National Security Community Outreach Program

Jim STEWART

March 19, 2009

Topics to be covered:

- RCMP's role in National Security
- Genesis of the *National Security Community Outreach Program*
- The O'Connor Report
- Community concerns
- Youth Outreach Program
- Goals of the Community Outreach Program
- Community involvement
- Outreach delivery
- Community Outreach Program initiatives
- Training
- Cross Cultural Roundtable on Security
- Radicalization
- Counter radicalization program
- Counter Terrorism Information Officer
- Pre-incident indicators
- Challenges

The RCMP's Role in National Security

- **Primary responsibility to prevent and investigate offences**
  - that constitute a threat to the security of Canada (as defined in the *CSIS* Act)
  - against internationally protected persons (as defined in the *Criminal Code*)
  - Which fall within the definition of terrorist activity as articulated in Section 83.01 of the *Criminal Code*

The RCMP's Role in National Security

However…

- **The RCMP, and all enforcement agencies, also need to develop their community outreach programs.**
- **The UK experience - *"We can't arrest our way out of this"***
- **The Canadian experience - *"We can't do this alone"* (Old style of community based policing)**

National Security Community Based Policing

Community Policing

Old Style Policing

For a “National” Problem

Catalysts for National Security Community Outreach (Lessons Learned)

- O'Connor Commission of Inquiry in the case of Maher Arar
- Anti-terrorism Act (ATA) Review
- Minority Views on the Canadian *Anti-Terrorism Act*
- Consultation with ethnic minority leaders on the impact of the *Anti-terrorism Act* on their communities
- "The Impact Of The National Security Agenda On Racialized Women"
- "Presumption of Guilt: A National Survey on Security Visitations of Canadian Muslims" by CAIR-CAN.

O'Connor Report

- **O'Connor Recommendation 3E**

  The RCMP should continue and expand upon its social context training, which is necessary to be able to conduct efficient investigations while ensuring fairness to individuals and communities.

- **O'Connor Recommendation 19**

  Canadian agencies conducting national security investigations, including CSIS, the RCMP and the CBSA, should have clear written policies stating that such investigations must not be based on racial, religious or ethnic profiling.

Bias-free Policing Policy

- **Ops Manual 38.2**

  "**Bias-free policing** means equitable treatment of all persons by all RCMP employees in the performance of their duties, in accordance with the law and without abusing their authority regardless of an individual's race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, age, mental or physical disability, citizenship, family status, socio-economic status, or a conviction for which a pardon has been granted."

Community Concerns

- **Law enforcement, security intelligence, and border agencies in Canada recognize that there may be a perception in some communities of being targeted unfairly**
- **However, police and law enforcement agencies target individuals because they are engaged in <u>criminal</u> behaviour and not because they come from a particular group or community**
- **Front line messaging is crucial**
- **"Do no harm"**

Concerns expressed by Minority communities

- feelings of being marginalized, ostracized, blamed or under suspicion of being terrorists or terrorist supporters or sympathizers because of their race/ethnicity etc.
- being treated disrespectfully because of a lack of knowledge or understanding of their cultures
- fears of being:
  - a victim of terrorism
  - a victim of a backlash against Minorities because of a terrorist incident in Canada
  - an innocent victim of anti-terrorist measures.

NS Community Outreach Program

- **As a result…..the RCMP established a Community Outreach Program in 2005**
  - **component of the RCMP's Bias-free Policing strategy**
  - **mandate is to engage all communities across Canada in the protection of Canada's national security**
  - **identifying and resolving local concerns are essential to the success of the National Security Program.**

Youth Outreach Program

- Began in late 2005
- To take proactive steps towards minimizing the likelihood of youth engaging in political violence in Canada.

