

**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL  
GAMING POLICY AND ENFORCEMENT BRANCH  
INFORMATION BRIEFING NOTE**

**PREPARED FOR:** Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General,  
and Deputy Premier.

**ISSUE:**

- Timeline for replacing the Gaming Control Regulation (GCR)

**SUMMARY:**

s.12; s.13

**BACKGROUND:**

- GPEB is undertaking policy work to develop Lieutenant Governor in Council and General Manager regulations to implement the new GCA. These regulations must be completed to bring the GCA into force.

s.12; s.13

s.12; s.13

The addition of regulation-making powers for the General Manager in the GCA will also require drafting net new General Manager regulations.

s.14

s.12; s.13

- The extent of consultations includes Indigenous communities and organizations, the BC Lottery Corporation (BCLC), the Union of BC Municipalities and municipalities, the gaming industry, including the BC Gaming Industry Association (BCGIA), the horse racing sector, the charitable sector, unions representing gaming workers, federal entities, and responsible gambling organizations.

s.12; s.13

- In January 2023, GPEB invited First Nations to indicate their interest in participating in regulation consultations, and over 25 First Nations have confirmed their participation. The First Nations Gaming Commission has confirmed participation and indicated an interest in having in depth conversation on the regulations and policy.
- Government has also established expectations with the gaming industry, including BCLC and casino operators, to engage in development of general manager regulations.

s.12

s.12; s.13

s.13

#### **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CONSIDERATIONS:**

- GPEB continues to consult with LSB and the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR)<sup>s.13</sup>

s.13

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- Gaming Control Regulation and General Manager Regulation Timeline

#### **APPROVALS & CONTACTS:**

Prepared Feb. 8, 2023 by: Kristin Day/Policy Manager/GPEB /778-698-9127

Approved Feb. 9, 2023 by: Jillian Hazel/Executive Director/GPEB/778-698-2223

Approved Feb. 13, 2023 by: Sam MacLeod/Assistant Deputy Minister/GPEB/778-698-3843

Approved Feb. 14, 2023 by: Douglas S. Scott/Deputy Solicitor General

***Gaming Control Regulation and General Manager Regulation Timeline***

s.12; s.13

**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF THE FIRE COMMISSIONER  
INFORMATION BRIEFING NOTE**

**PURPOSE:** For **INFORMATION** for Doug Scott,  
Deputy Solicitor General, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

**ISSUE:** Interoperability of HUSAR task forces—provincial and national

**SUMMARY:**

- HUSAR programs will be a discussion topic during the week of February 21 when representatives of provincial ministries meet with Public Safety Canada in Ottawa.
- There is an opportunity to discuss mechanisms to allow HUSAR task forces be to move across national borders following a significant event such as an earthquake. There is also an interest in continued improvements to the program at the provincial level along with the Public Safety Canada objective of improved interoperability amongst the task forces.
- Many of the task forces within Canada are directly associated with fire services and/or fire marshal offices.
- British Columbia has a Heavy Urban Search and Rescue (HUSAR) task force located in Vancouver referred to as Canada Task Force 1 (CAN-TF1)
- The task force is managed by Vancouver Fire Rescue Services (VFRS) under authority of City of Vancouver and draws personnel from VFRS, Vancouver Police Department (VPD), British Columbia Emergency Health Services (BCEHS), City of Vancouver Engineering, City of Vancouver Park Board, licensed Physicians, and Professional Engineers.
- Though CAN-TF1 is managed and partially funded by VFRS under City of Vancouver, the task force is an asset available for deployment anywhere in the Province of British Columbia following a Request for Assistance vetted through Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR). EMCR provides Vancouver \$200,000 through an annual contribution agreement, to assist in the team's readiness to deploy within BC.
- There is a Letter of Understanding (LOU) between the Province and City of Vancouver that covers Operational Deployments outside of the City of Vancouver and signatory responsibilities. The LOU also addresses cost recovery following deployment.
- CAN-TF1 also receives Federal funding in the form of annual grant funding through application to Public Safety Canada (PS) and although PS does not directly deploy the task force, PS does continue to support task forces associated with the national HUSAR program with intent to build resiliency across Canada.

