
**Organized Crime Agency
Of
British Columbia**



**Annual Report
2002/2003**

Message from the Chair of the Board of Governance

Partnerships and integration are law enforcement's strongest defence against organized crime. During the last year, the Organized Crime Agency of British Columbia (OCABC) has continued to develop and foster relationships with local, national and international law enforcement partners.

The Agency has kept a sharp focus on their mandate: to facilitate the disruption and suppression of organized crime. To fully achieve this, we must continue to eliminate the benefits of crime. Our goal, therefore, is to obtain sentences consistent with the crimes and to seize assets and offence-related property.

The fight against organized crime requires commitment from all municipal police and Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) operations in British Columbia. To help foster this type of dedication and cooperation, our board represents all municipal police forces and the RCMP in British Columbia.

Our Agency is a model of integrated law enforcement and is positive evidence of the effectiveness of partnerships in policing. OCABC complements other policing strategies in the province and fosters collaboration, mutual sharing and synergies. As we increase our strategic alliances, we will diminish the opportunities of organized crime groups.

At the operational level, police have been working together for years; however, at times our systems have not supported our partnerships. We need to continue to identify areas that make collaboration and partnership difficult and break down the barriers to positive working relationships and information sharing.

We must, however, embrace integration on one hand while we maintain our mandate and enforcement focus on the other. The role of the Board is to ensure the Agency aggressively pursues the fight against organized crime.

Unified against organized crime, law enforcement will succeed. As we celebrate each other's success we will gain momentum as we work toward our common goal to suppress and disrupt organized crime.

Beverley A. Busson, Chair, Board of Governance
Deputy Commissioner Pacific Region and
Commanding Officer "E" Division RCMP

Message from the Chief Officer

Organized crime is a force that affects every person in British Columbia, across the country and around the world. Its citizenship is global; its currency is cash; its motive is profit and power; its by-product is human misery.



Over this past year, the OCABC has been successful in meeting its mandate to facilitate the disruption and suppression of organized crime that affect British Columbians. Completing our third year of operations, the financial impact of our enforcement initiatives on organized crime is nearing \$200 million. Our core belief simply is this: a constant, never-ending commitment to consistently increasing the quality of our investigations each time out. This belief provides us with the opportunity to properly combat organized criminal activity and tip the scales of justice in our direction.

For the past three years, OCABC has been committed to creating an intelligence-led enforcement model. I have the conviction that this operational model allows OCABC to effectively integrate intelligence into investigations and gives us the opportunity to target organized criminal networks at the desired level necessary to meet our mandate.

Organized crime is a criminal enterprise with estimated profits that are somewhere between one and three trillion dollars. Our challenge over the next year is to continue to refine our tactical intelligence capabilities to counter what really is the fastest growing industry in the world.

When we look at a map of the world we see borders and distinct international boundaries. When organized crime looks at the same map they see no such borders or international boundaries, just opportunities for seamless criminal activities.

Whatever the reasons, we are now faced with confronting criminal organizations which are immeasurably stronger and more sophisticated than they have been in the past. This situation will require a national strategy to avoid fragmenting our collective response to organized crime across this country. Through our direct involvement with Criminal Intelligence Service Canada and the Organized Crime Committee of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, OCABC is aligned with other law enforcement bodies to be part of an integrated, cohesive and national response to organized crime.

OCABC has been recognized as an excellent example of integrated policing within the province of British Columbia. Law enforcement executives across this county who have witnessed the benefits of our coordinated and integrated response to organized crime have endorsed our enforcement philosophy. I look forward to their continued support of OCABC in taking our enforcement capabilities to an even higher level in the forthcoming year.

Organized crime is a force that affects every one of us. You have my assurance that OCABC is committed to fulfilling its mandate to facilitate the disruption and suppression of organized crime within British Columbia and thereby provide a safer, better quality of life for all British Columbians.

