



December 20, 2021

FRIEDA MARTSELOS  
MLA, THEBACHA**Oral Question 822-19(2): Territorial Policing Services Agreement**

This letter is in follow-up to the Oral Question you raised on November 29, 2021 regarding the Territorial Policing Services Agreement (TPSA), a contract with Public Safety Canada for the provision of policing services by the RCMP. You also asked whether the Department of Justice can share the RCMP's Multiyear Financial Plan with the Legislative Assembly.

Given the specific function and operational nature of the "G" Division Multiyear Financial Plan, there are no plans to table it in the Legislative Assembly. This is consistent with other RCMP contract jurisdictions. However, I would like to share a copy of the *Territorial Police Service Agreement - RCMP Annual Report (2020-2021)*. This annual report outlines the RCMP's activities and implementation of the annual Policing Priorities. Moving forward, the Department will provide this report to the Legislative Assembly on an annual basis to emphasize openness, accountability and transparency.

Thank you for your interest in the TPSA. If you require further information, please contact my office.

R.J. Simpson  
Minister, Justice

## Attachment

- c. Clerk of the Legislative Assembly  
Deputy Minister, Justice  
Legislative Coordinator, Executive and Indigenous Affairs



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer Commandant divisionnaire

October 15th, 2021

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 (2020-2021)***

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 2020-2021 fiscal year.

The Minister of Justice determined that the 2020-2021 GNWT Policing Priorities were to:

- 1) Promote confidence in policing services;
- 2) Adapt to changing enforcement and community policing landscapes;
- 3) Continue to improve the RCMP's response to vulnerable populations;
- 4) Operational and fiscal innovation.

**Promote Confidence in Policing Services**

With the outbreak of a global pandemic at the outset of the 2020 fiscal year, "G" Division RCMP, much like the rest of the country, had to quickly adjust and adapt to this new way of life, while still maintaining an exceptional level of policing service to the Northwest Territories. Despite these new challenges, the Division was still able to promote confidence in policing services in the Territory in numerous ways.

Firstly, as with previous years, the Commanding Officer has ensured that all detachments within the Division have created and maintained an Annual Performance Plan to ensure the RCMP priorities align with those of the community. These plans are created in consultation with local community leaders and officials to support both Territorial and RCMP policing priorities. Additionally the each Detachment has created Community Action Plans, which identify support from the community in relation to these priorities. Detachments report quarterly on progress against these targets and actively work to achieve the targets for these priority-policing objectives on their respective Annual Performance Plans, Community Action Plans and monthly Mayor/Chief's Reports.

While most face-to-face meetings were cancelled throughout last fiscal year in order to curb the spread of COVID-19, specifically to our community's most vulnerable, the Commanding Officer ensured that the lines of communication remained open between the RCMP and the community leaders. This included the Commanding Officer's Indigenous Consultative Committee (COICC), comprised of ten (10) elders from various communities across the Territory. Although the COICC did not meet during the 2020-21 fiscal year, the Commanding Officer reached out to the Committee members to offer support from the RCMP. Similarly, the Commanding Officer is committed to the continued development of Public



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer Commandant divisionnaire

Safety Protocols with our Indigenous communities. The purpose of the Protocol is to establish trusting and reciprocal relationships with our communities to prevent crises within the communities as well as resolving potential disputes at the earliest possible opportunity. Due to the pandemic, the signed protocols between the RCMP and the Dene Nation, the RCMP and the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, and the RCMP and the Northwest Metis Nation, have all expired and no meetings took place to renegotiate. However, the re-signing of these Protocols, as well as the continued negotiations with the Gwich'in Tribal Council and the North Slave Metis Alliance remains a top priority for the Commanding Officer as pandemic restrictions loosen and meetings can begin again.

