25 currently before the House of Commons to amend the *Criminal Code of Canada* to prohibit 'two for one' and 'three for one' credit for pre-trial custodial time.

#### **Resolution 09-05- Submitted by the Calgary Police Commission**

## **INCREASING FEDERAL PROSECUTORIAL CAPACITY**

WHEREAS there is an ongoing lack of federal prosecutorial capacity; and

WHEREAS due to the increase in illegal drug, gang and organized crime related activities, there is an increase in the number of files being sent to the federal prosecution service; and

WHEREAS there is high staff turnover and a reduction in prosecutorial experience;

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Canadian Association of Police Boards urge the Federal Government to increase federal prosecutorial capacity and experience by increasing positions, staffing levels, funding and other resources particularly with regard to illegal drug, gang and organized crime activities.

## **Resolution 09-06 - Submitted by the Calgary Police Commission**

### **REDUCING LAWFUL ACCESS AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE DEFICIENCIES AND OBSOLESCENCE**

WHEREAS current *Criminal Code* provisions in respect to police powers to conduct judicially authorized electronic interceptions and seizures are outdated and not in touch with modern realities; and

WHEREAS modernization of these legislative provisions is urgently required to reflect significant advancements in communications technologies; and

WHEREAS there are no requirements for new telecommunications technologies to be intercept-capable; and

WHEREAS the current legislative scheme has resulted in intercept 'safe havens';

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Canadian Association of Police Boards request the Federal Government pass legislation to amend the *Criminal Code* to require new telecommunications technologies to be intercept-capable, to inhibit intercept 'safe havens' and to modernize electronic intercept provisions.

## **Resolution 09-07 - Submitted by the Calgary Police Commission**

### **REDUCING CYBER-BULLYING**

WHEREAS new technologies allow individuals to increasingly enter private domains; and

WHEREAS these same technologies allow individuals to hide their identities while targeting others; and

WHEREAS cyber-bullying is increasingly affecting Canadian youth; and

WHEREAS current legislation does not criminalize cyber-bullying;

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Canadian Association of Police Boards request the Federal Government pass legislation to increase and strengthen current *Criminal Code* provisions to criminalize cyber-bullying behaviours and to increase the accountability of technological service providers for ongoing abuses of their systems.

#### **Resolution 09-08 - Submitted by the Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board**

#### **FORFEITED OFFENCE-RELATED PROPERTY/PROCEEDS OF CRIME/CIVIL REMEDIES FOR ILLICIT ACTIVITIES**

WHEREAS criminal organizations perpetrate crimes largely for financial gain, and that Proceeds of Crime, Offence-Related Property and Civil Remedies for Illicit Activities legislation provides policing organizations with effective tools to disrupt and combat organized crime; and

WHEREAS the seizure and subsequent forfeiture of offence-related property and proceeds of crime is an effective means of disrupting organized crime, limiting the profits associated with criminal acts and discouraging recidivist impaired drivers from re-offending; and

WHEREAS the enhancement of police resources to apply asset forfeiture legislation will reduce crime, increase returns to the government, and ultimately makes our communities safer; and

WHEREAS the Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board supports the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police positions with respect to the use of forfeited asset.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Association of Police Boards urge the Federal Government to amend the *Forfeited Property Sharing Regulations* to include a cost recovery component to local jurisdictions or municipalities;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Canadian Association of Police Boards request the Federal Government to revisit the Provincial Memoranda of Understanding to incorporate a cost recovery clause mandating reimbursement of costs to local jurisdictions or municipalities.

#### **Resolution 09-09 - Submitted by Fort Saskatchewan Policing Committee**

#### **CRIME REDUCTION STRATEGY SMALL MUNICIPALITIES AND RURAL AREAS**

WHEREAS organized crime activities:

- Impact the quality of life in our nation, provinces, municipalities and rural areas
  - Contribute significantly to the breakdown of families, youth and community safety;
- and

WHEREAS we need to reinforce our law enforcement agencies in our communities as they are:

- Challenged with the task of addressing and reducing organized crime activities
- Challenged to sustain an aggressive crime reduction plan
- Often lacking specialized police sections to focus on organized crime activities; and

WHEREAS it is acknowledged that a multidisciplinary approach to crime reduction relating to organized crime, would include all Enforcement, Justice, Correctional, Social and Family Service agencies. A sustained and aggressive crime reduction plan may prove effective in reducing the “business” of organized crime groups in our communities; and

WHEREAS it is acknowledged that the quality of life in Canadian communities depends upon effective policing and law enforcement. The Federal and Provincial governments have recognized and continued to focus on addressing this concern with increased funding and resources. It is acknowledged that we need more police officers to deal with growing populations and a growing crime rate. We also need to support the efforts of police to increase reporting, target repeat offenders and address issues in high crime areas;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Association of Police Boards urge the Government of Canada to continue to support local law enforcement agencies, inclusive of smaller municipalities and rural areas, in the form of resources and funding that will enable local police forces to address and reduce the impact of organized crime activities on our communities. A sustainable crime reduction plan will provide all municipalities, towns, counties and villages with an effective means to protect the quality of life we enjoy in this country.

## **2009 – 2010 CAPB BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The CAPB Board of Directors elected by the membership for the 2009/2010 term are:

Jim MacLeod	Cape Breton Board of Police Commissioners, Nova Scotia
David Walker	Bridgewater Board of Police Commissioners, Nova Scotia
Ivan Court	Saint John Board of Police Commissioners, New Brunswick
Carol Allison-Burra	Kingston Police Services Board, Ontario
Emil Kolb	Peel Regional Police Services Board, Ontario
Alok Mukherjee	Toronto Police Services Board, Ontario
Greg Dionne	Prince Albert Board of Police Commissioners, Saskatchewan
Vera Pezer	Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners, Saskatchewan
Robert Dunster	Edmonton Police Commission, Alberta
Mike Shaikh	Calgary Police Commission, Alberta
Carol Ann Hart	New Westminster Police Board, British Columbia
Paul McKivett	Saanich Police Board, British Columbia
Wellington Staats	Six Nations Police Services Board, First Nations

## EXECUTIVE

The CAPB Executive approved by the membership for the 2009/2010 term are:

Greg Dionne <b>President</b>	Prince Albert Board of Police Commissioners, SK
Ivan Court <b>Vice-President</b>	Saint John Board of Police Commissioners, NB
Alok Mukherjee <b>Secretary-Treasurer</b>	Toronto Police Services Board, ON

Contact information for all members of the CAPB, including the Directors, is contained in the CAPB Members' Directory available to members on the CAPB website ([www.capb.ca](http://www.capb.ca)). The Directory is published and distributed to member boards every March.

**The CAPB encourages you to share this Bulletin and the 2009 Resolutions with your Chief of Police and Association representative.**

For further information: Jennifer Lanzon, Executive Director  
Canadian Association of Police Boards  
P.O. Box 4670, Station E  
Ottawa, ON K1S 5H8  
Tel: 819-682-1440, Fax: 819-682-4569  
E-mail: [jlanzon@capb.ca](mailto:jlanzon@capb.ca)  
Website: [www.capb.ca](http://www.capb.ca)