David H. Douglas, Chief Officer

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Overview

History

OCABC was established as a Designated Policing and Law Enforcement Unit under the *Police Act* (British Columbia) on March 11, 1999.

The structure of the Agency provides for integration of policing of organized crime in British Columbia through a police officer secondment model where investigators from municipal police departments and the RCMP are assigned to joint force operational teams for three to five year terms. OCABC also has its own complement of sworn police officers that possess a variety of skills and expertise.

Augmenting its contingent of police officers, OCABC has civilian professionals with broad areas of specialization including intelligence analysis, forensic accounting, computer science, foreign languages and psychology.

The Agency also has on-site legal counsel seconded from the federal Department of Justice (DOJ) to provide ongoing advice to guide investigations.

Over the past three years, OCABC has developed strong working relationships with many Canadian law enforcement agencies including the RCMP, municipal police departments from across Canada, Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA) and the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP). Our international partners include the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the United States Secret Service and the United States Custom Service.

Mission

As a designated policing and law enforcement agency, OCABC's mandate is:

To facilitate the disruption and suppression of organized crime which affects British Columbians.

Vision

Our vision:

The Agency is an aggressive, professional, and respected team combating organized crime, in partnership with other organizations, through the bold and innovative application of ethical and progressive law enforcement techniques.

Values

Agency personnel uphold the highest values:

Integrity

OCABC personnel shall uphold the highest level of ethical standards and be committed to exercising their duties in a manner that will deserve absolute public trust and bear the closest public scrutiny.

Honesty

OCABC personnel are open and honest in their relationships with clients and stakeholders.

Responsibility

OCABC personnel are dedicated to the fight against organized crime and are committed to their duty to uphold the public interest.

Accountability

Realizing that OCABC is an independent policing agency empowered by the Solicitor General of British Columbia to facilitate the disruption and suppression of organized crime, Agency personnel are totally accountable to the public through the Board of Governance.

Professionalism

In striving to exercise their duties objectively and impartially, OCABC personnel strive to maintain the highest standards of policing.

Governance

Oversight of OCABC is the responsibility of a police board comprising the following representation:

- The Deputy Commissioner Pacific Region and Commanding Officer of "E" Division RCMP (Deputy Commissioner Beverley BUSSON).
- BC Association of Municipal Chiefs of Police (Chief Constable Derek EGAN, Saanich Police Department);
- BC Association of Chiefs of Police (Chief Constable Paul SHRIVE, Port Moody Police Department); and
- The Chief Constable of the Vancouver Police Department (Chief Constable Jamie GRAHAM)

The Board mandate is to:

- Oversee the management of OCABC including preparation and approval of budget policies and processes;
- Develop and oversee an organization to enforce laws targeting organized crime groups;
- Determine, in consultation with the Minister and Chief Officer, the priorities, goals and objectives of OCABC;
- Report to the Minister on the activities and implementation of programs of OCABC;
- Appoint, subject to the Minister's approval, a Chief Officer and Deputy Chief Officer and designated officers;
- Make rules consistent with the *Police Act* and
- Serve as the employer of the OCABC designated police officers, designated law enforcement officers and civilian staff.

Report on Performance

Overview

The Agency is maintaining its tight focus on achieving our mandate to facilitate the disruption and suppression of organized crime in British Columbia. In keeping with our commitment to provide an intelligence led, aggressive enforcement strategy directed towards organized crime, we have forty-eight ongoing project-based enforcement initiatives investigating a wide range of organized criminal activity during 2002/03. Four of these projects, along with other independent investigations, have been completed which have resulted in charges being laid or anticipated for 38 individuals for a variety of criminal offences. In addition, two individuals were charged in the United States as a result of Agency investigations.



Agency investigators are committed to taking the profit out of organized crime. Complementing the criminal charges laid, our enforcement teams have seized over \$18 million in assets and contraband. OCABC investigators have also made a number of referrals to CCRA and the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC).