The RCMP remains committed to reconciliation efforts and promoting the partnerships between the police force and the indigenous communities in which they serve here in the Northwest Territories. The RCMP Reconciliation Strategy for the Northwest Territories was created during the last fiscal year and will serve as a guide for the organization and its reconciliation efforts. The Community Orientation Guide for Members transferring into the communities has been updated and made more accessible by being added to the Infoweb, the RCMP intranet portal. The ongoing commitment to training our Employees remains at the forefront, some of these courses include training in de-escalation techniques, recognition of emotionally disturbed persons, crisis intervention, bias awareness, cultural awareness and humility to name a few. "G" Division RCMP also promotes the Government of the Northwest Territories' Cultural Awareness and Trauma Informed training.

### **Adapt to Changing Enforcement and Community Policing Landscapes**

Many events occurred in 2020 that have brought upon change and reform to how policing is done internationally, nationally, and at the Territorial level. The global COVID-19 pandemic brought with it many challenges to policing in the Northwest Territories and our employees had to quickly adapt to serve our communities safely. In response to the pandemic, the RCMP, along with the GNWT Justice Department, developed and implemented the Go Virtual system for bail hearings to reduce time in custody and reduce traveling to more vulnerable communities in an attempt to curb the spread of COVID-19.

Last fiscal year also brought with it societal demands for change around the world, specifically in the area of law enforcement. The Black Lives Matter movement highlighted the desire for change and accountability from police forces worldwide. In response to this, the Commanding Officer in "G" Division had meetings with the Black Action Coalition Up North (BACupNorth) to foster open communication and dialogue with the community in the Northwest Territories. "G" Division RCMP continues to promote cultural awareness training initiatives to address systemic racism within the organization and the communities we serve.

### **Continue to Improve the RCMP's Response to Vulnerable Populations**

The Division recognizes the necessity of working closely with our partner departments, as well as the leaders within the communities we serve. Senior Management continues to meet with elected officials in each community at least once a year as per the Commanding Officer's Executive Performance Plan. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of assisting our vulnerable populations within the Northwest Territories, as isolation and other restrictions had a significant impact on those in vulnerable situations. While face-to-face or in-person meetings were mostly suspended during the pandemic, the Commanding Officer and Senior Management team or delegates ensured that lines of



Royal Canadian Mounted Police    Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer    Commandant divisionnaire  
 communication remained open between the RCMP and the communities they serve, in order to ensure the safety of the people of the NWT.

Due to the pandemic and the challenges that stemmed from interrupted supply chains, the border restrictions in the Northwest Territories and beyond, the RCMP in many isolated communities saw an opportunity to serve their communities above and beyond the scope of policing. For instance, the Members in Paulatuk organized community bingo games and offered prizes to participants to boost morale within the hamlet. In Inuvik, the Members aided their community by delivering groceries to elders who were reluctant to expose themselves to potential risk and who had no one else to rely on.

The warming shelters in communities such as Behchoko, Inuvik and Hay River were created in consultation with RCMP Members in these communities. While these initiatives are community-run, the RCMP maintains a role by keeping a representative on the board in a smaller capacity. Throughout the pandemic, the RCMP remained committed to serving their communities and ensuring the health and safety of those who most needed assistance

“G” Division RCMP have been working on creating a Division specific training programme around sexual assault “G” Division. Training Branch, in conjunction with various subject matter experts in the Division, is looking to develop a sexual assault course to educate employees on the proper treatment of sexual assault victims, the handling of files, evidence gathering, and proper interviewing techniques and support for those affected by sexual assault.

#### Operational and Fiscal Innovation.

The Commanding Officer continues to ensure that policing priorities are set clearly with the resources available to meet our goals and objectives. As the Division faced the COVID-19 pandemic, many areas of operation had to fundamentally shift in order to continue providing policing services to our communities. As we navigated through the pandemic, the “G” Division RCMP and our partners came up with new innovations in order to better serve our communities, as well as cut down on costs, without sacrificing service.