## **BACKGROUND:**

- Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) task forces are classified as Light, Medium, or Heavy based on their capabilities.
- There are currently six Heavy USAR (HUSAR) task forces within Canada. Only four of the six listed groups are “fully developed”. The “fully developed” HUSAR task forces across Canada are in Vancouver, Calgary, Manitoba, and Toronto. Halifax and Montreal are also recipients of federal grant funding, however Halifax and Montreal are currently “under development”.
- A fully developed task force can provide specialized skills to assist in a variety of emergency situations, including building collapse, mudslides, flooding, extreme weather events, among other disasters.
- Capabilities include search and rescue, technical search and rescue, canine search, stabilization and shoring, breaching and breaking, heavy rigging, communications, logistics, emergency medical assistance, structural assessment, incident management, and water purification.
- A HUSAR Task Force is capable of being self sufficient for up to 10 days operating at 2 separate sites, over multiple operational periods, 24 hours per day.
- The national Emergency Management Mutual Aid Agreement (EMMA) established through the Canadian Council of Emergency Management Organisations (CCEMO) is a mechanism available to CCEMO members to assist with the movement of HUSAR task forces across national borders. However, the EMMA does not appear to fully address potential challenges in deploying HUSAR task forces across provincial and territorial borders—such as professional licensure, indemnification, and workplace insurance coverage. A review of EMMA would be beneficial to ensure efficient movement of task forces across national borders.
- PS Canada facilitates the National HUSAR working group of which EMCR is a member. On behalf of this working group PS Canada presented an option to use the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) deployment standards. This has been supported by CCEMO and PS Canada is currently working with the Canadian Task forces to receive this accreditation.

## **International Deployment Considerations:**

- Calls for assistance often come from outside Canada and the ability to respond in a timely manner is critical to provide effective support to other countries.
- When looking at international deployment, not only do the same considerations for deployment within Canada have to be addressed, but other factors related to passports, visas, vaccinations and other health and safety matters must be identified and considered. Security of the task force must also be a consideration if a deployment is to a nation with military unrest.

- If deployment is requested, teams responding would require international accreditation to ensure compliance to the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) Guideline which allows teams to be accredited as a national USAR response system. In 2020 INSARAG Guidelines encouraged the member states to go even a step further by requesting the INSARAG Recognized National Accreditation Process (IRNAP), which certifies that the USAR system in the member state is completely in accordance with the INSARAG Guidelines methodology.
- The deployment of a HUSAR team from Canada would require oversight and coordination of the mobilization of persons and equipment. The provinces with HUSAR task forces could play a significant role in partnering with the federal government in supporting such a deployment.
- Calls for assistance from Canada would have to be coordinated federally so that proper assessment can be made on the need, the ability, and the safety for Canadian teams.
- It is expected that provinces with HUSAR task forces would provide support to other national jurisdictions who may be faced with large scale emergencies.

**OTHER MINISTRIES IMPACTED/CONSULTED:**

- Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR)
- City of Vancouver – Vancouver Fire and Rescue Service (VFRS)
- Public Safety Canada (PS)

**PREPARED BY:**

Brian Godlonton  
Fire Commissioner  
Office of the Fire Commissioner

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**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL  
POLICING AND SECURITY BRANCH  
INFORMATION BRIEFING NOTE**

**PREPARED FOR:** Doug Scott, Deputy Solicitor General,  
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

**ISSUE**

- For situational awareness of RCMP capacity and performance for the second quarter of the fiscal year 2022/2023 (Q2).

**SUMMARY:**

- Policing and Security Branch (PSB) has received and analyzed all submitted data from the RCMP as per their reporting requirements for the reporting period Q1 and Q2. The overarching analysis is summarized below and highlights from the report are attached as Appendix A.