In addition to working with numerous law enforcement partners across British Columbia and Canada, the Agency continues to liaise and collaborate with international authorities such as the DEA, US Secret Service and the US Customs Service.

Consistent with our vision for partnerships with other organizations, in the 2002/03 fiscal year, OCABC has continued to provide technical expertise, training and investigative support to our local enforcement agencies.

Accountability, especially regarding financial management, is a priority for the Agency. Expenditures for fiscal year 2002/03 were within budgetary guidelines and allocated to ensure operational effectiveness and accountability.

Strategic Goal 1- Partnerships and Integration

The Agency will continually identify, develop and maintain partnerships to enhance our ability to suppress and disrupt organized crime.


Objectives	Performance Indicators
<p>Plan and execute integrated tactical operations.</p>	<p>Indicator:</p> <p>Maximization of available resources and elimination of duplication in disrupting and prosecuting organized crime groups.</p> <p>Achievements:</p> <p>Project Blizzard: This investigation targeted large scale importation and distribution of cocaine at the multi-kilogram level. It involved several organized crime cells working in conjunction with each other and included primarily Vietnamese and Latino organized crime figures. This project included a significant proceeds of crime component.</p> <p>Project Blizzard was completed in collaboration with Calgary Police Services, the DEA and the RCMP Integrated Proceeds of Crime (IPOC) Section.</p> <p>Project Coconut: This enforcement initiative targeted an Asian organized crime cell involved in credit card frauds (i.e., manufacturing, distributing, possessing and using fraudulent credit cards) and drug offences (i.e., producing and distributing marijuana and ecstasy).</p> <p>Along with Canadian banking industry partners, this project involved the United States Secret Service, the United States Customs, the United States Border Patrol, the FBI, the DEA, Atlantic City (New Jersey) Police Department and Whatcom County Sheriff's Department.</p> <p>Project Fast Cat: This was an investigation into the large scale production and distribution of ecstasy targeting two individuals who have criminal associates in other major organized crime groups (e.g., outlaw motorcycle gangs, Asian organized crime groups). Their criminal associates extended into the United States and resulted in multi-kilo shipments of cocaine being sold all over North America.</p> <p>The law enforcement partners in this project included Richmond RCMP Drug Section, Surrey RCMP Drug Section, "E" Division RCMP Clandestine Law Team, "E" Division RCMP Chemical Diversion Unit and Health Canada.</p> <p>Project Microsoft: This project focused on the sale of pirated software from Microsoft Canada. It was completed in partnership with Microsoft Canada and a private security firm.</p> <p>In addition to our project based enforcement initiatives, in fiscal year 2002/03, OCABC also initiated 50 operational files and 10 cases where investigators</p>

	<p>provided assistance to other domestic and international law enforcement agencies, government regulatory agencies and the corporate sector. These include the OPP, RCMP specialized units, US Border Patrol, major US metropolitan police departments and the Canadian Bankers Association (CBA).</p> <p>During the year, OCABC entered into several joint forces operations where costs were shared or funding was received from the RCMP IPOC Section, RCMP A@ Division Criminal Intelligence, Government Ministries and the private sector.</p>
<p>Develop a consultative approach to case preparation with Crown counsel.</p>	<p>Indicator:</p> <p>Enforcement initiatives which result in successful prosecutions and asset forfeitures.</p> <p>Achievements:</p> <p>Training has been received from the DOJ to provide an Agency-wide, consistent approach in file management and case preparation to streamline the prosecution of organized crime cases.</p> <p>There were four active enforcement initiatives completed in the current fiscal year. Charges have been laid and are anticipated for 38 individuals in Canada and at least two in the U.S. (e.g., production of ecstasy, conspiracy to produce ecstasy, production of marihuana, possession for the purpose of trafficking marihuana, exporting marihuana, conspiracy to commit credit card fraud, importing cocaine and laundering the proceeds of crime).</p> <p>In fiscal year 2002/03, \$2,033,695 in property was seized, along with \$16,085,220 in contraband. A total of \$1,525,195 (Canadian) in cash was also seized.</p> <p>In just one of OCABC's enforcement projects alone, 69 kilograms of cocaine, 722 grams of heroin, 3,352.8 pounds of marihuana and 236 kilograms of pseudoephedrine were seized along with \$995,195 in cash and approximately \$258,500 in real estate.</p> <p>The total financial impact on organized crime groups in value of seizures in fiscal year 2002/03 amounts to \$18,438,915.</p>
<p>Enhance international partnerships.</p>	<p>Indicator:</p> <p>The number of investigations with international alliances.</p> <p>Achievements:</p> <p>Due to the globalization of organized crime, the transnational nature of organized criminal groups and their use of technology, all of our enforcement initiatives are international in scope.</p> <p>For instance, with the assistance of OCABC, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration seized contraband (383.6 pounds of pseudoephedrine which is the main chemical precursor of ecstasy and other illegal stimulants).</p>

