

Criminal Intelligence Service Alberta

Annual Report

April 2005 - March 2006



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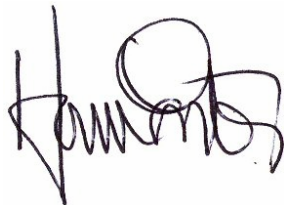
INTRODUCTION

Organized crime is an ever-changing phenomenon that law enforcement struggles to keep pace with. Advanced technology and criminal anonymity are obstacles that we must overcome in our vigilance of organized crime in the province. Individuals that are responsible for undermining society need to be held accountable for their actions.

CISA has been the pulse point for the sharing and dissemination of intelligence on organized crime in Alberta. Working with our partners and stakeholders, CISA has made considerable advances in disrupting criminal enterprises in Alberta. Improving communication and implementing integrated strategies will become the foundation upon which an effective platform will be built to combat organized crime.

Through a collaborative effort, CISA and law enforcement agencies in Alberta targeted a crack cocaine distribution network operating in Brooks, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat and arrested 13 subjects. Green Team and SAMIT continue to fight marihuana grow operations by seizing plants and grow equipment and laying charges against those involved. CISA continues to be involved in the investigation with Project KARE. Many successes have occurred and many more will be celebrated.

Reacting and responding to crime has been the norm in the past. CISA is proactively positioning itself to address the issues of organized crime in Alberta. The future holds many changes that will positively affect how we manage knowledge and work in our environment. Through the dedication of our employees and membership, CISA will advance the efforts put forth against organized crime.



Inspector Harv Emter
Director, CISA



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Automated Criminal Intelligence Information System (ACIIS) is an investigative tool that supports the concept of sharing information among enforcement agencies. This sophisticated computer application is a storage medium for criminal activities that is able to draw linkages that reveal organized crime.

The annual integrated provincial threat assessment continues its transition from classifying groups into ethnic silos to categorizing them with more of a geographical focus.

In the last fiscal year, CISA participated in five joint forces operations. One of the operations is still ongoing. Criminal activities included the disappearance and homicides of sex trade workers, cocaine, and marihuana grow operations.

CISA training opportunities aim to provide investigators with increased professionalism and knowledge. Over the past year, course topics included Search Warrants, Human Source Management, Bill C-24 Training, Corrections Intelligence, and Drug Investigators courses.

CISA's website, <http://www.cisalberta.com/>, continues to provide the public with information on organized crime and copies of business plans and annual reports. Law enforcement agencies are able to access the private side of the website to obtain information on training and crime trends.

During the 2005/06 fiscal year, CISA supported five joint forces operations. CISA committed \$1,305,517 to these projects for investigational costs. Involved police services committed an additional \$7,800,000.

Five applications for financial assistance were received through the POCLEG Program between April 1, 2005 and March 31, 2006. Only four applications could be accommodated. Requests totalled \$252,640 but only \$164,622 was available.

GOAL 1: To Provide Effective Collection, Analysis and Dissemination of Criminal Intelligence

Over the past year, CISA and the entire intelligence community have made many advancements towards greater integration and more effective collection of information. Investigators have been added to tactical intelligence units in the field, which benefits the quality and timeliness of information, and provides a clearer understanding of crime trends, improving the ability of the police to target criminal activities. This has stretched the analytical capacity of CISA to its limit. The focus and priorities for our analysts have been modified in order to address the increased demand for their assistance and products. CISA will be addressing resource and capacity issues with our various partners over the coming year in order to meet the demand for timely and actionable intelligence.

CISA has improved the ability to share information with the integration of the RCMP in the development of CISA's Integrated Information Centre. This initiative saw the amalgamation of the RCMP's 'Intelex' Unit with our Information Management Unit and the Automated Criminal Intelligence Information System (ACIIS) Unit, all centralized at CISA. The Integrated Information Centre has the responsibility of managing ACIIS and the National Criminal Databank (NCDB) from a provincial scope. In addition, the centre also provides access to 23 national and provincial databases and includes databases from the U.S. and Interpol. This service can be queried by any Alberta police officer. The development of this centre has provided unprecedented access, sharing and cooperation between agencies.