**BACKGROUND:**

- PSB is now requiring quarterly and biannual reporting requirements from the RCMP to demonstrate resourcing levels, pressures, and outcomes in order to superintend policing and ensure adequate and effective levels of policing.
- PSB now conducts quarterly Vacancy Management meetings with senior executives from PSB and the RCMP to discuss the quarterly reports, service delivery gaps, and mitigation strategies.
- RCMP leadership is recognizing the strategic benefit to these reports and the meetings, as they have seen a significant increase in funding as a result of being able to demonstrate their systemic deficiencies.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Gaps:**

s.16

s.16

- Vacancy rates continue to be a challenge to delivering adequate and effective policing, especially in smaller detachments and in certain specialized units, where high overtime and high file counts overburden teams, confounding existing pressures.
  - Teams have high overtime and low operational capacity. Despite this, some teams continue to report a high file count and positive outcomes.

- Much of E Division RCMP's vacancy rates are dependent on National Head Quarter's (NHQ) ability to recruit new cadets. NHQ has been unable to produce a sufficient number of cadets for provinces and territories, including BC. This lack of new recruits is a potential threat to the new funding, which is specifically targeted to fill vacancies.

s.15

s.16; s.17

s.15

#### **Successes:**

- The specialized major crimes teams continue to have successes with their files, despite struggling with capacity issues and high file counts.
- Because the Province has shed light on the vacancy issues, the RCMP is now implementing new vacancy management strategies
- The RCMP will have three years of significantly increased provincial funding to reduce vacancies in key areas and specialties. This presents an important opportunity to deliver adequate and effective policing.

#### **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CONSIDERATIONS:**

- First Nations communities in BC mostly receive RCMP services either as part of the Provincial Police Service or municipal police service, depending on their location. Ensuring adequate and effective levels of policing and law enforcement is vital to the public safety of Indigenous communities.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- Appendix A - Q2 CORE Highlights

#### **APPROVALS & CONTACTS:**

Prepared February 3, 2023 by: Carolyn Wilcher/Manager/PSPB/778-974-4818  
Approved February 3, 2023 by: Vedrana Covic/ Director/PSPB/778-572-3414  
Approved February 3, 2023 by: Glen Lewis/A/Assistant Deputy Minister  
/Policing and Security<sup>s.17</sup>



# Q2 RCMP Resourcing Capacity

RCMP RESOURCING CAPACITY AND KEY FINDINGS FOR  
JULY 1, 2022 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

## Key Findings – Districts:

The following are key findings of resourcing levels of the four (4) RCMP Districts based on data provided by the RCMP:

District	Established	Vacancies	Surplus to Establishment (STE)	Operational	Operational Capacity
<i>Island District</i>	s.15				
<i>Lower Mainland District</i>					
<i>North District</i>					
<i>Southeast District</i>					
<b>TOTAL</b>					

s.15

- Most vacancies are soft vacancies which creates staffing problems.

## Key Findings – LMD Integrated Teams:

The following are key findings of the resourcing levels of the five (5) RCMP Integrated Teams based on data provided by the RCMP:

Team	Established	Vacancies	STE	Operational	Operational Capacity
<b>IHIT</b>	s.15				
<b>IFIS</b>					
<b>IPDS</b>					
<b>IERT</b>					
<b>ICARS</b>					
<b>TOTAL</b>					

s.15

## BC Highway Patrol (BCHP)

The following are key findings of the resourcing levels of the 43 Detachments or Units within BC Highway Patrol based on data provided by the RCMP:

BC Highway Patrol	Established	Vacancies	STE	Operational	Operational Capacity
Totals for 43 detachments/units	s.15				

s.15

- Total number of vacancies is the same as it was Q1.

s.15

## Federal, Investigative, Serious and Organized Crime (FISOC)

Unit	Established	Vacancies	STE	Operational	Operational Capacity
Federal Policing	s.15				
SIOPS					
Major Crimes Section					
CFSEU-BC					
<b>Totals</b>					

s.15

## Performance Metrics Highlights:

s.15

**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL  
POLICING AND SECURITY BRANCH  
INFORMATION BRIEFING NOTE**

**PREPARED FOR:** Doug Scott, Deputy Solicitor General,  
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

**ISSUE:**

Situational awareness information of Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) capacity for the third quarter of the fiscal year 2022/2023 (Q3).