Strategic Goal 2 - Aggressive Enforcement Projects

Based on intelligence, target and prosecute the appropriate level of organized crime.


Objectives	Performance Indicators
<p>Use strategic, tactical and open source intelligence to identify appropriate targets.</p>	<p>Indicator:</p> <p>Tactical operational plans which focus on strategic targets within organized criminal groups.</p> <p>Achievements:</p> <p>The integration of intelligence into the operational planning process at OCABC has allowed us to consistently focus our human and fiscal resources on our priorities. Project Management Plans, Tactical Intelligence Assessments and Operational plans were prepared and approved prior to the implementation of all enforcement initiatives.</p> <p>OCABC's Open Source Section provides assistance to a wide range of policing and regulatory agencies throughout British Columbia.</p>
<p>Develop innovative and flexible enforcement strategies.</p>	<p>Indicator:</p> <p>Dynamic and responsive enforcement programs that successfully investigate organized crime groups.</p> <p>Achievements:</p> <p>In order to capitalize on key opportunities, our enforcement program possesses the flexibility to deploy our resources in a concentrated fashion at critical points of an investigation. This allows us to disrupt the target group through the seizure of contraband and suppress them through the seizure of assets. The following examples demonstrate this strategy.</p> <p>Project Blizzard: Charges have been laid or are forth-coming for 26 individuals for a variety of offences (e.g., conspiracy to export cocaine in the United States, conspiracy to import/traffic cocaine, trafficking cocaine, possession for the purpose of trafficking cocaine, possession of the proceeds of crime and laundering proceeds of crime). This investigation is ongoing with additional charges anticipated.</p> <p>In addition to this, two individuals have been charged in the United States. One of the accused has pleaded guilty to one count of exporting cocaine and received a sentence of 10 years incarceration.</p>

	<p>Project Coconut: Nine individuals have been charged as a result of this investigation. Charges include production of marihuana; possession for the purpose of trafficking marihuana; possession for the purpose of trafficking ecstasy; exporting marihuana; conspiracy to export marihuana; conspiracy to commit credit card fraud; manufacturing, distributing and possessing counterfeit credit cards; and unauthorized possession and careless storage of firearms.</p>  <p>Project Fast Cat: Two individuals were charged as a result of this investigation. One of the accused (a US citizen) pleaded guilty to production of ecstasy and was sentenced to three years incarceration and will be deported to the United States at the termination of the sentence. Charges against the second individual were stayed by the Crown; however, his parole was revoked and he is incarcerated to complete his two year sentence for his original conviction.</p> <p>Project Microsoft: Following the completion of this investigation, one person was charged under the federal <i>Copyright Act</i>.</p>
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Strategic Goal 3 - Asset Seizure

Disrupt and suppress organized crime groups through asset forfeitures and elimination of money laundering schemes.