The Automated Criminal Intelligence Information System (ACIIS) remains the primary platform to share information/

intelligence through federal, provincial and municipal policing on a national scope. This system is governed by the Criminal Intelligence Service Canada (CISC) who announced this year plans for the amalgamation of ACIIS with the RCMP's NCDB. CISA has been working with our national partners in assessing functionality, restrictions and access to the new system. It is anticipated that the rollout of the new system will be completed in phases over the coming years.

The Alberta Public Safety Network (APSNet) is an initiative of the Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police, which receives financial support from the Alberta Government Solicitor General Ministry. This project was designed to provide Alberta police agencies the ability to query the records management system of other Alberta police agencies via their home agency computer. CISA was assigned governance of this project, which has now been rolled out to Medicine Hat, Lethbridge Regional, Calgary and Edmonton police services. Presently, the system is being piloted by these agencies and has been regarded as a tremendous success. Over the next several months it is anticipated that greater access to this system within the police services will be completed and final evaluations will be conducted.

GOAL 2: To Develop Intelligence-Based Analytical Products and Participate in the Preparation of Provincial Threat Assessments on Organized Crime for the Benefit of Senior Police Managers and Various Levels of Government

The CISA Integrated Provincial Threat Assessment is prepared annually and serves to identify, describe and assess organized crime activities that are a threat to Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

Proceeds from drug production and distribution activities continue to be the primary motivator for virtually all the criminal organizations identified in the Integrated Threat Assessment.

The 2006 Threat Assessment continues the transition from traditional classifications to focus more on the geographic perspective of organized crime groups and serious criminal activities.

Inter-Provincial Organized Crime Groups

While numerous organized crime groups have links, associations, drug sources or connections out-of-province, many organized crime groups are deemed to have impact outside of Alberta and Northwest Territories jurisdictions. Several groups are involved in drug distribution and their impact on neighbouring provinces and territories is a result of exportation of drugs via development of untapped drug markets or the takeover of existing drug territories by some form of aggression. Other criminal organizations have utilized their associations to establish out-of-province markets for stolen goods as well as for exportation of cocaine and Alberta-produced marijuana and methamphetamine. Stolen cars, recreational vehicles, heavy equipment and weapons are being targeted, stolen, and shipped to associates and then to buyers in neighbouring provinces and the U.S.

A recent joint forces operational project targeted a well-known organized crime group suspected of innumerable mortgage frauds in several western provinces. Several individuals were arrested with the seizure of approximately fifty properties.

Provincial

Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs (OMG): The Alberta Nomads, and the Edmonton and Calgary Hells Angels chapters are expanding their influence with the establishment of support clubs around the province. The Hells Angels are reputed to have control over much of the production and trafficking of methamphetamine within Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

Both Alberta OMG and Asian-based Organized Crime (AOC) groups are assertively expanding their drug territories throughout the province and the Northwest Territories. British Columbia-based OMG groups as well as local OMGs support the expansion in Alberta. The Crazy Dragons have a working relationship with the Indian Posse, an Aboriginal-based Organized Crime Group/Street Gang. This association has allowed the Crazy Dragons indirect entry into the drug markets on First Nations Reserves in Alberta as well as assisting them at the street level in Alberta urban markets that maintain a significant Indian Posse presence. The Redd Alert, another aboriginal group that has provincial overtones. Members of the group are recruiting new members and are involved in drug-trafficking, committing various crimes and generally exerting a negative influence in First Nations areas.

GOAL 2

There is an uneasy coexistence between these groups as there have been street-level clashes between them. The positive side of this relationship for the gangs allows cooperation and transfer of certain types of drugs between the groups for their mutual financial benefit when one or the other has a surplus. The negative side for all is the violence resulting from disputes.

Western Alberta

British Columbia Lower Mainland Hells Angels groups allegedly subsidize a criminal organization in Grande Prairie. This group is well established and quite diverse in that they have rural and urban marihuana grow operations, methamphetamine and crack cocaine producing labs, and a stolen property distribution and transportation system.