**SUMMARY:**

- Policing and Security Branch (PSB) has received and analyzed all submitted data from the RCMP as per their reporting requirements for the reporting period Q3. The overarching analysis is summarized below and highlights from the report are attached as Appendix A.

**BACKGROUND:**

- PSB established quarterly and bi-annual reporting requirements from the RCMP to demonstrate resourcing levels, pressures, and outcomes in order to superintend policing and ensure adequate and effective levels of policing.
- PSB continues to conduct quarterly Vacancy Management meetings with senior executives from PSB and the RCMP to discuss the quarterly reports, service delivery gaps, and mitigation strategies. Q3 Vacancy Management meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2023.

**DISCUSSION:**

- **RCMP Criminal Operations Overall:**
  - Vacancy rates continue to be a challenge to delivering adequate and effective policing, especially in smaller detachments and in certain specialized units.
  - Historically, Cadet allocation has not been sufficient to fill vacancies, and information is inconsistently and infrequently shared with PSB. PSB has continually requested both cadet data and an increase in cadet allocation. RCMP vacancy rates are dependent on National Head Quarter's (NHQ) ability to recruit new cadets. NHQ has been unable to produce a sufficient number of cadets for the provinces, including British Columbia (BC). This is a potential risk to the new funding, which is specifically targeted to fill vacancies.

s.15

- Many areas within the RCMP continue to have difficulties producing the data.
- **Summary of Federal, Investigative Services and Organized Crime's (FISOC) identified risks:**  
s.15

- **Summary of CORE Policing's identified risks:**  
s.15

#### **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CONSIDERATIONS:**

- First Nations communities in BC mostly receive RCMP services either as part of the Provincial Police Service or municipal police service, depending on their location. Ensuring adequate and effective levels of policing and law enforcement is vital to the public safety of Indigenous communities.<sup>s.15</sup>  
s.15 Both federal and provincial governments provide funding to support culturally enhanced policing services in addition to the detachment level policing. Instances have been reported where FNIPP members have been asked to supplement frontline policing due to high vacancy rates, reducing the ability to perform their intended duties.

#### **ATTACHMENT(S):**

- Appendix A: Q3 RCMP Resourcing Capacity

#### **APPROVALS & CONTACTS:**

Prepared February 21, 2023 by: Carolyn Wilcher/Manager/PSPB/778-974-4818

Approved [date] by: Vedrana Covic/ Director/PSPB/778-572-3414

Approved February 24, 2023 by: Glen Lewis/A/Assistant Deputy Minister/Policing and Security/  
s.17

Approved February 28, 2023 by Doug Scott, Deputy Solicitor General

# Q3 RCMP Resourcing Capacity

RCMP RESOURCING CAPACITY AND KEY FINDINGS FOR  
OCTOBER 1, 2022 - DECEMBER 31, 2022

### Key Findings – Districts:

The following are key findings of resourcing levels of the four (4) RCMP Districts based on data provided by the RCMP:

District	Established	Vacancies	Surplus to Establishment (STE)	Operational	Operational Capacity
<i>Island District</i>	s.15				
<i>Lower Mainland District</i>					
<i>North District</i>					
<i>Southeast District</i>					
<b>TOTAL</b>					

s.15

### Key Findings – LMD Integrated Teams:

The following are key findings of the resourcing levels of the five (5) RCMP Integrated Teams based on data provided by the RCMP:

Team	Established	Vacancies	STE	Operational	Operational Capacity
<b>IHIT</b>	s.15				
<b>IFIS</b>					
<b>IPDS</b>					
<b>IERT</b>					
<b>ICARS</b>					
<b>TOTAL</b>					

s.15

## BC Highway Patrol (BCHP)

The following are key findings of the resourcing levels of the 43 Detachments or Units within BC Highway Patrol based on data provided by the RCMP:

BC Highway Patrol	Established	Vacancies	STE	Operational	Operational Capacity
Totals for 43 detachments/units	s.15				

s.15

## Federal, Investigative, Serious and Organized Crime (FISOC)

Unit	Established	Vacancies	STE	Operational	Operational Capacity
Federal Policing	s.15				
SIOPS					
Major Crimes Section					
CFSEU-BC					
<b>Totals</b>					

s.15