Strategic Goals

The main strategic goals of the National Security Youth Outreach Program are:

- To Engage Youth on National Security
- To Prevent Youth Political Violence

Goals of NS Community Outreach

- positive relations with all communities of Canada.
- increase understanding and trust
- ensure everyone treated equally and with respect
- identify and remove barriers
- ensure the protection of all Canadian communities

Involvement with the Communities

Preparing for a community interface session

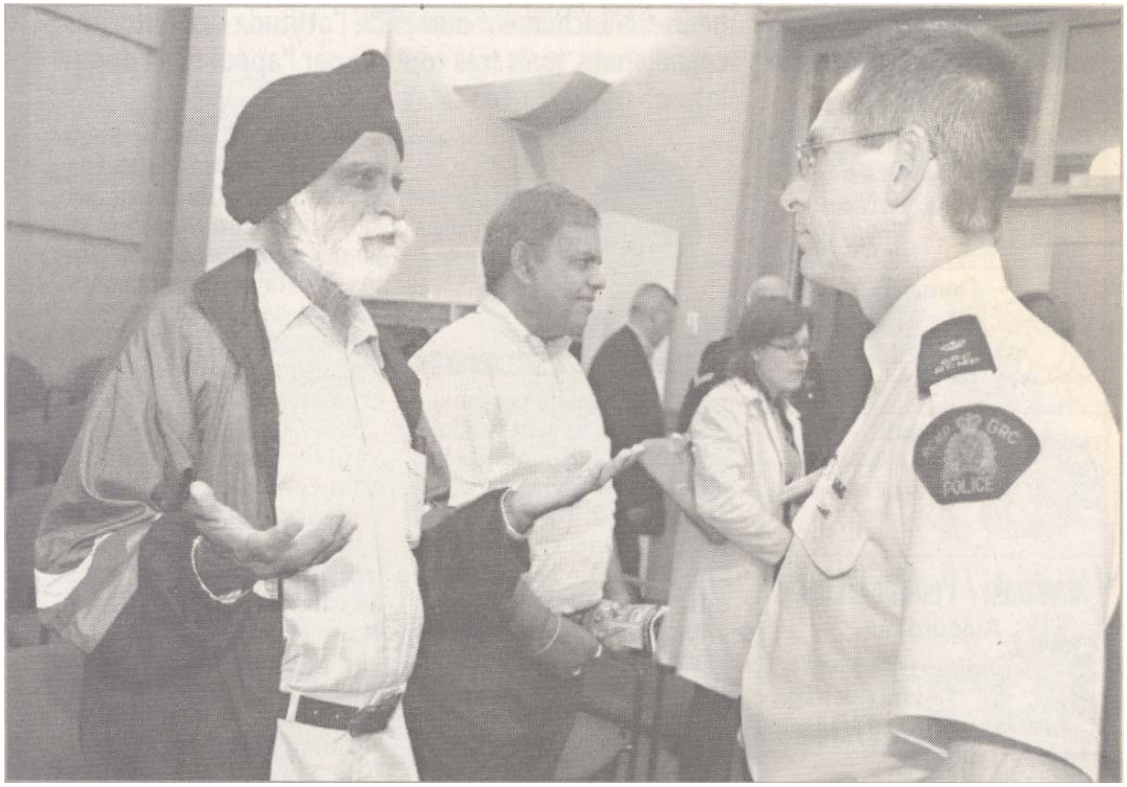
- **Go to places of worship**
- **make contacts in the community**
- **meet with them on a social level**
- **need to build trust in the community**