Another concern for the Western Alberta District are a number of subjects of interest reported to be associated to various Hells Angels chapters that operate along the Yellowhead Highway (Highway 16) Corridor west of Edmonton. Intelligence indicates that several of these individuals are responsible for much of the methamphetamine produced for the Provincial Capital District and possibly most of north-western Alberta.

Eastern Alberta

Several new organized crime groups have been reported in the Eastern Alberta District, one based in Fort McMurray and one operating in the east central area of the province between Lloydminster and Provost. Both are primarily street-level drug distribution groups and both have demonstrated violence and intimidation to defend their drug markets and collect drug debts. The Fort McMurray group, backed by the Calgary and Edmonton Hells Angels' chapters, are reported to be the dominant organization in their area.

There are a number of criminal subjects of interest who are becoming major traffickers in Camrose. Growing sophistication and size of the dial-a-dope operations provide increased opportunities for enforcement at the street-level but these factors also provide a measure of insulation for persons directing the operations. This makes it more difficult to disrupt or eradicate the organization completely.

The five First Nations reserves centred around Hobbema have been the scene of an overwhelming number of violent incidents that are being attributed to gang violence between rival Indian Posse and Redd Alert factions that have moved from urban city streets back to their family homes.

Southern Alberta District

Southern Alberta reserves have not been immune from the effects of violence and gang membership relocating from correctional facilities and from city streets. The Siksika Reserve, east of Calgary, reports a Redd Alert presence with a number of members involved in acts of intimidation and violence against the local population.

What was originally considered to be a Calgary Traditional Organized Crime (TOC) group is listed as one of the most significant organized crime threats in southern Alberta due to the organization's suspected economy of scale relating to drugs. The group supplies substantial amounts of drugs, especially cocaine, to an extensive drug distribution network involving other Alberta-based criminal organizations. The group is believed to be involved in illegal gaming, prostitution, loan sharking, frauds, and the fencing of stolen property. The involvement with legitimate businesses appears to facilitate the laundering of criminal proceeds as well as provide a front for advancing other additional criminal activities.

GOAL 2

Brooks is a viable drug market for a number of organized crime groups and subjects of criminal interest from Edmonton, Calgary and Medicine Hat. It has been reported that an Edmonton Hells Angels member has subordinates deal-a-doping cocaine in both the Brooks and Medicine Hat areas as well as Asian-based groups and seemingly independent organizations also trafficking cocaine and methamphetamine to the local citizenry, which may or may not be backed by Asian-based or B.C. Hells Angels-backed organized crime groups. Enforcement operations against The Kids, a crack cocaine distribution network, were successful in completely disrupting the organization, however other groups continue to present themselves as feasible targets for investigation.

An Asian familial-based organization appears to be managing a number of marihuana cultivation operations in Lethbridge residences obtained via mortgage fraud activities. It was confirmed that this group has been active in the Calgary area and the group's interests appear to involve a number of overseas countries.

The Edmonton-based Crazy Dragons have been in Lethbridge for several years, attributing their success to involvement in the largely untapped local market and a strategy of recruiting local down-liners as drug dealers and as insulation for the street lieutenants who are transferred in and out of other communities. The Crazy Dragons' mobility for the underbosses has been successful as it has made it exceedingly difficult to mount operations sufficient enough in scope to disrupt organizational activities.

A Lethbridge group is suspected to be linked to a Calgary-based Eastern European Organized Crime (EEOC) group that has been active in a number of crimes including vehicle and jewellery thefts, large-scale shoplifting, frauds, and drug trafficking. It is believed that several cash-oriented businesses might be used as fronts for money-laundering as well as more criminal activities.

Calgary Urban Area

A number of newly formed criminal organizations have been noted in the Calgary city area; OMG and AOC groups currently dominate the Calgary scene. Outlaw motorcycle affiliates in Alberta are attempting to establish a greater presence by increasing public visibility and aggressive activity. A number of support organizations have been established throughout the province, providing elevated visibility.