Objectives	Performance Indicators
<p>Assess every enforcement project for proceeds of crime potential and investigate where warranted.</p>	<p>Indicator: Successful enforcement projects that include a proceeds of crime component.</p> <p>Achievements: During the last year, each new project has been assessed for proceeds of crime potential. Five proceeds of crime sub-projects have been developed and require continued investigation. From these operational files, assets totaling \$2.5 million have been seized in British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario.</p>
<p>Integrate financial investigative processes with external law enforcement and regulatory agencies.</p>	<p>Indicator: Effective enforcement projects in conjunction with external law enforcement and regulatory partners.</p> <p>Achievements: Investigations of mutual interest and assistance to the RCMP IPOC Section, RCMP Commercial Crime, CCRA and the US Securities Exchange Commission are ongoing.</p> <p>OCABC also makes referrals to FINTRAC and receives disclosures of suspected money laundering activities from that organization.</p> <p>A significant achievement in this area is that OCABC Proceeds of Crime investigators are now regular facilitators/instructors on the RCMP Introductory and Advanced Proceeds of Crime courses.</p>

<p>Provide forfeitures of proceeds of crime and offence related property to the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada.</p>	<p>Indicator:</p> <p>Asset forfeitures and tax assessments.</p> <p>Achievements:</p> <p>Court decisions from investigations that commenced during the previous fiscal year of 2001/02 are now finalizing. Forfeiture has been ordered on one case where assets seized were valued at \$700,000; OCABC is currently awaiting liquidation by the federal government Seized Property Management Directorate in Ottawa.</p>  <p>A second forfeiture hearing is proceeding unopposed and the value of seized assets in that matter is approximately \$800,000. All investigations are referred to CCRA for Income Tax and Goods and Services assessment. As these assessments are initiated by CCRA one year after receipt, no information in regards to assessments has been received (when assessment amounts are received from CCRA no biographical information is included so as to conform to the privacy requirements of the <i>Income Tax Act</i>).</p>
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Strategic Goal 4 - Accountability

OCABC continues to be an effective, accountable and fiscally responsible organization.

Objectives	Performance Indicators
<p>Operational plans will clearly articulate goals and objectives.</p>	<p>Indicator:</p> <p>Definable quantitative and qualitative results of enforcement projects.</p> <p>Achievements:</p> <p>Operational plans have been prepared for every investigation. Each plan has a detailed operational and financial budget component with clearly defined objectives and goals.</p> <p>Post-operational analysis of each project identifies the quantitative results (e.g., contraband and assets seized, criminal charges laid) and the qualitative results (e.g., level of disruption and suppression of organized crime groups, cost benefit analysis of projects and second generation targeting).</p> <p>Team Leaders are held fiscally accountable for their project funding through a system of monthly financial statements that are compared to operational plans to ensure resources are allocated effectively.</p> <p>The financial results for the fiscal year reflect an excess of revenues over expenses. Expenditures for the year are within budget.</p>
<p>Ensure enforcement projects are effectively resourced and executed.</p>	<p>Indicator:</p> <p>Projects are appropriately staffed with trained and equipped personnel.</p> <p>Achievements:</p> <p>To ensure that projects are properly resourced a Memorandum of Understanding and Letters of Agreement are in place with the RCMP and our municipal police partners. The RCMP contributes 45 investigators to OCABC. The Agency seconds 36 municipal officers from police departments throughout British Columbia. During the year, additional municipal officers are loaned to the Agency to assist with various projects.</p> <p>Fiscal resources are guaranteed through a Contribution Agreement with the Province of British Columbia and a Memorandum of Understanding with the RCMP.</p>