One of these measures was the Go Virtual bail hearing project in collaboration with the Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Justice. Go Virtual allows for those in custody who are granted bail to be released in their own community. This alone will help with cost saving, as Members will not need to escort prisoners to and from Yellowknife to attend their bail hearing in person.

Throughout last fiscal year, the “G” Division training branch also had to adapt to the gathering and travel restrictions implemented by the Chief Public Health Officer of the Northwest Territories. Many training programs were shifted to an online focus to mitigate traveling outside of the Territories or even to Yellowknife from the smaller, more vulnerable communities. This virtual focus is intended to carry forward after restrictions lift as it proved to be fiscally beneficial for the Division since travel costs often take up a significant portion of the Training Branch budget.

Despite the challenges the “G” Division RCMP faced throughout the pandemic, and the potential for costs that could have been incurred by the Division due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to operate within our operational budget for the 2020/2021 fiscal year.



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer Commandant divisionnaire

## Highlights from the Division

### *North District*

The North District is comprised of 11 detachments that provide policing services to 13 communities in the Sahtu and Beaufort/Delta Regions.

The North District detachments continue to play a vital role in ensuring the safety and security of their communities, as well as representing Canadian sovereignty in the North. The Regular Members provide front line policing services and our Public Service Employees provide key support. Public Service Employees are employed in Inuvik, Fort Good Hope, Fort McPherson, and Tuktoyaktuk. Safe communities are achieved through traditional enforcement methods as well as community engagement in working towards solutions for community specific issues. Each Detachment Commander works closely with elected leaders in their respective communities to identify priorities where proactive policing efforts should be focused. Within the North District, issues relating to alcohol, drug abuse, domestic and family violence are most frequently raised by community leaders.

From consulting with leaders in each community, it is clear that bootlegging of alcohol continues to be a problem. Every detachment continues to focus on this problem and one of our strategies for the upcoming year is to increase strategic enforcement at the airports and along the ice roads in an effort to curve the illegal distribution of alcohol in their community. Over the past year there have been significant seizures of illegal alcohol, which contributes to our common goal of safer communities, and these efforts will continue. Also, impaired driving remains a concern in these communities and members are increasing their efforts with ongoing patrols to arrest and charge impaired drivers.

Sexual Assault investigations continue to be a significant challenge for North District members. Increased training is taking place to have a Trauma Informed Approach for the victims of these assaults. The District Commander has initiated a file review process for all sexual assault files that will assist the investigator and ensure a full and detailed investigation is completed.

This year, commanders and members continue to work with our indigenous partners and community elders in an effort to gain a greater understanding of the indigenous culture in their area. Members continue to work on reconciliation projects such as; Cooking with the Cops, Movie Nights, Moose hide Campaigns, Quilting, Beading, and a variety of sporting events. Every detachment within the North District will continue to embrace youth initiatives in an effort to enhance our relationship and mentor the youths within their communities.

As is common place, there continues to be a rotation of new employees, including some new Commanders in some of the detachments. However, we continue to ensure that this does not affect the quality of service. New employees continue to receive orientations specific to their community, along with the Cultural Awareness Orientation. The District Commander and the District Advisory NCO will continue to visit the detachments within the district and meet with local leaders.



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer Commandant divisionnaire

### ***South District***

The South District has 11 Detachments which provide policing services to a total of 19 communities. Over the 2020/2021 fiscal year, employees of the South District have worked closely with partners, local agencies and leadership to enhance our policing service and target each community's needs and expectations when it comes to policing and community involvement.

During the development of the 2020/2021 RCMP annual performance plan the detachment commander met and had consultation with leaders from all the communities to decide on local priorities and initiatives. The communities were encouraged to create priorities that met its citizen's needs. The work on the annual performance plans dovetailed into the creation of the community action plans. Throughout the year the detachment commanders would present the monthly policing reports to leadership meetings and answer questions that were on their minds.