Two feuding Asian-based organizations, Fresh off the Boat (FOB's) Fresh off the Boat Killers (FK's), were the source of much violence being dealt with on city streets that had prioritized law enforcement resources against them. The Edmonton-based Crazy Dragons may have been assisting one of the groups with firearms. Fuelled by a genuine hate for each other, the two groups will likely continue to deplete their resources until complete dismantlement.

Another Asian-based organized crime group has been a significant enforcement priority, having connections to virtually every organized crime group in the Calgary area. A large number of legitimate holdings facilitate the laundering of money from several diverse activities such as marihuana cultivation, distribution and exportation, loan sharking, methamphetamine production and distribution. The organization has been targeted a number of times but has not been disrupted as the leaders have insulated themselves well from law enforcement.

GOAL 3: Participate in Multi-Agency and Multi-Disciplinary Joint Forces Operational Enforcement Strategies for Targeting Organized and Serious Crime in Alberta Through the Prudent Allocation of Resources

During the 2005/06 fiscal year, CISA supported a total of five Joint Force Operations targeting serious and organized crime in Alberta.

Three of the projects focused on organized crime while Project KARE was the only project funded under the serious crime aspect, targeting serial or predator crime. The total funds committed to these initiatives were \$1,305,517.38, while contributions from police services was in excess of \$7,800,000.00. The investigation into one of the organized crime investigations is ongoing; therefore it will not be reported on at this time. The following is a brief summary of projects, which occurred during the past year.

Project KIDROCK

This operation was a joint force, multi-jurisdictional, integrated investigation involving the Medicine Hat Police Service, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Lethbridge Regional Police Service and the Calgary Integrated Response to Organized Crime. The investigation targeted a crack cocaine distribution network operating in the communities of Brooks, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat. The targeted criminal organization called themselves “The DC Boys”, however, they were also known on the street as “The Kids”. The investigation into the criminal activities of this group involved undercover techniques, surveillance and lawfully intercepted communications. This investigation was successfully concluded and resulted in the seizure of over one kilogram of cocaine and the arrest of 13 subjects. This initiative had a significant impact on the drug trade within the Alberta communities of Medicine Hat, Lethbridge and Brooks.

Project KARE

This RCMP-led task force continues to actively investigate the disappearance and homicides of numerous sex trade workers in the Edmonton area. This integrated EPS/RCMP team has received assistance from several Alberta police agencies that have released members to assist in this complex investigation team. In June 2005, a reward was offered for information to assist in leading the arrest of the perpetrator(s) of these crimes. The CISA Executive, through funding already established for Project KARE, supported this reward. In response to this initiative, over 800 calls were received, of which 665 were directly attributed to the offer. A request for an extension of the reward offer, through fiscal 2006/07 was sought by investigators and has been approved. The investigative team continues to follow up on these tips. CISA continues to monitor this investigation and expenditures through participation in the Joint Management Team.

GOAL 3

Project GREEN TEAM

The joint EPS/RCMP marihuana investigative team continued their operations targeting marihuana cultivation in Edmonton and northern Alberta communities. Over the past year, Green Team members executed 62 search warrants on suspected marihuana grow operations. These warrants led to 217 charges being laid against 67 people. The following information was reported:

Seizure Type	2005
# of Marihuana Plants	19,282
Value of Plants (\$)	\$14,972,750
Processed Marihuana (grams)	46,294
Value of Grow Equipment (\$)	613,500
Cash (\$)	\$15,845
# of Weapons	47
# of Charges	217

Project SAMIT

The RCMP and Calgary Police Service's joint forces marihuana team, Southern Alberta Marijuana Investigation Team (SAMIT), completed another successful year of operation. The SAMIT team has increased their resources and is now comprised of 10 members. For the past fiscal year, SAMIT reported that 138 search warrants were executed on suspected marihuana grow operations. These warrants led to 290 charges being laid against 99 people. The following information was reported:

Seizure Type	2005
# of Marihuana Plants	59,873
Value of Plants (\$)	\$68,735,200
Value of Grow Equipment (\$)	\$2,281,900
Files	688
# of Charges	290

GOAL 4: To Provide Professional Development for Alberta Law Enforcement Personnel in Order to Comprehend and Respond to the Criminal Activities of Organized Crime Groups and Serious Criminal Predators

CISA continues to supply training to the law enforcement community. Over the past year CISA has provided its' membership with intelligence and enforcement-specific training in several areas. New topics were included this year with intelligence and enforcement-specific training in diverse subject areas.