	<p>To develop and maintain the required investigative expertise to investigate sophisticated criminal groups, ongoing training in the area of strategic and tactical intelligence analysis, mobile and electronic surveillance, investigative techniques and proceeds of crime is required. In 2002/03, 341 training occurrences, which include seminars, conferences and courses have been provided.</p> <p>Additionally, to retain and develop expertise and knowledge in diverse disciplines, OCABC personnel are involved in a wide variety of international, national and local key policing and community based organizations and committees. This has enhanced the overall effectiveness of the Agency in meeting its mandate. (See Appendix A)</p> <p>The Agency has one lawyer assigned from the federal DOJ to assist in the preparation of cases for future prosecution.</p>
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Appendix A

Committee Participation

British Columbia Association of Chiefs of Police (BCACP)

The BCACP has the following as its objectives:

- Encouraging and developing cooperation among all its members in the pursuit and attainment of their goals;
- Promoting a high standard of ethics, integrity, honour and conduct;
- Fostering uniformity of police practices;
- Encouraging the development and implementation of efficient and effective practices in the presentation and detection of crime and
- Effectively communicating problems and concerns to appropriate levels of authority.

British Columbia Association of Municipal Chiefs of Police (BCAMCP)

The BCAMCP has the following goals:

- Promote a high standard of ethics, integrity, honour and conduct of its members and municipal constables in British Columbia;
- Foster uniformity of police standards and practices;
- Encourage the development and implementation of efficient and effective practices in the prevention and detection of crime;
- Communicate concerns to appropriate levels of government and
- Advocate community partnerships between communities and their police forces.

British Columbia Coordinating Committee on Organized Crime

The Coordinating Committee on Organized Crime is a multi-agency committee to identify and develop strategies to counter organized crime in British Columbia. The Committee forwards policy and legislative proposals to the Solicitor General for consideration by both the provincial and federal governments. It also advises on the nature, scope and impact of organized crime in British Columbia as well as liaison with the National Coordinating Committee on Organized Crime and the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Deputy Ministers' Steering Committee on Organized Crime.

British Columbia Human Resources Managers' Association (BCHRMA)

Founded in 1942, BCHRMA is a registered non-profit society dedicated to advancing professional human resources practices. The programs and services provide leadership to people working in all areas of human resources management in British Columbia. Vision - to be widely recognized for leading an evolution in improving organizational outcomes. Mission - a community dedicated to inspiring professional people practices that enhance organizational performance.

British Columbia Ops Council

The British Columbia Ops Council is a committee developing enforcement priorities for Organized Crime operations.

Canadian Payroll Association (CPA)

Founded in 1978, the CPA comprises 8900 members and delegates in Canada and abroad. The association is recognized as the leading authority on Canadian payroll issues. Through carefully forged ties with senior government officials, the CPA is invited to participate on commissions and task forces to review and recommend changes to all relevant government processes, forms, guides and publications.

Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP)

CACP was founded in Toronto on September 6, 1905 as a non-profit society. The Association is dedicated to the support and promotion of efficient law enforcement and the protection and security of the people of Canada.

CACP Law Amendments Committee

The Law Amendments Committee devoted a significant amount of time and energy to many issues including lawful access and encryption, Campbell and Shirose white paper, extra-provincial jurisdiction, firearms deactivation, proceeds of crime and money laundering regulations, protection of intelligence files and intervention before the Supreme Court of Canada in the biker-stop case.

CACP Lawfully Authorized Electronic Surveillance Sub Committee

This CACP committee's role is to coordinate the technical requirements in order that they can develop a set of criteria that would meet the needs of the RCMP and every provincial or city police department that performs electronic surveillance. It is key that there is a coordinated voice of all law enforcement in Canada to both industry and government departments.

CACP National Committee on Organized Crime

This is a committee of CACP focused on organized crime.

Certified General Accountants of British Columbia

The association was established to provide a means and facilities by which its members may increase their knowledge, skill and proficiency in all things relating to the business or profession of an accountant or an auditor. It also regulates the profession.

