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CVSE Strategic Plan Enhancing Officer Safety Working Group Confidential Draft

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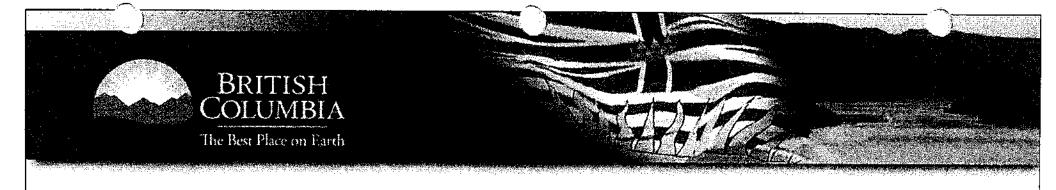
CVSE Strategic Plan Enhancing Officer Safety Working Group Confidential Draft

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TEAM OFFICER SAFETY/COMMUNICATION



MAY 8TH 2007 CVSE MEETING

Tracy Cooper's follow-up email:

"... solutions have to be driven by you..."

"...examine the challenges you brought forward and potential solutions for our consideration"

"Be the action you want to see."

Formation of Committee 5, Team Officer Safety:

"...lack of personal protective equipment put you at risk in the workplace for violence and/or personal injury. Conflict avoidance mitigation and training were also mentioned as issues that you would like to see addressed."



TEAM OFFICER SAFETY/COMMUNICATION

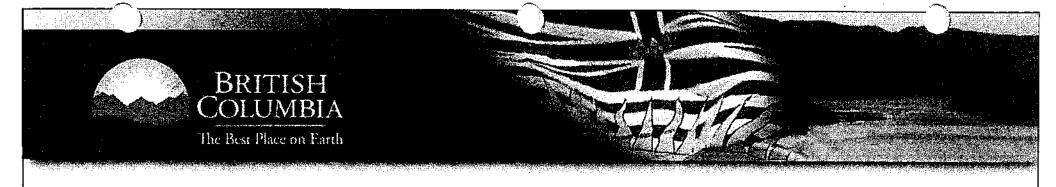
Sean Kelly (Le Grand Fromage) Ron Beck

Ken Usipiuk Darlene Watts

Roger Perry Jay Northcott

Cole Delisle Perry Dennis

Dawn Major



CVSE VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM REVIEW

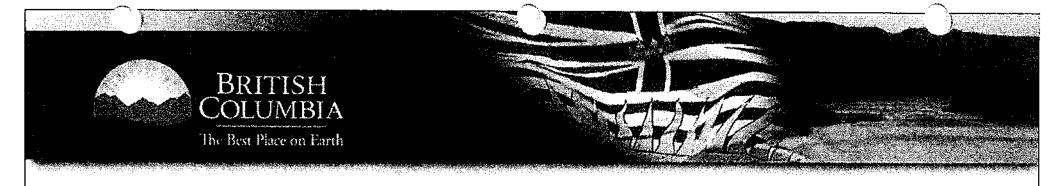
Conducted February 2006 by Scott Mortimer, Manager, Corporate Safety, and Herbert Lam, PSA OHS Specialist

Survey Statistics:

55% of respondents have been subjected to an act of violence within the past 24 months

11% involved weapons, (baseball bat, tire iron, 3 involving firearms)

576 Threats within past 24 months



WHERE DO WE STAND?

Formulated a short survey, sent it out to the entire South Coast Region.

Questions:

- 1. Have you ever felt at risk of violence in your current position?
- 2. Do you feel that physical self-defence training would benefit your safety?
- 3. Do you feel that physical use-of-force training would benefit your safety?
- 4. Do you feel that personal safety equipment would benefit your safety?

Body Armour (Vest) Baton Hand Cuffs OC Spray Taser

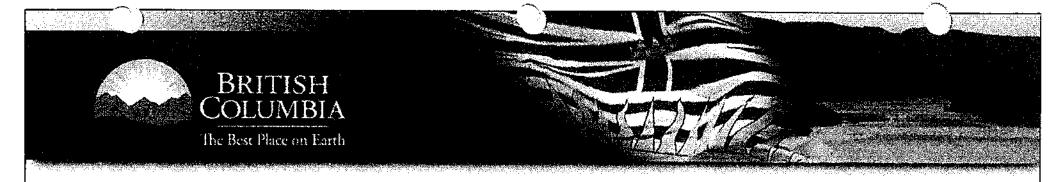


76 responses from a possible 83 Officers in the SCR (92% sample).