The RCMP, Calgary Police Service and CISA hosted a two-day workshop on *Marihuana Grows* in April 2005 in Red Deer. Eighty-five candidates attended the workshop, which was designed for police officers, particularly those working in drug units, and forensic or tactical/ERT who may encounter marihuana grows or clandestine laboratories as part of their regular duties.

In April 2005, CISA hosted a *Pipeline/Convoy Training Course* in Red Deer. RCMP experts delivered the standard two-day Pipeline/Convoy portion of the course and the third day included presentations on marihuana grow trends, proceeds of crime, the Jet-Way Program. This course also instructs on matters, which are all related to the movement of drugs, methamphetamine precursors and money across the province.

CISA partnered with the Alberta RCMP to deliver several *Search Warrant Drafting* courses. The first was held in Lethbridge in May 2005. Twenty-four candidates, including four provincial prosecutors, attended the five-day course. A second course was held in Red Deer in September 2005 with an additional twenty-four candidates attending. The third search warrant course for 2005 was held in November at RCMP 'K' Division, which trained 24 candidates from across the province. The fourth, and final, course was held in February 2006 in Fort McMurray and an additional 34 candidates were trained.

CISA's *Informant Workshops* have been well received in the past and as a result, one was held in Lethbridge in July 2005. Seventy-six candidates from the southern part of the province, including 25 police recruits from the Lethbridge Community College, attended the two-day course.

CISA offered the *Human Source Management* seven-day course this past October at the Harvard Business Park in Penhold. A total of 40 candidates attended the course, which focused on improving investigators' work with human sources to enhance their investigations. The Edmonton Police Service, Calgary Police Service, and RCMP supplied many volunteer role players to portray informants in numerous scenarios and syndicate leaders.

Bill C-24 gives police officers limited protection from criminal liability for specific, otherwise, illegal acts. In order for officers to be designated to work under the protection of Bill C-24, they must attend a two-day course designed by Justice Canada and the RCMP in Ottawa. During the past year, 58 candidates were trained in the *Law Enforcement Justifications Provisions* (Bill C-24 Legislation) course in Edmonton and Calgary. Provincial prosecutors, federal prosecutors and police officers provided instruction on the legal and practical understanding of Bill C-24.

Seventy-four candidates attended the *Drug Expert Workshop* that CISA held at the RCMP 'K' Division in April 2006. Multiple agency drug investigators were able to network with other investigators within the province while learning new information and agency drug pricing. The three-day workshop included topics such as Methamphetamine Precursors

GOAL 4

and Cooking, Drugs in Institutions, Cocaine Cooking, and Marijuana Grows. The workshop included candidates from correctional facilities for the first time.

The first ever CISA *Corrections Intelligence Course* was held in Edmonton in February 2006. A total of 19 delegates, 10 instructors and two coordinators participated in this workshop. Some of the topics covered included: The Intelligence Cycle, Informant Handling, Court Testimony, and Drug Investigations.

RCMP Project KARE, in conjunction with CISA, hosted a serial killer and sexual predator workshop entitled, "*The Human Predator*" in Edmonton February 2006. The workshop provided information to enhance investigative skills when dealing with the complexities of serial murders and sexual predator cases and provided a review of actual case studies. Four hundred six candidates attended this two-day workshop.

CISA coordinated a *Drug Investigator Course* in March 2006, where 34 candidates were trained over a two-week period. The general purpose of this course was to develop the knowledge, skills and investigative techniques essential to the successful investigation and prosecution of drug related offences and organizations/groups involved in the drug trade. Candidates also gained an appreciation of major case management principles, intelligence analysis and other areas such as the recruiting of informants, undercover operations, wiretap (Part VI) investigations, preparation of warrants and other judicial authorizations, drug identification, and more.