Community Outreach meetings

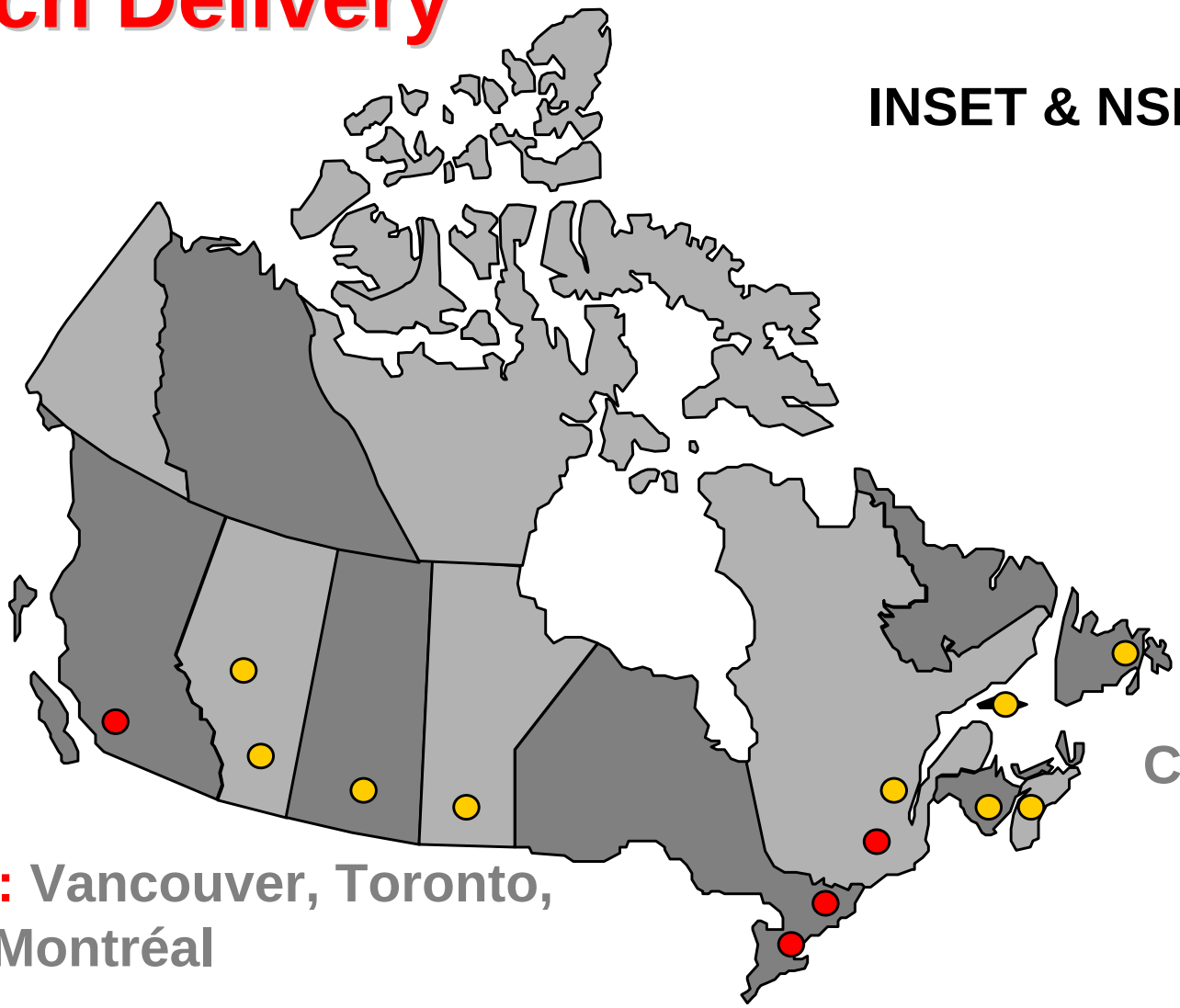
- **Open communication to help communities and the RCMP better understand each other.**
- **Explain the duties of the RCMP in the context of a Democratic society, subject to the rule of law.**
- **Promote a better understanding of:**
  - Canada's legal process
  - RCMP's law enforcement responsibilities.
- **Discuss how the community and the RCMP can work together to protect all Canadian citizens.**
- **Frank discussion about the concerns of the community.**

Project O-SAGE community meetings

- address anxiety level of the communities
- ensure accurate/complete information was being disseminated
- respond to/discuss community concerns about backlash/hate crimes
- seek the help of the community



Outreach Delivery



INSET & NSES locations

NSES:

Edmonton
Calgary
Regina
Winnipeg
Québec
Fredericton
Halifax
Charlottetown
St. John's

INSET: Vancouver, Toronto, Ottawa, Montréal

Community Outreach

- **Initiatives underway or completed:**
  - **full-time community outreach co-ordinator at Headquarters, Ottawa**
  - **National Security Community Advisory Committee in Ottawa**
  - **National Security Youth Outreach coordinator at Headquarters**
  - **Cultural Awareness training and Investigator's Guidelines for NS Course**
  - **National Counter Radicalization Program (under development)**
  - **National CTIO Program (under development)**
  - **Working with Cross Cultural Roundtable on Security and INSETs/NSIS throughout Canada**

Cultural Awareness Training

O'Connor Recommendation #20

- Canadian agencies involved in anti-terrorism investigations, particularly the RCMP, CSIS and the CBSA, should continue and expand on the training given to members and staff on issues of racial, religious and ethnic profiling and on interaction with Canada's Muslim and Arab communities.