72 out of 76 Respondents (95%) answered 'Yes' to at least one question.

Questions:

- 1. Have you ever felt at risk of violence in your current position?
- 2. Do you feel that physical self-defence training would benefit your safety?
- 3. Do you feel that physical use-of-force training would benefit your safety?
- 4. Do you feel that personal safety equipment would benefit your safety?



72 out of 76 Respondents (95%) answered 'Yes' to at least one question.

1. Have you ever felt at risk of violence in your current position?

84% SAID YES

2. Do you feel that physical self-defence training would benefit your safety?

87% SAID YES

3. Do you feel that physical use-of-force training would benefit your safety?

75% SAID YES

4. Do you feel that personal safety equipment would benefit your safety?

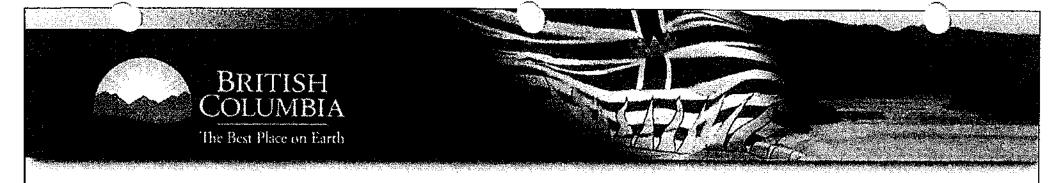
78% SAID YES



If answer was YES to Q. 4.

Do you feel that personal safety equipment would benefit your safety?:

Body Armour (Vest)	90%	(70% OF ALL RESPONDENTS)
Baton	76%	(60% of all respondents)
Handcuffs	73%	(57% OF ALL RESPONDENTS)
OC Spray	75%	(58% OF ALL RESPONDENTS)
Taser	50%	(38% OF ALL RESPONDENTS)



Breakdown by Job Position:

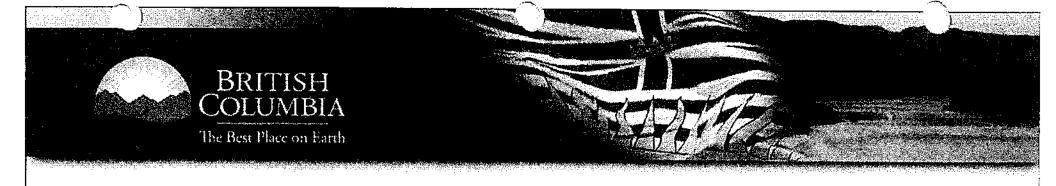
AVI 91%

Portables 89%

CSI 85%

Inspection Station 64%

78% In favour of personal safety equipment in the South Coast Region



At the request of our Management representatives, the survey was extended province wide.

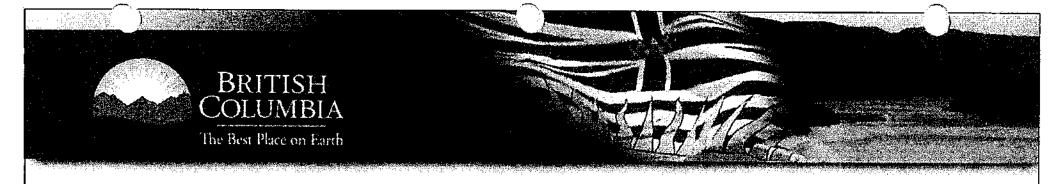
53 total confirmed responses from all areas of the province.

Northern Region

21 responses

Southern Interior Region

36 Responses



Northern Region – 21 Responses

- 1. Have you ever felt at risk of violence in your current position?

 95% SAID YES
- 2. Do you feel that physical self-defence training would benefit your safety?
 86% SAID YES
- 3. Do you feel that physical use-of-force training would benefit your safety?
 71% SAID YES
- 4. Do you feel that personal safety equipment would benefit your safety?