A significant portion of promoting confidence in policing service is engagement within the community. South District Detachments have been very engaged with many reconciliation and community initiatives. An example of some of these initiatives are:

- **Wha'ti** members hosted a 3-day Youth camp in July to expose young people to policing scenarios, ATV safety, recruiting...etc.
- **Fort Resolution** members attended 10- day cultural camp in August. Members attended story telling stations with elders Joyce Beaulieu, Terry Villeneuve and Lorette Edjericon to learn about the history of Fort Resolution.
- **Gameti** members visited an elder and later assisted with removal of items from her home for disposal in August. Drove her around town to get groceries and meet others. Members also picked her up at the airport in YK, assisted getting her groceries and other errands while in YK. Drove back to airport on days off.
- **Fort Providence** NCO and family attended the cultural camp in August. Visited with elders, participated in community events, country food, canoe race.
- **Behchoko** NCO attended the Feed the Fire Ceremony the first Friday of every month to recognize the passing of elders. On Nov 13<sup>th</sup> the NCO participated in the drumming activity and then spoke with Chief Daniels about activities in town.
- **Fort Liard** detachment helped organize the "Help an Elder Program" where they chopped wood, shovelled walkways, made up goodie bags and disseminated them to community members. The initiative also created opportunities for youth to assist and do good needs for the elders.

The South District RCMP continue to adapt to a changing enforcement and community policing landscape. In 2020/2021 South District detachments continued to provide a high level service delivery throughout the COVID-19 pandemic response. Detachments modified business practices to provide a service that was safe and within the COVID-19 restrictions that were in place. Many members remained in their communities as opposed to traveling elsewhere to limit the chance of bringing COVID-19 back to their home.

From June 1, 2020 to June 1, 2021 the South District RCMP conducted 81 investigations where there was a charge laid for impaired operation of a motor vehicle. The RCMP continue to conduct proactive



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer Commandant divisionnaire

check stops and patrols to identify impaired drivers and engage in enforcement as well as providing educational moments on the dangers of impaired driving.

The South District RCMP continue to work with communities to combat the exploitation of their citizens by the trafficking of illegal alcohol and drugs. There have been seizures of illegal alcohol into the communities that restrict access. Individual detachments conduct drug trafficking investigations and in particular two significant seizures of cocaine kept the substance from entering the communities of Hay River and Fort Resolution.

The RCMP continue to improve its response to vulnerable populations through a number of initiatives and meetings to stimulate communities to take action to protect the less fortunate. Where communities, such as Fort Simpson, have energized restorative justice committees the RCMP are referring matters to the committee prior to them entering the court system. In Fort Providence the RCMP have met with local leadership to stimulate discussion on alternative methods to manage people with addictions and who maybe without a home/living arrangement. It is believed that arresting people with addiction and lodging them in RCMP cells is not a process for long term success. The RCMP engaged local leadership about a warming shelter and a sobering centre. In Behchoko, the RCMP supported the warming shelter when managing people with addictions as opposed to locking them in cells. In most detachments the RCMP are looking for alternative arrangements, ie: finding safe accommodations, using shelters before lodging people in cells.

The South District RCMP are committed to having sexual assault files where charges are not laid reviewed by senior NCO's as well as the "G" Division Sexual Assault Independent Review Committee. Findings of these reviews are being communicated to the frontline investigators to create better future investigations. The RCMP continue to take online training (AGORA) and virtual training on sexual assault investigations. The South District detachments are incorporating more trauma informed approaches in their investigations through statement taking and more empathetic interactions.

The South District RCMP are looking for operational and financial innovations throughout their work processes. The OIC South District is promoting the development of intelligence to guide criminal investigation, ie: drug trafficking investigations to become more efficient and effective. The use of RCMP internal tracking numbers to monitor costs associated to certain functions/operations will provide business intelligence to allow informed decisions.

### ***Yellowknife***

Yellowknife Detachment provides policing services to the City of Yellowknife, the communities of N'Dilo, Dettah and surrounding area. The detachment consists of four (4) watches with eight members on each watch that provide 24 hours of front line policing coverage to the city.

