



Corporate Facts

Overview

Providing police services to a country as large and diverse as Canada requires an organization that is both dynamic and well structured. The RCMP has changed with the times to deliver leading edge policing to all Canadians.

Organized for Efficiency

Created by Parliament on February 1, 1920 – by merging the Royal North-West Mounted Police and the Dominion Police – the RCMP has a mandate to enforce laws, prevent crime, and maintain peace, order and security. Through agreements between the federal government and other bodies, the RCMP provides national, provincial/ territorial and municipal police services across Canada.

Since 1996, the RCMP has followed a regional system of management, and is now divided into four regions. Each region is headed by one of the RCMP's Deputy Commissioners.

Additionally, the organization is sub-divided into 15 divisions plus its National Headquarters in Ottawa, each of which is under the direction of a Commanding Officer. At the local level, there are more than 750 detachments.

For management purposes, the RCMP is structured along six business lines: federal policing; contract policing; national policing; international peacekeeping; protective policing; and corporate infrastructure. Overarching these business lines are strategic priorities that are reviewed periodically to focus both operational and organizational efforts on the goal of providing safe homes and communities for Canadians.

In 2003, these strategic priorities were set as: organized crime; terrorism; youth; international police services; and serving Aboriginal communities. Additionally, wherever possible, these priorities are supported through integrated policing partnerships and collaboration.

The RCMP's scope of operations includes: combating terrorism, organized crime, and specific crimes related to the illicit drug trade — with its strategic focus on intelligence, investigation, enforcement, protection, prevention and education; economic crimes such as counterfeiting and credit card fraud; and offences that threaten the integrity of Canada's national borders. The RCMP protects VIPs, including the Prime Minister and foreign dignitaries and provides the law enforcement community with a full range of computer-based security services.

National Police Services, managed by the RCMP on behalf of all Canadian law enforcement organizations, offers valuable resources to members of Canada's 500 or more other law enforcement agencies. These resources include databases – fingerprint, criminal record, forensic image, missing children, firearms – and other specialized services such as those offered by forensic laboratories, the Canadian Bomb Data Centre and the Automated Criminal Intelligence Information System.

The RCMP's Contract Policing Services has jurisdiction over eight provinces, three territories, more than 200 municipalities, 65 Aboriginal communities, three international airports and numerous smaller airports.

Quick Facts

- The RCMP has over 22,000 employees, including regular and civilian members, and public service employees.
- The RCMP presence: Headquarters, 4 regions, 15 divisions, 750+ detachments
- More than 75,000 volunteers assist the RCMP.
- The RCMP administers and enforces close to 60 federal statutes and agreements.
- The Canadian Police Information Centre provides shared computer access to more than 60,000 law enforcement officers from coast to coast.