 76% SAID YES



Southern Interior Region – 36 Responses

- 1. Have you ever felt at risk of violence in your current position?
 91% SAID YES
- 2. Do you feel that physical self-defence training would benefit your safety?

 91% SAID YES
- 3. Do you feel that physical use-of-force training would benefit your safety?

 88% SAID YES
- 4. Do you feel that personal safety equipment would benefit your safety?



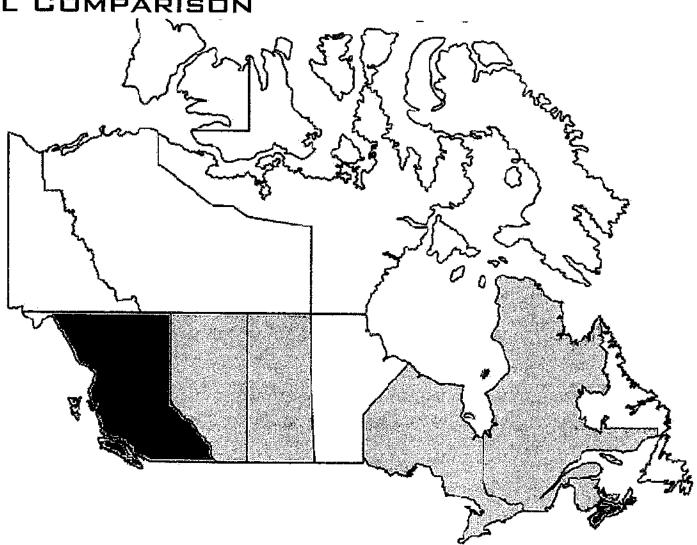
PROVINCE WIDE - 131 Responses

- 1. Have you ever felt at risk of violence in your current position?
 89% SAID YES
- 2. Do you feel that physical self-defence training would benefit your safety?
- 3. Do you feel that physical use-of-force training would benefit your safety?
 78% SAID YES
- 4. Do you feel that personal safety equipment would benefit your safety?



JURISDICTIONAL COMPARISON

- Fully Equipped
- No Equipment
- Under Review
- Unknown





SHOULD WE DO IT?

CAN WE DO IT?

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?



SHOULD WE DO IT?

October 7th, 1996 Memorandum issued by Rod Davey, A/Executive Director MVB, Ministry of Transportation and Highways

Survey conducted in 1996, 168 CVSE respondents

44% SUPPORT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF OC Spray and Batons

(As noted earlier, current survey indicates 80% support by CVSE staff; an increase of 36% from 1996 to 2007)



CAN WE DO IT?

October 7th, 1996 Memorandum issued by Rod Davey, A/Executive Director MVB, Ministry of Transportation and Highways

"Legislative Implications: None"

Confirmed by legal opinion from Legal Services Branch, Ministry of Attorney General.

"Policy Implications: ...develop and establish policy governing the control/monitoring of the equipment"



CAN WE DO IT?

October 7th, 1996 Memorandum issued by Rod Davey, A/Executive Director MVB, Ministry of Transportation and Highways – Recommendations:

1996 Option #1: Provide enforcement staff with a comprehensive and mandatory course covering all knowledge and skill areas required by Peace Officers. Issue canisters of pepper spray, batons and handcuffs to enforcement staff...

1996 Option #2: (Recommended) ...delay any decision to arm enforcement staff with Pepper Spray and Batons, and provide the necessary training, until after the ICBC/MVB merger is complete.



HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

Items available from Product Distribution

Duty Belt 35.08 ea

Expandable Asp Baton 89.96 ea

Nylon Baton Pouch 23.36 ea

Pepper Spray 28.91 ea

Pepper Spray Pouch 22.98 ea

Handcuffs 40.22 ea

Handcuff holder 16.95 ea

Body Armour (Not PDC) 675.00 ea

Total per Officer \$932.46

Costs not including Vest and Duty Belt (Current Portable/AVI)

- Body Armour -675.00

- Duty Belt -35.08

Total \$222.38



TRAINING COSTS

All training available and confirmed through the Police Academy of the Justice Institute of BC.

