

ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

June 2002

Foreword

It is my pleasure to present the June 2002 edition of the RCMP's Environmental Scan. At this time each year, we take a fresh look at our global to local environment, highlight any new trends, and provide recent information on previous trends. Many of the themes presented in this scan have appeared in earlier documents - this is good news as it signals that we are tracking trends and not fads.

The format remains the same – a brief, user-friendly presentation of key global and domestic trends across seven dimensions – *demographics, society, economy, politics and governance, environment, science and technology and policing.*

We've drawn from a wide range of sources including, but not limited to:

- print media – newspapers, magazines and periodicals
- reports from such international organizations as the O.E.C.D., World Health Organization, the United Nations, World Trade Organization, etc.
- documents produced by think tanks in Canada and abroad
- publications from law enforcement agencies around the globe
- conference presenters
- government web-sites and publications
- radio and television programs
- our Divisions across the country

Foreword ...

The events of September 11 continue to cast a long shadow and will impact upon our environment for some time to come. National security issues are high on the North American agenda, and given our proximity to the US, we cannot help but be affected by the directions they choose to pursue. For this reason, the final section of the scan has been expanded to look at policing and security issues with a particular emphasis on developments south of the border.

We continue to welcome input from contributors both within and outside the organization.

Respectfully submitted

Eva Kmiecic
Deputy Commissioner
Strategic Direction

Hearing from you

The RCMP's approach to environmental scanning is now two years old. In that time we have produced three principle Scans and four Scan Updates, including an expanded edition providing an analysis of the events of September 11, 2001.

We thought this would be a good opportunity to share some of the comments and feedback we have received about our process and our documents to date. Please note that while we have not identified the individuals who offered the comments, we have identified the organization in which they work.

Information is both relevant and useful. Sharing the Scan is an excellent example of Knowledge Management concepts, as well as horizontal collaboration. [Ontario Federal Council]

Glad to see that you dedicated a section to the environment. You are highlighting environmental concerns that my group is addressing within the RCMP. [Corporate Asset Management, RCMP]

These documents are extremely well done and very professional. I would also like to congratulate your organization on these publications, as they are interesting as well as being informative. [National Defense]

Is there a follow up document on the Scans? Something like an impact report that makes the connection between the trends identified, the implications for policing and the RCMP, and recommended strategies to deal with/minimize the implications? [North West Region, RCMP]

The Environmental Scan contains information that is both relevant and useful to the CCRA... However, it is difficult to maintain a focus on the issues within the document due to the quantity and diversity of information provided... it is equally difficult to identify information that could be cut... [Canada Customs and Revenue Agency]

Hearing from you...

The document provides a useful and timely study of issues facing Canadians both at home and abroad. From a sustainable development perspective, it is particularly apt that the scan covers environmental, scientific, socio-economic and governance issues. In addition, some of the challenges put forth by the increasing pace of globalization are clearly identified. [Canadian International Development Agency]

There is no immediate or direct relevancy. It is certainly informative. There is little on organized crime/or drugs. [Criminal Intelligence Directorate, RCMP]

Neatly summarizes the events of Sept 11th as well as the resulting after effects on a global scale. It is a thought-provoking document that details the forthcoming challenges for Canada. [Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency]

A valuable tool which helps the RCMP understand its environment and strategically anticipate the activities that will allow the organization to establish its future direction. Secondly, trends identified fully corroborate the importance of partnerships and integrated police services. [Central Region, RCMP]

The Environmental Scan 2001 contains useful information that will inform and complement the approach the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development is pursuing for its particular mandate while contributing to others... We offer a suggestion: that Canada' Aboriginal population be a featured section in a future Environmental Scan... [Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development]

I congratulate you on an excellent product that continues to be highly relevant to our needs in the field. [E Division, Burnaby Detachment, RCMP]

The RCMP Scan can be considered the arch-type of environmental scans. [Privy Council Office]

Hearing from you

RCMP Environmental Scan Evaluation Form

We need your feedback! Please help us to ensure the Environmental Scan contains relevant, accurate and useful information by taking a few moments to answer the questions below and either fax or e-mail them to the Strategic Policy and Planning Branch of the RCMP. Fax: (613) 993-4453 E-mail: tamara.candido@rcmp-grc.gc.ca (internal feedback can be sent via the ROSS as well)

Do the Scans contain information that is relevant and useful to you?






Are there important issues and/or trends that we are missing?

Is the format logical and easy to follow? (How could it be improved?)

Additional Comments?

Thank you for your input!

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