There is a seven-member General Investigation Section (GIS) who are tasked with investigating more serious crimes, and developing crime reduction strategies targeting street level illegal distribution of drugs and alcohol, working collaboratively with judicial system participants in relation to habitual offenders and enforcement of court imposed conditions.



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer Commandant divisionnaire

Yellowknife Detachment has two Community Policing/Victim Services positions and a Court Liaison position. In total, the members of Yellowknife Detachment responded to 14,463 calls for service in 2020, which was an 18% increase over the previous year.

The detachment continues to maintain valuable relationships with the City of Yellowknife and the Yellowknife's Dene First Nation communities of N'Dilo and Dettah through engagement and proximity. Collaboration and consultation generated policing priorities with a common goal of healthier and safer communities. In 2020, the detachment successfully executed search warrants under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act and targeted prolific offenders. We continued with our efforts to provide a strong presence in the communities through various initiatives and additional police presence at numerous public events. Continued visibility in the Yellowknife downtown core has brought positive comments from our citizens and resulted in regular seizures of liquor.

### ***Major Crime Unit***

The "G" Division Major Crime Unit (MCU) continues to provide investigative support 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 and support in the area of investigative interviewing, judicial authorizations as well as investigational oversight to all Detachments within the Division.

In the 2020/2021 fiscal year, Major Crime was deployed 16 times. Of these 14 deployments, 6 were deemed homicide/manslaughter investigations, resulting in charges being laid in 5 of these investigations, with the remaining file still under investigation. The additional deployments included several suspicious death investigations, member-involved investigations, as well as support to the "G" Division Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Unit. MCU is the main point of contact for all investigations within the Division that require/utilize Digital Data Extraction.

MCU also was the lead investigative unit into the threats against the Chief Public Health Officer resulting in the identification and subsequent charge of the individual responsible. The COVID pandemic has resulted in the postponement of several operational plans due to travel restrictions, inability to safely secure required resources and concern for the health of safety of members and clients. The operational plans have been rescheduled and the investigations will continue in the upcoming fiscal year.

### ***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. Extensive review and action of investigative tasks continues in these files, which span decades of previous investigation. HCU investigators have also been maintaining family contacts, organizing DNA to be submitted to the National Missing Person DNA databank, and maintaining current knowledge of non-conventional policing techniques and advancements in DNA technology.





Royal Canadian Mounted Police    Gendarmerie royale  
du Canada

Commanding Officer    Commandant divisionnaire

The data migration project, consisting of a team of three Public Servants (one Information Systems Application Specialist position, and two internally funded Information Processor administrative positions) are working within the Historical Case Unit supporting the migration of the "hard copy" box files in to an electronic format. In terms of the data-migration process, one selected file is 100% completed, meaning uploaded electronically and organized to meet the needs of the investigators. Another file is 99% uploaded to electronic format, however, will require a significant time to be organized. A third investigative file is approximately 35% uploaded with an estimated 2000 documents scanned. Each investigative file includes thousands of documents, photos, audio/video...etc. The process is long and arduous but will assist the investigators with review, strategy, and preparation for disclosure once a case is resolved.

### ***Internet Child Exploitation Unit***

The Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Unit continues to see an increase in investigations which is consistent with the rest of the country for these offence types. The unit was lead on 33 files, the majority having been assigned from the National Child Exploitation Crime Centre in Ottawa (international files). Assistance, investigative support and oversight to detachment lead files, was provided by ICE for approximately 40 investigations. These investigation offences consisted of sexual assault, sexual interference, child pornography, luring, distributing intimate images, extortion and voyeurism. Charges were laid for 19 of the files, several remain under investigation.