COST QUOTE:

\$15,000 per class (Commence as early as June 2008)

Class = 20 Officers

\$750 per student: 5 Days training – includes self-defence and use-of-force techniques, Intermediate Device Certification and all required training equipment (excluding tasers)





COSTS

Total cost per Officer - Equipment and Training

Equipment \$ 932.46

Training \$ 750.00

Total \$1,682.46

(\$972.38 if already equipped with Vest and Duty Belt).



Issues:

- -Ineffective Work-Alone Policy
- -Non-uniformity of Communication Equipment issuance, (regionally/job description)
- -Unreliable Communication Equipment
- -Shared radio frequencies with Highways Contractors
- -Lack of *rapid*, monitored communications
- -Lack of pertinent information, (CPIC, flagging of drivers, etc)



Issues:

-Ineffective Work-Alone Policy

CVSE Workplace Violence Prevention Program Review

February 2006

"Review Team found that seventeen sites did not have a formal written working alone program that met the criteria laid out in the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations"

"Overall the Review Team found inconsistencies and a poor understanding of the check in procedures at call in centers."



Issues:

-Ineffective Work-Alone Policy

Herbert Lam, OHS Specialist with the PSA has conducted a comprehensive review of the current Policy, and how it pertains to the different job duties.

A draft of a revised CVSE Lower Mainland Working Alone Protocol has been produced, (OCT 2007) and revisions are currently underway.



Issues:

-Non-uniformity of Communication Equipment issuance, (regionally/job description)

Only certain staff, (Portables and AVI's) within Lower Mainland Region issued portable radios.

Certain staff only communication equipment is a cell phone, (sometimes use of personal cell phone).



Issues:

-Unreliable Communication Equipment

Latest issued cell phones consistently drop calls, echo while in call, consistent 'no-service' warnings in densely populated areas.

Portable (hand-held) radio equipment ineffective; commonly unable to transmit or receive signals, even within eye-sight and within a short distance from vehicle/building.



Issues:

-Shared radio frequencies with Highways Contractor

Congestion from radio traffic non-applicable to CVSE duties.

Highways contractors stepping on/interrupting conversations between CVSE Officers.

Highways contractors privy to sensitive and confidential information.

"ACCESS TO OR USE OF THIS COMMUNICATION NETWORK WITHOUT PROPER AUTHOURIZATION MAY RESULT IN CRIMINAL PROSECUTION" — CTMS sign-on warning



Issues:

-Lack of rapid, monitored communications

All radio or phone contact in the Lower Mainland currently designated to a working inspection station.

All contact on Vancouver Island currently cell phone only, to third party, non-ministry telephone service, (work alone only, no radio contact, no vehicle-stop contact).

Isolated Officers consistently have ineffective or no communication ability.



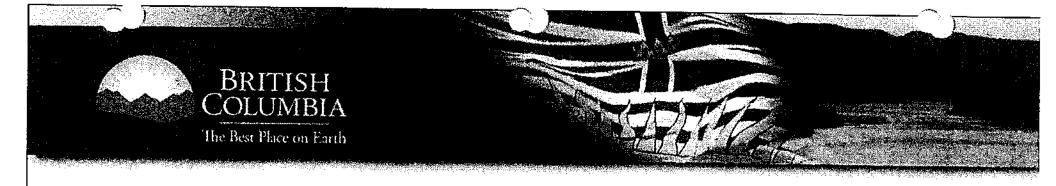
COMMUNICATION

Issues:

-Lack of pertinent information, (CPIC, flagging of drivers, etc)

Little or no knowledge of subjects that we are dealing with.

Often dealing with hostile and aggressive clients with extensive criminal history, with no knowledge at the time of the incident.



COMMITEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Option 1:

Delivery of Self-Defence and Use-of-Force training to all staff.

Issuance of Body Armour, OC Spray, Batons Handcuffs, (along with requisite training) to all staff.

Conduct Taser applicability review.

Adopt proposed Nero Global Tracking system, including personal panic alarms.

Distribute competent hand-held radios to all staff.

Distribute Mike phones to each CSI and each Inspection Station.

Continue with revision of Work Alone Program

Dedicated CVSE radio channel.

Centralized (non-Inspection Station) call-in and dispatch center.

Explore CPIC access/ICBC Flagging at a Management level.



COMMITEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Option 2:

Delivery of Self-Defence and Use-of-Force training to all staff.