The following table summarizes the courses and workshops that were offered throughout the past year under the direction of the CISA Training Coordinator and Training Assistant.

<u>Course/Workshop Name</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Duration (In Days)</u>	<u>Student Training Days</u>
Pipeline	42	3	126
Search Warrant Course	24	5	120
Search Warrant Course	24	5	120
Search Warrant Course	24	5	120
Search Warrant Course	24	5	120
Human Source Management Course	40	7	280
Bill C-24 Training	45	1	45
Bill C-24 Training	13	1	13
Corrections Intelligence Course	19	4	76
Human Predator Workshop	406	2	812
Drug Expert Workshop	75	3	225
Drug Investigator Course	34	10	340
Informant Workshop	76	2	152
Marijuana Grow Workshop	85	2	170
Total	931		2719

GOAL 5: To Provide Enhanced Use of Technology to Combat the Evolution of Technologically Based Organized Crime

The CISA website has developed over the last two years to include both a public side as well as a private side. The public side contains information about the CISA Bureau, police links, survey results, business plans, annual reports and interest stories about organized crime. The private side of the website is available to law enforcement agencies that have been provided with access. Members are able to read bulletins about officer safety, trends in organized crime, and training opportunities. They are also able to access information about funding, services we offer, reports, and analytical forms.

GOAL 6: To Establish and Enhance Partnerships With All Stakeholders to Reduce and Control Organized Crime and to be Accountable to All CISA Partners

The Integrated Provincial Threat Assessment is a product of intelligence from all Level One Alberta police agencies. The threat assessment is the primary function of the CISA analytical team and is utilized by the Executive Committee in planning initiatives targeting organized crime. The document also provides recommendations from the integrated provincial analytical team regarding enforcement priorities, intelligence gaps and emerging trends. This year the threat assessment identified 39 organized crime groups and street gangs, which were studied over the year and deemed to be of significance to policing in Alberta.

Throughout the past year, CISA continued to support the Joint Forces Funding Program, which encourages the integration of policing resources to combat serious and organized crime in Alberta. As stated in Goal 3, a total of five projects were approved under this program during this reporting period.

CISA continues to support eight Level One members and 21 Level Two members. In keeping with Constitutional changes at Criminal Intelligence Service Canada, CISA is undergoing a Constitutional review, which will recommend changes to bring in a third level and a restructuring of our present membership. This is scheduled for fall 2006.

CISA recently completed a financial review and statement for activities during the past fiscal year. It should be noted that no new financial support was provided to CISA during the last fiscal year and that this organization maintained service to our partner agencies from previous years residual funding. CISA is waiting for direction from the provincial government and our Executive Committee as to CISA's future mandate in order to adapt to changes in the policing environment.

Carry Forward from March 31, 2005	\$ 2,708,742.10	
APSNET	\$ 898,606.28	
POC LEG Funding	\$ 12,847.59	
Credit on Deposits	\$ 750.00	
2004/05 CISA Annual Funding	\$ 0.00	

Total Funds for 2005/06		\$ 3,620,945.97
2004/05 Admin. & Training Expenses	\$1,037,377.63	
POC LEG Expenditures	\$ 3,333.39	
2005/06 Operational Initiatives Expenses	\$ 646,389.39	

GOAL 6

2005/06 APSNET Expenses \$ 738,414.00

Total Expenditures for 2005/06 **\$ 2,425,514.41**

2005/06 Unspent Funds for Carry Forward to 2006/07 **\$ 1,195,431.56**

Of the carry forward identified, the following financial commitments remain:

APSNET Rollout: \$ 160,192.28

Two Ongoing Projects: \$ 491,877.55

Uncommitted Funds for 2006/07 **\$ 543,361.73**

GOAL 7: To Develop a Communications Strategy that Assists in Delivering an Accurate Message of the Scope and Impact of Organized Crime in Our Communities and to Assist in the Building of a Preventative Culture

The goal of the provincial Public Opinion Survey is to provide the CISA Bureau, its Executive, and Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General with benchmark measures on the public's perception on the extent and severity of organized and serious crime in the province of Alberta. CISA did not conduct the annual public opinion survey this past year as funding had not been secured for this initiative.

