



# RCMP Public Complaints Commission

2000-2001  
Estimates

Part III – Report on Plans and Priorities

Canada

## The Estimates Documents

Each year, the government prepares Estimates in support of its request to Parliament for authority to spend public monies. This request is formalized through the tabling of appropriation bills in Parliament. The Estimates, which are tabled in the House of Commons by the President of the Treasury Board, consist of three parts:

**Part I – The Government Expenditure Plan** provides an overview of federal spending and summarizes both the relationship of the key elements of the Main Estimates to the Expenditure Plan (as set out in the Budget).

**Part II – The Main Estimates** directly support the *Appropriation Act*. The Main Estimates identify the spending authorities (votes) and amounts to be included in subsequent appropriation bills. Parliament will be asked to approve these votes to enable the government to proceed with its spending plans. Parts I and II of the Estimates are tabled concurrently on or before 1 March.

**Part III – Departmental Expenditure Plans** which is divided into two components:

- (1) **Reports on Plans and Priorities (RPPs)** are individual expenditure plans for each department and agency (excluding Crown corporations). These reports provide increased levels of detail on a business line basis and contain information on objectives, initiatives and planned results, including links to related resource requirements over a three-year period. The RPPs also provide details on human resource requirements, major capital projects, grants and contributions, and net program costs. They are tabled in Parliament by the President of the Treasury Board on behalf of the ministers who preside over the departments and agencies identified in Schedules I, I.1 and II of the *Financial Administration Act*. These documents are to be tabled on or before 31 March and referred to committees, which then report back to the House of Commons pursuant to Standing Order 81(4).
- (2) **Departmental Performance Reports (DPRs)** are individual department and agency accounts of accomplishments achieved against planned performance expectations as set out in respective RPPs. These Performance Reports, which cover the most recently completed fiscal year, are tabled in Parliament in the fall by the President of the Treasury Board on behalf of the ministers who preside over the departments and agencies identified in Schedules I, I.1 and II of the *Financial Administration Act*.

The Estimates, along with the Minister of Finance's Budget, reflect the government's annual budget planning and resource allocation priorities. In combination with the subsequent reporting of financial results in the Public Accounts and of accomplishments achieved in Departmental Performance Reports, this material helps Parliament hold the government to account for the allocation and management of public funds.

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# **RCMP Public Complaints Commission**

**2000-2001  
Estimates**

*A Report on Plans and Priorities*

Approved

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Hon. Lawrence MacAulay, P.C., M.P.  
Solicitor General of Canada



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## Section I: Messages

### A. *Chair's Message*

Not only is it a new century for the world, it is the beginning of a new decade for the Commission. To well and truly launch the Commission into its second decade, I have initiated a review and strategic planning project. The aim of the project is to identify the Commission's operational strengths and weaknesses and to establish a plan for meeting its priorities over the next three to five year period.

As always, my first priority remains processing complaints and reviews more efficiently and eliminating the backlog of outstanding review cases by the end of the next fiscal year. Additionally, the APEC public inquiry should be completed during the upcoming fiscal year, along with the two public interest investigations.

In the autumn of 1999, the Commission published its first research report, "*Police Pursuits and Public Safety*". The report studies the current RCMP policy on police pursuits and makes recommendations concerning that policy. It is hoped that this report will result in new policies and training practices that will enhance the safety not only of the public but also of the RCMP members involved in such pursuits.

The year ahead will be a busy one at the Commission and could see important changes in our organizational structure and operations. These changes will take place so as to ensure the success of the Commission in meeting its mandate.

Shirley Heafey  
Chair

B. Management Representation Statement

**MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATION**

***Report on Plans and Priorities 2000-2001***

I submit, for tabling in Parliament, the 2000-2001 Report on Plans and Priorities (RPP) for the RCMP Public Complaints Commission.

To the best of my knowledge the information:

- Accurately portrays the Commission's mandate, plans, priorities, strategies and expected key results of the organization.
- Is consistent with the disclosure principles contained in the *Guidelines for Preparing a Report on Plans and Priorities*.
- Is comprehensive and accurate.
- Is based on sound underlying Commission information and management systems.

I am satisfied as to the quality assurance processes and procedures used for the RPP's production.

The reporting structure on which this document is based has been approved by Treasury Board Ministers and is the basis for accountability for the results achieved with the resources and authorities provided.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Section II: RCMP Public Complaints Commission Overview

### A. Mandate, Role and Responsibilities

#### *Mandate*

The RCMP Public Complaints Commission (the Commission) is a federal agency that receives and reviews public complaints about the conduct of members of the RCMP in the performance of any duty or function under the *RCMP Act*. The Commission is entirely separate from and independent of the RCMP.

The mandate of the Commission is set out in Part VII of the *RCMP Act*. Its main activities are:

- receiving complaints from the public about the conduct of RCMP members;
- conducting a review when complainants are not satisfied with the RCMP's disposition of their complaints; and
- conducting investigations and hearings.

The Commission has jurisdiction to accept complaints only with respect to RCMP members and not about members of other police forces. The Commission does not have the authority to make binding recommendations, impose discipline or to make monetary awards to complainants.