Issuance of Body Armour, OC Spray, Batons Handcuffs to all staff.

Adopt proposed Nero Global Tracking system, including personal panic alarms.

Distribute competent hand-held radios to all staff.

Distribute Mike phones to each CSI and each Inspection Station.

Continue with revision of Work Alone Program

Dedicated CVSE radio channel.

Centralized (non-Inspection Station) call-in and dispatch center.

Explore multiple communication options with access to client information.



COMMITEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Option 3:

Delivery of Self-Defence and Use-of-Force training to all staff.

Issuance of Body Armour to all staff.

OC Spray, Batons Handcuffs to Mobile Staff, phase in to Inspection Station staff.

Adopt proposed Nero Global Tracking system, including personal panic alarms.

Distribute competent hand-held radios to all staff.

Distribute Mike phones to each CSI and each Inspection Station.

Continue with revision of Work Alone Program.

Dedicated CVSE radio channel.

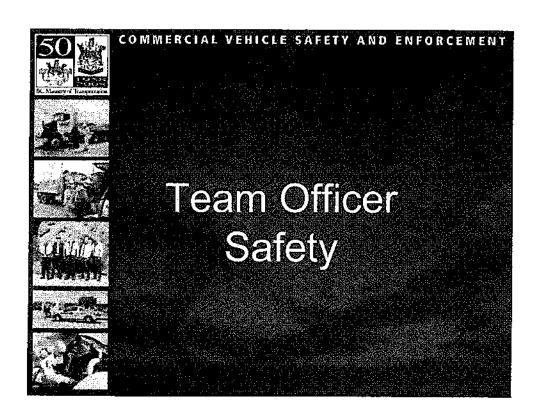
Centralized (non-Inspection Station) call-in and dispatch center.

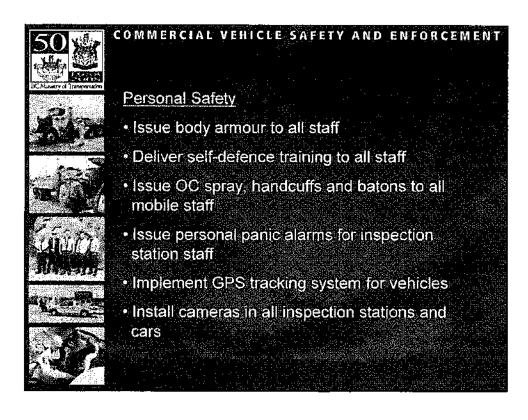
Explore multiple communication options with access to client information.



"A lack of skill and training produces normal reactions of fear and self-protection when confronted with violence. If one does not have the necessary skill to manage violence, they naturally revert back to instinctive responses"

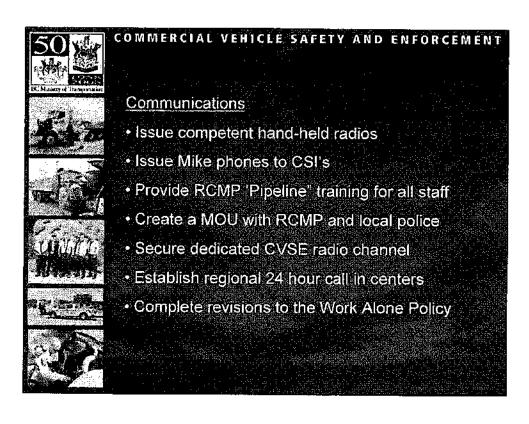
1997 Crisis and Physical Intervention Manual Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General BC Corrections Branch



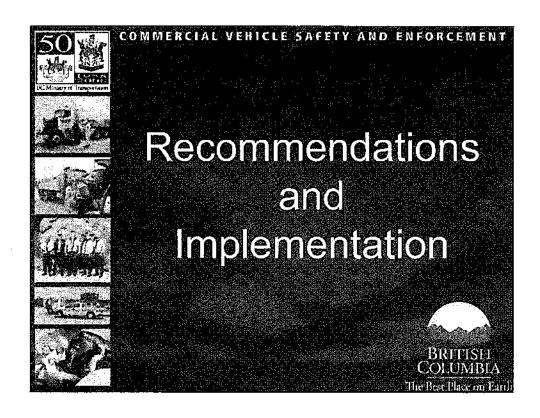


We have broken the recommendations from our team into two general categories....Personal Safety...and Communication