CISA's website, <http://www.cisalberta.ca/>, is complete. The website consists of a public domain as well as a private domain. The public domain is accessible by the public and has been online since the fall of 2002. The private side went online in the summer of 2004. The private side is accessible only by law enforcement agencies and contains issues such as officer safety, training opportunities, and general organized crime information. The Bureau maintains the website and updates it with current information on organized crime that both the public and law enforcement can access. CISA will continue to explore alternative methods that would assist in an effective communications program.

CISA makes presentations throughout the year to educate municipal and provincial government officials about the Bureau, the impact that organized crime has on the citizens of Alberta, and how acting strategically can affect the outcome of organized crime. This information has been provided to police commissions and can be given to a variety of public or private sector groups.

GOAL 8: To Facilitate and Manage the Proceeds of Crime Law Enforcement Grant Program on Behalf of the Ministry of the Solicitor General

The total requests for funding for 2005 totalled \$252,640 with only \$164,622 available. A total of five applications for financial assistance were received for the Proceeds of Crime Law Enforcement Grant (POCLEG) Program, however, only four of these could be accommodated.

Three of the requests that were approved related to operational initiatives by individual police agencies, not acting in a joint forces situation. The fourth request related to the purchase of equipment to support policing in Alberta. In total, the four requests completely consumed the available funding.

Project KEIGHTBALL received financial support through the POCLEG Program and was initiated by the RCMP Fort McMurray detachment targeting drug traffickers and money launderers in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. This project was successful in seizing over 474 grams of cocaine and a substantial quantity of Ecstasy tablets. A total of 70 people were charged with over 70 *Criminal Code* and *Controlled Drug and Substances Act* offences.

Project SNEEZE received financial support through the POCLEG Program and was initiated by the Lethbridge Regional Police Service to target an organized crime group operating within their city limits. This project was successful in disrupting local trafficking cells and resulted in 22 people being charged with over 100 *Criminal Code*, *Controlled Drug and Substances Act* and *Youth Justice Act* offences. In addition, over \$50,000.00 was seized as proceeds of crime. Investigations during this project yielded significant intelligence, which will assist in future investigations.

Medicine Hat Police Service received funding support for the purchase of specialized investigative equipment required for organized crime investigations. This equipment was immediately shared and put to use by investigators from the Lethbridge Regional Police Service in the investigation of Project SNEEZE.

The fourth initiative provided funding support to the RCMP Grande Prairie detachment to target a criminal enterprise network operating within their jurisdiction. The targets of this project were involved in the trafficking of methamphetamine, cocaine and were involved in marihuana grows and the trafficking of stolen property. Unfortunately the investigative opportunity lapsed prior to investigators being able to act on this group. All funds committed to this project were returned to the POCLEG Program for future allocation.

CONCLUSION

CISA's purpose is to support and enhance the efforts of law enforcement and government in the prevention and suppression of organized and serious crime. Through the integrated approach that has been adopted by law enforcement in Alberta, many successes have been celebrated. Only through this approach will we be capable of the coordination required to gather human resources, technical capacity, and strategic analysis into an effective force to dismantle and disrupt organized and serious crime in Alberta.

CISA is re-designing our current business goals and strategies to enhance our capacity to keep pace with organized crime. Accountability will be upheld through performance measures that reflect our mission. We will continue to work with our partnering agencies to reduce the impact of criminal enterprises on the province.

Organized crime affects all Albertans. It is impossible to stereotype individuals who are involved in organized crime; they come from all walks of life. In general, the closer to home the question of organized crime activity comes, the higher the probability that people see no change in organized crime activity. This finding very much supports the idea that people believe that organized crime is something that does not impact them personally. If left unchecked, it will chip away at the legitimate lifestyle and economic well being of our society.