### ***Traffic Services***

The mandate of Traffic Services is to improve traffic/road safety on NWT roads and highways through enforcement and education. Over the 2020/2021 fiscal year, Traffic Services worked with detachments and partner agencies throughout the NWT to increase patrols and enhance visibility/enforcement efforts on NT highways and roads. A primary focus on increased presence for Highway 3 and Highway 4 continues on a regular basis. Highway 3 has been subject of major concern as there has been a lot of media and political attention for road safety. Extra patrolling on Hwy 3 has been implemented providing the chance for Traffic Service Members an opportunity to educate the public and also enforce infractions.

Traffic Services has increased joint patrols with surrounding detachments across the division to make sure that education and enforcement is not concentrated solely in Yellowknife and Hay River. This has allowed us to provide educational resources to these detachments and their officers. Traffic Services has worked with detachments around the NT to assist with training new recruits. Traffic Services takes these recruits for working ride along shifts, teaching them about our mandates, strategic frameworks and legislation surrounding our enforcement. Traffic Services has and continues to assist members in alcohol/drug impaired driving detections using best practices in investigating and documenting impaired driving.

In partnership with our Media Liaison team we have increased education through social media material bringing awareness to road safety more then it ever has. Social media is a very valuable tool for educational and awareness and will continue to be heavily relied upon. Divisional and National Road Safety Strategy initiatives including Operation Gingerbread, Road Safety Week, National Impaired



Royal Canadian Mounted Police    Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer    Commandant divisionnaire

Driving Enforcement Day(s) and Operation Impact were very successful because of increased patrols and social media. Detachments throughout the NT took part in these initiatives as well as Territorial and Municipal partner agencies. Across the NT, patrols increased and offences decreased. This shows a trend that combining social media and increased patrols will continue to lower offences.

Traffic Services continued to partner with Training Branch to increase training of detachment members on the use of Alco Sensor FST roadside screening device. Since some courses are only offered outside the NWT it was difficult to continue our momentum from the previous year with increased training with Qualified Breath Technicians, Drug Recognition Expert training and Standardized Field Sobriety Tests (SFST). As restrictions ease for travel we will be able to get back to normalized training. We have started plans on having our Traffic Services officers as "Trainers" in Alco Sensor FST roadside screening device and Radar/Laser units. This will allow Traffic Services to easily provide training to detachments while they patrol the road systems.

Traffic Services continues to assist Detachments with strategies to reduce impaired driving and is working to provide updates and information regarding drug impaired driving. Traffic Services has, and continues to participate in meetings with Criminal Operations, Public Prosecutions Services Canada and the GNWT Department of Infrastructure discussing changes in legislation specific to enforcement of Territorial Acts and the Criminal Code. Traffic Services would like to see further discussions with these groups for implementing Immediate Roadside Prohibitions for impaired drivers which is successfully being enforced in several Canadian Provinces.

### ***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 NT 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 15 separate occasions. Ensuring the safety and security of NT communities is made possible in part by the unique capabilities of the ERT program. To ensure sufficient numbers of ERT personnel are available to respond to a critical incident in the NT "G" Division established a formal agreement with "M" Division (Yukon). This partnership has greatly benefited both the NT 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.

### ***Family Violence Coordinator***

Currently, National and Divisional RCMP policy provides direction to detachments on adopting a collaborative approach to the services of people experiencing IPV. Due to the vast geography of the NT, each community has differing levels of service providers. The RCMP remains committed to collaborating with evolving partners in the Territory. To promote collaboration across the Territory, the Family Violence Coordinator (FVC), in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, meets regularly with Detachment Commanders in the NT to stress the importance of policies in this area.



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer Commandant divisionnaire

### *Sexual Assault*

In 2020, the NT RCMP held its second Sexual Assault Investigations Review Committee (SAIRC). NT SAIRC was created to provide investigative oversight to randomly selected NT sexual assault cases classified as “not cleared by charge”, including files classified as “unfounded” to ensure investigations are thorough, impartial, and properly classified as well as to identify any systemic gaps or barriers. The NT SAIRC is comprised of partners from the GNWT Department of Justice, along with the RCMP and other territorial stakeholders representing victim services organizations and victim/community advocates.