- •Issue body armour to ALL staff
- •Deliver self defence training to ALL staff. Commence proposed Justice Institute training, June 2008
- •Issue OC spray, handcuffs and batons to MOBILE staff, along with the requisite JI use-of-force training. Also, revisit the issuance of this equipment to Inspection Station staff at a later date. This may be considered with a phased in approach.
- •Issue personal panic alarms for inspection station staff
- Implement a GPS tracking system for vehicles and mobile staff
- Install cameras in all inspection stations and CVSE patrol cars



- •Issue competent hand held radios to all mobile staff, as well as a minimum of two radios per inspection station
- Issue Mike phones to CSI's and call-in centre.
- Provide Pipeline training to all staff
- •Create a MOU with RCMP and local police for information sharing and department identity awareness
- Secure a dedicated CVSE radio channel in ALL regions
- •Establish regional 24 hour call-in centers which are not inspection stations. These centers should have the ability to access driver and vehicle information
- •Complete the final revision to the Work Alone Policy





COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SAFETY AND ENFORCEMENT

Personal Safety

We support ...

- · body armour to staff with operational need
- conflict avoidance training
- · de-escalation tools
- cameras and microphones in all inspection stations and cars
- personal panic alarms for inspection station staff
- further evaluation of electronic tracking systems for vehicles such as GPS



COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SAFETY AND ENFORCEMENT

Communications

We support...

- · access to MoT handheld radios
- improved protocol for use of MoT radio channel
- · communications tools which are appropriate to the location
- appropriate training to support our current mandate
- · local relationships
- call-in centers for personal safety
- access to driver and vehicle information by computer
- · complete revisions to the Work Alone Policy

Team Officer Safety

Please complete this form confidentially and attach to a reply email to (Sean.Kelly@gov.bc.ca) OR place in a sealed envelope and House Mail it to 8150 Nordel Way, Delta BC V4G 8A9

Confidential Survey

This survey is being conducted in order to determine levels of support in the issuance of personal safety equipment and/or use-of-force training within CVSE.

100% response is expected and required in order to accurately reflect how you feel in your current daily duties.

In order to best support our different duties, please provide the following information: What is your current job classification? What Region and District are you (circle most suitable answer) employed in? (Ie, South Coast, LMD) CTI (Inspection Station, including Supervisors) Region: CTI (Portable) AVI District: **CSI** 1. Have you ever felt at risk of violence in your current position? Yes No 2. Do you feel that physical self-defence training would benefit your safety? Yes No 3. Do you feel that physical use-of-force training would benefit your safety? Yes No 4. Do you feel that personal safety equipment would benefit your safety? Yes No 5. If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4, please circle any and all equipment you feel would be most appropriate? (Understand that any issuance of equipment would be supported with appropriate training and/or certification including refreshers.) Body Armour (Vest) Hand Cuffs OC Spray Taser Baton Note – This survey is in no way intended to change or modify our daily duties, or incur further risk.

Thank you kindly for your time and participation.

WG 3: Enhancing Officer Safety

Sean Kelly

A/Training and Compliance Manager

CVSE

Enhancing Officer Safety Purpose

 Review CVSE's officer safety, tracking and work alone procedures and create recommendations to enhance the Officer Safety Program.



Discovery

- 1994-1996 Officer Safety & Equipment Study
- 2006 Draft PSA Officer Safety Review
- 2007 2008 SCR Officer Safety Working Group Study & Recommendations
- Commercial Vehicle Enforcement agencies across Canada
- Jurisdiction systems review Data Systems, Training,
 Equipment, Policies and Procedures

What We Heard

- 82% of respondents indicated they work alone where network coverage and connectivity are poor.
- 64% of respondents indicated Work Alone supporting equipment is ineffective.
- Unreported physical assaults to CVSE Officers.
- Incident reporting procedures have not always been followed.
- Training does not meet the needs.

Considerations

- Are policies clear and understood by the staff?
- Does training meet the needs of the staff?
- What happens when de-escalation or escape & evasion is not possible?
- Should CVSE provide staff regular officer safety training opportunities?
- Should CVSE provide officers with personal protection equipment that is the same as other similar agencies i.e. pepper spray, expandable batons and handcuffs?
- Need for a 3rd party safety assessment?