#### *Role and Responsibilities*

The fundamental role of the Commission is to contribute to public confidence in the policing activities of the RCMP. It does this by providing, at the request of complainants, an independent review of the RCMP's disposition of complaints and by making recommendations to the Commissioner of the RCMP.

Members of the public may make complaints about the conduct of members of the RCMP to the Commission, the RCMP, or the provincial authority responsible for policing. The Chair of the Commission may also initiate a complaint if she considers that there are reasonable grounds to do so. Complaints are normally sent first to the RCMP for investigation. The Commissioner of the RCMP is required to report the results of the investigation to the complainant. If the complainant is not satisfied with the RCMP disposition of the complaint, he/she may ask for a review by the Commission.

When reviewing the RCMP's disposition of a complaint, the Commission does not act as an advocate either for the complainant or for RCMP members. Rather, its role is to conduct an independent inquiry and reach objective conclusions based on the available information.

In conducting its review, the Commission considers all relevant information provided by the complainants and the RCMP. If not satisfied that such information is complete, it asks the RCMP for additional information or, where appropriate, conducts its own independent investigation. The Commission Chair also has authority to hold a public hearing to inquire into the complaint, if she considers it necessary.

When the Commission Chair or Vice-Chair is not satisfied with the RCMP disposition of a complaint, an interim report containing findings and recommendations is produced, and after receiving the RCMP Commissioner's reply to the interim report, a final report is forwarded to the Solicitor General, to the RCMP Commissioner and to the parties. If the Chair or Vice-Chair concludes that the RCMP responded adequately to the complainant's concerns, a final report is delivered stating that the RCMP's disposition of the complaint was satisfactory.

The Commission reports to Parliament. The Solicitor General of Canada tables the Commission's reports; however, the Solicitor General has no involvement in the operations of the Commission.

#### B. Objective

To provide the public with an opportunity to make complaints regarding the conduct of members of the RCMP in the performance of their duties, and to have the RCMP disposition of those complaints reviewed by an external body in an independent and impartial manner.

#### C. External Factors Influencing the Commission

Public expectations of the Commission are high. Both complainants and members of the RCMP have expressed their concerns about review cases being processed more expeditiously. As well, there is a continuing expectation for the Commission to better communicate publicly its role, responsibilities and results.

The Commission's "*Report on Police Pursuits and Public Safety*" released in the Autumn of 1999, provided an analysis of RCMP policy and training on police pursuits and made recommendations for improvements. This publication, together with future reports on the use of force by RCMP officers and on the death of detainees in RCMP custody, which will also be made publicly available, will increase the Commission's public profile and involve the Commission in public discussions of these policing issues.

Such activities could, in turn, increase the number of enquiries, complaints and requests for review.

D. Financial Spending Plan

(thousands of dollars)	Forecast Spending 1999-2000 <sup>1</sup>	<b>Planned Spending 2000-2001</b>	Planned Spending 2001-2002	Planned Spending 2002-2003
Budgetary Main Estimates	4,878	<b>4,119</b>	3,789	3,789
<b>Total Main Estimates</b>	4,878	<b>4,119</b>	3,789	3,789
Adjustments	3,222	<b>0</b>	0	0
<b>Net Planned Spending</b>	8,100	<b>4,119</b>	3,789	3,789
Plus: Cost of services provided by other Departments	429	<b>365</b>	429	429
<b>Net Cost of Program</b>	8,529	<b>4,484</b>	4,218	4,218
<b>Full Time Equivalents</b>	34	<b>34</b>	34	34

<sup>1</sup> Reflects best forecast of total planned spending to the end of the fiscal year and includes additional costs related to the conduct of the APEC hearing in Vancouver.



### **Section III: RCMP Public Complaints Commission Plans, Results and Resources.**

#### **Receipt and review of public complaints**

##### *A. Business Line Objective*

To provide the public with an opportunity to make complaints regarding the conduct of members of the RCMP in the performance of their duties, and to have the RCMP disposition of those complaints reviewed by an external body in an independent and impartial manner.

##### *B. Business Line Description*

The Commission is an impartial and independent government institution. It receives complaints from the public and transfers them to the RCMP for disposition. It also reviews the RCMP disposition if the complainant is not satisfied. The Commission may conduct investigations, hold public hearings, summon witnesses, administer oaths, accept such evidence as the Commission sees fit and make findings and recommendations to the Commissioner of the RCMP.