Cultural Diversity Training

- **The RCMP National Security Community Outreach Program conducts training sessions twice a year with National Security Investigators which is lead by community leaders.**
- **The Canadian Arab Foundation (CAF) and Canadian Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-Can) undertake extensive training of RCMP members who are specifically engaged in national security investigations within the affected communities on the cultural, religious, political and ideological complexities found within these communities.**

Cross Cultural Roundtable on Security

- Created by the Federal Govt. "Securing an Open Society: Canada's National Security Policy"
- 15 Minority members
- Volunteers
- High level advice to Canadian Government
- Meet 3 or 4 times a year

THE WAY FORWARD

“WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY”

“WE CAN’T ARREST OUR WAY OUT OF THIS”

LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM…..

RADICALIZATION

"The process by which individuals are introduced to and accept an overtly ideological message and belief system that encourages movement from moderate, mainstream beliefs towards extreme views"

(Angus SMITH — RCMP Senior Analyst)

RADICALIZATION

- **Radicalization becomes a threat to National Security when individuals with EXTREME views-engage in VIOLENCE to promote those views.**

  - Political

  - Ideological

  - Religious extremism

Domestic Radicalization

- **Very real threat to Canadian National Security**
- **Growing Islamist extremist ideology**
- **Youths being targeted are 14-30 years**
- **Terrorist Organizations are recruiting the vulnerable and impressionable.**

(similar to gang recruitment)

SELF RADICALIZATION - “Lone-wolf”

- DIFFICULT TO RECOGNIZE OR PREVENT
- OFTEN CULTIVATED IN THE PRIVACY OF HOMES OR INTERNET CAFÉS
- COMMON POINT OF MESSAGING IS THE INTERNET
- ACCESS TO EXTREME MESSAGING
- OPEN SOURCE “DETECTIVES”

Self Radicalization – “Lone-wolf”

[redacted]

National Approach to the problem

- Centralized and universally delivered program.
- Working group comprised of representatives from all major police depts.
- Input and cooperation from gov't groups
- Buy in from all partners through the Canadian Association of Chief of Police (CACP)

National Counter Radicalization Program

- **Based on the U/K's "PREVENT" model for Counter-Terrorism**
- **Police lead mandate with Gov't input and participation!**
- **Looking upstream…building *resilience* through support and prevention**

Goals of the Counter Radicalization Program

- **Build trust and genuinely address grievances with all minority communities**
- **"In time of crisis….this is not the time!"**
- **Engage and educate vulnerable youth who are at risk.**
- **Increase awareness and inform Parents about the Phenomenon of youth radicalization (i.e.. Warning signs/indicators)**
- **Share best practices within the various PD's to be applied consistently across Canada.**
- **"E" DIV is a model Province for the efforts accomplished to date.**

Introducing the CTIO

"E" Division National Security has established the Counter-Terrorism Information Officer (CTIO)

The CTIO is:

- **Part-time position**
- **Briefed in national security and terrorism matters**
- **Located in RCMP detachments, district offices, municipal police departments, fire services, corrections and other law enforcement agencies**
- **Linked to two-way incident reporting network and communications system**

CTIO training at a glance

National Security Background	Phenomenon of Terrorism	Terrorist Targets & Activities	Community Outreach
Federal Anti-Terrorist Plan	Origins of Terrorism	Terrorist Fundraising	Community Awareness (Speaker from Muslim Community)
National Security Operations and Priorities	History of Terrorism in Canada	Weapons & Tactics	Overcoming stereotypes
Protocols unique to National Security Investigations – information sharing	Introduction to Islam	Recruiting	Community Outreach Program
Overview: E Div NS	Terrorist group profiles	Radicalization	
CSIS: Role & Mandate	Home grown terrorism	Internet use	
		Al Qaeda Training Manual	
		Critical Infrastructure as targets	
		Pre-incident indicators	

The role of the Counter-Terrorism Information Officer

Pre-incident indicators

Kb

Kb

Challenges

- **Media**
- **Image/Perception**
- **Language**

The words we use to define and describe certain types of terrorist activity.

Terms such as "Islamic terrorism," "Islamist terrorism," "*Jihad*ism," and "Islamofascism" cast all Muslims as terrorists or potential terrorists.

Instead terms such as "Al-Qaeda inspired" entities, groups and extremism should be used.

For further information contact:

Insp. Jim STEWART

(613) 993-8963
jim.stewart@rcmp-grc.gc.ca