Certified Management Accountants Society of British Columbia (CMABC)

CMABC is a governing professional organization that awards the Certified Management Accountant (CMA) designation to qualified candidates in British Columbia, including their competence, fitness and professional conduct and to establish and enforce professional standards.

College of Psychologists of British Columbia

The College of Psychologists is established under the *Health Professions Act* to regulate the practice of psychology in British Columbia.

Criminal Intelligence Service Canada (CISC)

CISC is an organization that provides the facilities to unite the criminal intelligence units of Canadian law enforcement agencies in the fight against the spread of organized crime in Canada. CISC is comprised of a central bureau located in Ottawa and a system of nine provincial bureaux which are located in each province, with the exception of Prince Edward Island whose interests are served by the Nova Scotia Bureau. The Central Bureau functions on a national scale and the Provincial Bureaux operate within provincial boundaries.

Criminal Intelligence Service British Columbia (CISBC) Advisory Committee

British Columbia's provincial bureau of CISC.

Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia

The objects of the institute are to promote and maintain the knowledge, skill and proficiency of its members and students in all matters relating to the practice of accounting and to regulate the practice of accounting by its members and students.

International Association of Law Enforcement Intelligence Analysts (IALEIA)

The purpose of IALEIA is to advance the high standards of professionalism in law enforcement intelligence analysis at all levels of government. Its aim is to enhance the general understanding of the role of intelligence analysis, to further develop international qualification and competence standards, to devise training standards and curricula, to furnish advisory services on intelligence analysis, to conduct analytic research and disseminate information on analytic techniques and methods.

International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy Project: Legislative Reforms to Effectively Combat Transnational Organized Crime

The International Centre is dedicated to making a substantial contribution to national and international efforts to reduce crime and improve justice.

International Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Investigators' Association (IOMGIA)

The mandate of the IOMGIA is to facilitate dissemination of current intelligence and training to investigators responsible for investigating and prosecuting the criminal element of outlaw motorcycle gangs globally.

Municipal Police Finance Officers' Group

This group is comprised of financial managers and officers from the various BC municipal police departments. Topics are focused on a range of issues that relate to finance and administration. This group also acts in an advisory capacity to the BCAMCP on financial issues.

National Technical Investigators' Association (NATIA)

NATIA is a non-profit law enforcement educational association that focuses on the leading technical problems that are affecting lawfully authorized electronic surveillance.

Prime BC Steering & Implementation Committees

Prime-BC is a provincial records management system that will be implemented in all police forces in British Columbia. This steering/implementation committee is responsible for providing advice and guidance.

Project Northstar

Project Northstar is a bi-nation, multi-agency forum consisting of representatives of law enforcement agencies from Canada and the United States that collectively address border related crime and the security issues and present consensus positions to support decision-making by the leadership of government agencies/entities.

Regional Operational Management Committee

The Regional Operational Management Committee provides a forum for communication and prioritization of enforcement projects for the lower mainland.

Society for the Policing of Cyberspace (POLCYB)

POLCYB was incorporated as a not-for-profit society in June, 1999. Based in British Columbia its goal is to enhance international partnerships among public and private professionals to prevent and combat crimes in cyberspace.

POLCYB has created a network of practitioners from all organizational levels in the public and private sectors including law enforcement, criminal justice, corporate security and academia.

Training Officers' Advisory Committee (TOAC)

Quarterly meetings of municipal police department training officers and an RCMP "E" Division representative, chaired by the Director, Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC) Police Academy, held at the Justice Institute. Topics are focused on a range of issues on training of police officers in British Columbia. This is a forum for discussing concerns, issues, changes, new initiative, new equipment and emerging human resource trends.

Vancouver Island Advisory Committee

This committee comprises OCABC staff and the Lower Vancouver Island Municipal Chief Constables. The mandate of the committee is to maintain open communication with the area chiefs on OCABC operational activities and project status as well as to discuss emerging issues regarding secondments. The Chiefs are regularly updated on the operational training and experience their seconded members are receiving.