Enhancing Officer SafetyCVSE Action 1:

Safety Assessment by PSA

- Potentially identify future officer safety enhancements.
- Potentially identify any gaps that were missed by the Working Group.
- Review the effectiveness of steps that may be implemented.

Enhancing Officer SafetyCVSE Action 2:

Assess CVSE Officer Safety specific training.

- Officer safety and confidence with interactions.
- Consistent training for officer safety.
- Employer will be satisfying the requirements under WorkSafe BC regulations.

Enhancing Officer SafetyCVSE Action 3:

Create an Officer Safety component to compliment the Best Practices manual.

- Consistent approach to officer safety
- Increased awareness of safety processes and protocols
- Reinforces CVSE Officer Best Practices.

Enhancing Officer SafetyCVSE Action 4:

<u>Create a CVSE Safety Committee to review training and incident reporting.</u>

- Regular assessment of safety training needs.
- Formalizes officer incident reporting procedures.
- Provides data to make informed decisions for officer safety enhancements.
- Addresses inconsistent approach to improving officer's safety.

Enhancing Officer SafetyCVSE Action 5:

Assess/Develop System to Identify Drivers That Might Put Officers at Risk (CVSE Digital Strategy)

- Informed decision making prior to interacting with drivers.
- Increased awareness and early notification requesting local police assistance.
- Employer will be satisfying the requirements under WorkSafe BC regulations.



Board Considerations

Officer Safety

Enhancing Officer Safety

RELIABLE COMMUNICATION TOOLS

Background:

- Respondents to the 2019 Officer Safety Survey results identified:
 - 82% of CVSE respondents indicated they work alone where network coverage and connectivity are poor.
 - 64% of respondents indicated Work Alone supporting equipment is ineffective.
- There is no consistent system being used for check-in procedures
- In 2007/08, a transition was made by some districts to use private call in services (i.e. Tiger Tel, Four Star)
- Monthly CVSE spend on check-in call services, \$800 \$1,100.

Enhancing Officer Safety

RELIABLE COMMUNICATION TOOLS

OPTION 1: Procure SafetyLine as the ministry's communication tool for officers working alone.

Pros:

- Would significantly improve ministry practice for officer safety.
- The system uses both GPS through phones, and satellite signal when out of cell range.
- Staff could use existing devices (iPhones) and desktops to monitor check-ins.
- There is an existing Corporate Supply Arrangement already in place by the provincial government.
- Emergency notifications and fan outs are sent out in the event of an emergency or hostile situation.

Cons:

- Requires time to train staff and create an internal resource to respond to inquiries.
- Costs for the use of the SafetyLine system are higher than current call-in service usage.

RELIABLE COMMUNICATION TOOLS

OPTION 2: Purchase GPS units for all staff working in isolation

Pros:

- Staff will be able to determine their exact location for calling in procedures.
- Limited increase in cost as some districts have GPS in place.
- Emergency notification system for CVSE staff.

Cons:

- Staff are not fully monitored in their daily activities and information on vehicle stops is not provided through the GPS system.
- System is limited and does not fully support the field staff.
- CVSE staff resources would continue to be in-effectively used.

RELIABLE COMMUNICATION TOOLS

OPTION 3: Status Quo

Pros:

- No additional increase in cost.
- Staff are familiar with established procedures and equipment.

Cons:

- Staff have identified that equipment does not meet their needs.
- Decrease in morale.
- Inspection Station staff will continue to not effectively be used to perform their job duties.
- Continued officer safety risks as staff will not be effectively monitored.

Enhancing Officer Safety Recommended Action 1

Option 1: Procure SafetyLine as the ministry's communication tool for officers working alone.

- Significantly improves ministry practice for officer safety.
- The system uses both GPS through phones, and satellite signal when out of cell range.
- Staff could use existing devices (iPhones) and desktops to monitor check-ins.
- There is an existing Corporate Supply Arrangement already in place by the provincial government.

Enhancing Officer Safety Implications

- COSTS Systems costs for driver identification and radio communications
- STAFFING potential additional resource(s) for BC TMC for call in procedures could be considered.

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