C. *Key Results Commitments, Planned Results, Related Activities and Resources*

<b>Key Results Commitments</b>	<b>Planned Results</b>	<b>Related Activities</b>	<b>Resources (\$ thousands)</b>
Reporting on recommendations made to the RCMP Commissioner			
Percentage of recommendations supported by the RCMP Commissioner			
Changes to RCMP practices, policies and procedures			
Service standards being met or exceeded	Deal with the requests for review of complaints in a timely fashion, including eliminating the backlog of requests for review by end of 2000-2001	Establish an average 120 day turn-around for review reports by end of 2000-2001	\$770 to be spent for reviews in 2000-2001
	Development of a strategic plan	Review of operational requirements for the Commission to carry out its mandate	\$88 for review and strategic planning project
		Development of a strategic operational plan for the Commission	To be determined in context of review and strategic planning exercise
		Potential reorganization of the Commission	To be determined in context of review and strategic planning exercise
Public awareness of the existence and mandate of the Commission	Implementation of a communications plan	To be determined in context of review and strategic planning exercise	To be determined in context of review and strategic planning exercise

## Section IV: Financial Information

**Table 1: Net Cost of Program for 2000-2001**

(\$ thousands)	<b>Total</b>
Net Planned Spending	<b>4,119</b>
Plus: <i>Services Received without Charge</i>	
-Accommodation provided by Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) <b>265</b>	
-Contributions covering employer's share of insurance premiums and costs paid by TBS <b>100</b>	
Subtotal Services Received without Charge	<b>365</b>
<b>Net Cost of Program</b>	<b>4,484</b>

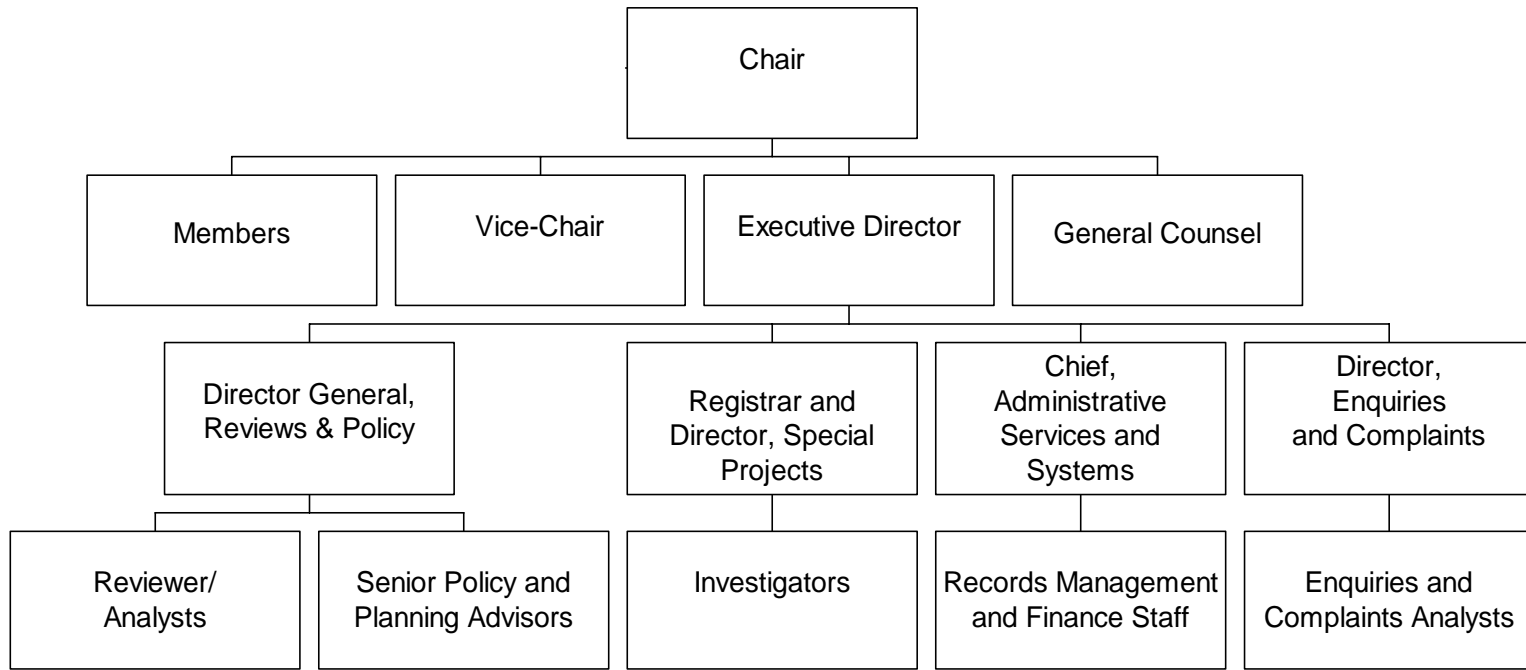




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**Table 1: Organizational Structure**



## **Table 2: Statute**

The RCMP Public Complaints Commission shares responsibility with the RCMP for carrying out the provisions of:

Part VII, *Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act*                      R.S., c. R-10, Part VII

In addition, the RCMP Public Complaints Commission reports to Parliament on:

Parts VI and VII, *Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act*      R.S., c. R-10, Part VI, Part VII

## **Table 3: References**

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[www.pcc-cpp.gc.ca](http://www.pcc-cpp.gc.ca)

### **Publications**

*Annual Reports*  
1988-1989 to 1998-1999

*RCMP Act (Commission  
consolidation)* March 1990

*Police Pursuits and Public Safety  
(A Report by the RCMP Public  
Complaints Commission)*  
Autumn, 1999



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