The NT RCMP, through collaboration with the NT SAIRC, is currently creating a NT RCMP specific Sexual Assault Investigators course. Included in the course will be using trauma-informed approaches and conducting culturally appropriate investigations. The RCMP also has Trauma-Informed Training that is mandatory of all NT RCMP members.

### *Community and Indigenous Policing*

“G” Division's Community and Indigenous Policing Unit 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.

Over the past year, members of the Community and Indigenous Policing Section travelled to various communities in the NT participating in Indigenous and Metis Annual General Meetings (AGMs) with RCMP senior management: Dehcho First Nations AGM in Fort Simpson, NT, Tliche AGM in Gameti, NT and the NWT Metis Nation AGM in Hay River, NT. Members of the Section participated in various community based trade shows and career fairs throughout the NT (Behchoko, Dettah, Fort Smith, Yellowknife and Fort Simpson) promoting the RCMP as a career choice with Indigenous and Metis youth.

Section personnel coordinated bi-annual meetings of the Commanding Officer Indigenous Consultative Committee (COICC). These meetings bring together respected Indigenous regional representatives throughout the NT to discuss matters relating to policing and public safety within their communities/regions with the Commanding Officer. The COICC meeting did not take place in 2020 due to the Covid-19 global pandemic and the restrictions.

Members of the Section hosted a cultural arts learning session with youth from the National Youth Leadership, where youth travelled from Yukon, NT, Nunavut, Nunatsiavut and Nunavik for a week at Yellowknife River. Additionally members attended a Christmas Elders dinner with the NT Metis Nation in Fort Smith, NT.

One member of the section registered and completed the University of Victoria Certificate in Indigenous Language Revitalization Program that was offered at the Aurora College, Yellowknife North



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer Commandant divisionnaire

Slave Campus. The member completed 8 courses along with 75 hours of one-on-one Dene Yatie mentorship hours.

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. As an example, over the past year, Section personnel assisted in the organization of a Blanket Exercise in Hay River for RCMP personnel as well as community members. The Blanket Exercise is an interactive culturally facilitated event that walks participants through significant historical events that negatively impacted Indigenous people.

### ***Proactive Recruiting Unit***

2020/2021 proved to be a difficult year for the Proactive Recruiting Unit due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its national restrictions. Unfortunately, there were no formal career job trade fairs, presentations or recruiting events due to the impact of the pandemic in the Northwest Territories. Additionally, all RCMP youth programs and annual camps were cancelled.

From the onset of the pandemic, all entrance exams were postponed, however, "G" Division was able to administer several exams locally as of July 2020 when the restrictions in the NWT eased. Between April 2020 and April 2021, approximately 15 entrance exams were administered within the Northwest Territory, including one exam taker of indigenous descent.

As restrictions ease across Canada, the Proactive Recruiting Unit anticipates that youth camps and programs, as well as job fairs will slowly come back on line, and our Proactive Recruiting Unit looks forward to attending these events.

### ***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.

As with many aspects of policing and life in general, the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the operations of the NSOR unit. Mandatory quarantine, isolation, and an overall reduction of in person contacts made for reduced registrations and increased initial non-compliance rates throughout the Territory. However, with time, the unit was able to adapt to and overcome these challenges.



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer Commandant divisionnaire

This year, the NSOR unit partnered with local RCMP Detachments and conducted joint operations to manage RSOs in the Northwest Territories. These operations included: locating and addressing non-compliant offenders; conducting verification checks; and follow ups with offenders that are deemed to be a high risk to re-offend. These operations also help to increase understanding of the NSOR program at the detachment level. The unit has conducted 7 joint operations with local detachments with a focus on operations within South District. These operations were conducted in Yellowknife, Behchoko, Gameti, Wekweeti, Whati, and Fort Liard. Working in conjunction with these detachments provided the opportunity to locate and register non-compliant offenders as well as educate officers in the program.

