



Backgrounder

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CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE CANADA

Established in 1970, Criminal Intelligence Service Canada (CISC) unites the criminal intelligence units of Canadian law enforcement agencies by providing leadership and expertise to the CISC member agencies in their integrated efforts to detect, reduce and prevent organized and serious crime affecting Canada. CISC is comprised of an Ottawa-based Central Bureau that liaises with and collects information and intelligence from nine Provincial Bureaux. The Provincial Bureaux are located in each province with the exception of Prince Edward Island whose interests are served by Criminal Intelligence Service Nova Scotia. The Yukon Territory is served by Criminal Intelligence Service British Columbia, while the Northwest Territories and Nunavut are represented by Criminal Intelligence Service Alberta and Criminal Intelligence Service Newfoundland respectively.

LOCATIONS OF THE CENTRAL AND PROVINCIAL BUREAUX



CISC is comprised of two levels of membership. Level I membership in CISC is restricted to the following that have a permanent criminal intelligence unit: federal, provincial, municipal or regional police services and agencies that are responsible for the enforcement of federal and provincial statutes. Level I members currently include the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Québec Police Force, the Ontario Provincial Police, the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary and more than 120 municipal and regional police departments. Canada Customs and Revenue Agency and the Department of National Defence, Canadian Forces National Investigation Service are also Level I members. Level II membership in CISC may be granted to a police service or agency responsible for the enforcement of federal or provincial statutes unable to meet the qualifications of Level I membership.

The intelligence and specialized units of these law enforcement agencies supply their Provincial Bureaux with intelligence and raw data for further analysis and dissemination. The criminal intelligence shared is related to organized and serious crime issues affecting Canada.

The Central Bureau of CISC takes its operational direction from an Executive Committee, comprised of over 20 senior executives from various Level I member agencies and chaired by the Commissioner of the RCMP. This Committee meets twice annually to review the operation of CISC and to decide on goals, national intelligence priorities and monitored issues. The CISC Central Bureau monitors the progress of these priorities and issues in cooperation with the nine Provincial Bureaux. The Directors of the Provincial Bureaux meet twice annually with the Director General of CISC to discuss organized crime issues and forward recommendations and resolutions to the Executive Committee.

The staff of the Central Bureau consists of RCMP employees and secondments from other police departments and government agencies. Secondments at the Central Bureau currently include: Barrie Police Service, Canada Customs and Revenue Agency, Correctional Services Canada, Department of National Defence, the Ontario Provincial Police, Ottawa Police Service, Service de Police de la Ville de Montréal and the Sûreté du Québec. CISC's Central Bureau receives administrative and financial support from the RCMP and its National Police Services.

CISC PRIORITIES

CISC monitors and reports on national intelligence priorities: Aboriginal-based, Asian-based, Eastern European-based and Traditional (Italian-based) organized crime groups, organized crime at marine ports, and outlaw motorcycle gangs. CISC also has intelligence projects in place to monitor serious crime issues: contraband tobacco and alcohol, organized crime and the diamond industry, the illicit movement of firearms, the sexual exploitation of children, street gangs and technology and crime.

CISC recognizes that other criminal organizations operate in Canada at regional and/or national levels and that there are other serious crime issues that are of concern to law enforcement and the public. However, CISC is mandated to monitor and exchange intelligence on its national intelligence priorities and monitored issues. These priorities and monitored issues are reviewed and determined annually by the CISC Executive Committee.

ACIIS

The Central Bureau is host to an on-line computer data bank known as the Automated Criminal Intelligence Information System, or ACIIS. This data bank is the national intelligence repository for the use of all CISC members in Canada. Access in the provinces is coordinated by the Provincial Bureaux. All member agencies cooperate with each other in the collection, collation, evaluation, analysis and dissemination of criminal intelligence by contributing to ACIIS.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

The *CISC Annual Report on Organized Crime in Canada* is published to inform and educate the public. The activities and workings of criminal organizations are often complex and can be hidden from the everyday world. With this report, CISC seeks to make the effects of organized crime visible and of concern to every community and region in Canada. One of the keys to success in the fight against organized crime is partnerships between law enforcement agencies as well as with policy makers and the public. Organized crime is a threat to public safety and to all Canadians. Law enforcement needs people to recognize the effects of organized crime on their communities.

The report covers information from the previous year up to May 16, 2003.

The information has been verified through intelligence and investigation reports from Canadian and international law enforcement agencies received by CISC throughout the year. In particular, CISC relies on its member agencies across Canada to provide valuable information on organized crime trends and activities in Canada.

This report is also available on CISC's website at: www.cisc.gc.ca.