NSOR also initiated several criminal investigations throughout the Territory to address non-compliant offenders. Last year the unit initiated 48 criminal non-compliance investigations and completed approximately 50 additional offender contacts outside of the above mentioned operations. The unit also laid 27 criminal code charges for failure to comply with obligations and issued 6 arrest warrants for non-compliant offenders.

At the end of the fiscal year, G Division NSOR had 368 registered offenders in the Territory. Our unit has 65 non-compliant offenders. Some of these non-compliant offenders are either in long term medical care, in custody or at large in the communities. Of these 65 non-compliant offenders, 55 are at large in communities (Approximately 14.5%).

Lastly, NSOR has been identified to conduct quality assurance checks of sexual assault investigations that have been deemed unfounded. An investigation is considered unfounded if it has been determined through police investigation that the offence reported did not occur, nor was it attempted. Last fiscal year, NSOR conducted 59 unfounded sexual assault reviews.

### ***Federal Policing***

For 2020/2021, the Federal Arctic Unit continued to balance the Policing Priorities of the Northwest Territories with the Federal Policing National Priorities. The Federal Arctic Unit 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 units mandate as well as offering support and training with respect to reviewing judicial authorizations for all detachments in the Division.

The Financial Crimes Unit is currently investigating several high profile files and in the past year, the unit acted quickly on a fraud against the GNWT Marine Transport Services enabling the recovery of



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commanding Officer Commandant divisionnaire

2.2 million dollars. The investigation into the Power Corporation hack is another example of high profile investigation conducted by the Financial Crimes Unit.

Serious Organized Crimes:

Combating 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 is being funnelled to southern organized crime groups. Investigation into Proceeds of Crime are a key element to disrupt the sale of illicit drugs. A number of investigation into Proceeds of Crime are ongoing across the territory.

In April 2020, a search warrant was executed at an apartment in Yellowknife. Approximately 100 grams of crack cocaine was seized and one 27 years old male was charged. The matter is before the courts.

In the fall of 2020, an investigation was launched following the seizure of a firearm parts by Canada Border Services Agency. The matter is before the courts.

Other Mandates:

Covid-19 certainly affected a number of activities being conducted by Federal Arctic Unit. In the year 2020-2021, there was no VIP visits to the territory to report. Also, the pandemic affected our ability to conduct proactive / informative presentations on Human Trafficking priority. However, the human trafficking activities in the NWT during the pandemic was also in the decline. This remains a priority for the unit and will see an increase as restrictions start to be lifted.

Marine patrols in the Beaufort Sea as part of our Border Integrity initiative continued to take place in the summer 2020. The focus of the marine efforts in the NorthWest Passage. Several boats were checked during these sovereignty patrols.

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. In 2020-2021, DCAS contributed significantly to the Alberta/ NWT Threat Assessment through subject profiles affecting the NT. 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 reached to several RCMP detachments in the NT in order to raise awareness about FAI and gather available information. An updated situational awareness on FAI was issued and shared with other stakeholders.

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.



Royal Canadian Mounted Police    Gendarmerie royale  
du Canada

Commanding Officer    Commandant divisionnaire


DCAS has created tactical products that have resulted in investigational, operational, and judicial successes.

DCAS also provided assistance to present statistical data on the trends in the NT over the past three years to the ADM as well as the impact of the Tlicho all-seasons road to the Tlicho road committee.

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.

A number of outreach were conducted RCMP units outside the Northwest Territories to provide awareness / training to our Division. A presentation was conducted by an analyst from Ontario on Domestic Violence Extremism and the National Intelligence Coordination Centre provide an intelligence brief to Divisional Senior Management.

DCAS has plans to continue to produce top quality strategic and tactical intelligence products and promote further information sharing to support the development of intelligence to intercept, dismantle, and deter the growth of organized crime groups within the Northwest Territories and beyond.



Jamie Zettler, C/Supt  
Commanding Officer/Surintendant principal  
"G" Division/Division G