

Commanding Officer

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Chief Superintendent Dyson Smith Commanding Officer "G" Division RCMP-GRC 5010 Veterans Memorial Dr. Yellowknife, NT X1A 2R3

June 27th, 2025

Minister Jay Macdonald
Department of Justice
Government of the Northwest Territories
PO Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

Dear Minister Macdonald,

Re: Territorial Police Service Agreement – RCMP Annual Report (2024-2025)

Pursuant to Article 7.2 (c) of the 2012-2032 Territorial Police Service Agreement (TPSA), I am happy to provide you with our annual report on the implementation of the Territory's priorities and performance measures for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

For the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the Minister of Justice determined policing priorities were as follows:

- Target enforcement responses to reduce illegal drugs and alcohol.
- 2) Continue to build strong relationships with Indigenous communities and residents.
- 3) Provide policing services that reflect recognition and efforts to reduce harm to Indigenous women, girls, families, and children.
- 4) Increase community knowledge and understanding of RCMP roles and responsibilities.

1) Target enforcement responses to reduce illegal drugs and alcohol.

Illegal drug and alcohol trafficking remains one of the most significant threats to public safety in Northwest Territory communities. "G" Division RCMP has continued to make strategic enforcement efforts to disrupt the flow of contraband, reduce related violence, and hold offenders accountable—particularly in communities most vulnerable to the impacts of the illicit drug trade.

Over the past year, detachments across the territory strengthened partnerships with external agencies and local stakeholders to address these concerns. Working with Canada Post, Parks Canada, various airline agencies, and local community groups, members targeted the transport routes most





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commonly used to move illegal narcotics and alcohol into remote communities. These collaborative efforts led directly to successful interdictions and seizures of contraband, helping to disrupt the supply chain and reduce the availability of illegal substances in isolated locations.

A major structural improvement this year was the creation of the South District Intelligence Group, made up of detachments, the Territorial Crime Reduction Unit (TCRU), and the Divisional Criminal Analysis Section (DCAS). This group has significantly enhanced the sharing of intelligence related to drug trafficking networks operating within and across communities. The coordinated communication and pooled investigative resources have improved our ability to identify and target offenders involved in trafficking, including those linked to organized criminal activity from outside the territory.

The Territorial Crime Reduction Unit (TCRU) began staffing its positions this year and has already had a measurable impact on enforcement efforts. Their presence and specialized focus have allowed for a more proactive and sustained approach to disrupting organized trafficking networks. A number of notable enforcement actions this year highlighted the TCRU's effectiveness:

- TCRU assisted Fort Smith Detachment in the investigation of two shooting incidents involving local residences, helping to ensure community safety during the active investigation.
- Working alongside Fort Smith members, the TCRU executed a search warrant that resulted in the seizure of approximately 11 ounces of cocaine and the arrest of two out-of-territory individuals involved in trafficking.
- In Fort Resolution, the TCRU played a key role in the response to a shooting incident, ultimately
 arresting a male from Edmonton and seizing a loaded firearm, removing a significant threat from
 the community.
- TCRU has been supporting the North District with intelligence gathering/sharing and providing
 assistance with investigative techniques associated with the trafficking and transportation of
 illegal drugs to enhance the local Detachments ability to disrupt these activities.

In addition to enforcement, the TCRU has taken a more integrated approach to crime reduction by strengthening relationships with probation services, correctional services, and the Wellness Court. These partnerships are instrumental in identifying individuals currently facing drug- or firearm-related charges who are out on release. The TCRU works to ensure these individuals are complying with their courtimposed conditions, helping to prevent recidivism and support public safety through accountability and supervision.

This past year demonstrated that a coordinated, intelligence-led enforcement strategy is essential in addressing the harms caused by illegal drugs and alcohol. While enforcement alone cannot solve all the challenges posed by substance abuse and trafficking, "G" Division RCMP's enhanced capacity through inter-agency cooperation and specialized units like the TCRU has contributed to meaningful disruption of criminal activity in the NWT. These efforts not only resulted in seizures and arrests but also helped build





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community trust and improve safety for residents, especially youth who are often the most targeted and affected by these criminal networks.

2) Continue to build strong relationships with Indigenous communities and residents.

"G" Division RCMP remains committed to building and maintaining strong, respectful, and lasting relationships with Indigenous communities and residents across the Northwest Territories. Recognizing that approximately 50% of the NWT's population is Indigenous, and that many communities continue to experience the lasting impacts of residential schools and intergenerational trauma, the "G" Division RCMP has prioritized reconciliation-focused policing rooted in cultural understanding, trust-building, and consistent community engagement.

This past year, members across "G" Division took part in training focused on cultural awareness and humility, aimed at deepening our understanding of Indigenous history, residential school impacts, and intergenerational trauma. These learning opportunities provided members with practical tools for recognizing personal biases and developing more trauma-informed responses during interactions with the public. Acknowledging the link between historical trauma and present-day challenges such as addiction, mental health issues, and homelessness helps our members approach individuals and situations with empathy, cultural sensitivity, and care.

We understand that strong community involvement is the backbone of effective policing, and "G" Division RCMP members have remained actively engaged with the communities they serve. Detachments across the territory participated in a wide variety of local events throughout the year—fostering trust, strengthening community ties, and encouraging meaningful two-way communication with residents of all ages. These included, but are not limited to; BBQs, fishing derbies, school activities, reading to youth, cultural and hunting camps, local sporting events, hand games, and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) ceremonies. These informal interactions, outside the context of enforcement, are crucial for building genuine relationships and breaking down barriers between police and community members.

A particularly notable event was the National Indigenous Peoples Day fish fry hosted by the North Slave Métis Alliance, where RCMP members from Yellowknife Detachment and "G" Division Headquarters took part. Events like these not only celebrate Indigenous culture but allow "G" Division RCMP to be present as supportive community partners, helping reinforce mutual respect and understanding.

Another success was the Toys for Tots Drive continued for the 4th year and was a success where 430 youth benefited from the distribution of toys in the communities of Aklavik, Fort Smith, and Tuktoyaktuk.





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Youth engagement has remained a core focus of our relationship-building efforts. Detachments continued to promote and recommend youth for participation in the RCMP's Youth Depot Program, identifying promising young leaders from communities who may one day pursue careers in policing. By encouraging Indigenous youth to consider policing as a viable and valued career path, we help create a future RCMP that better reflects the communities we serve.

In addition to youth programming, detachments also ran positive ticketing campaigns, recognizing and rewarding youth for safe behaviours such as wearing helmets while biking or scootering. These small but impactful initiatives foster positive interactions between officers and young people, building familiarity and trust at an early age.

Detachment members have also continued collaborating with Indigenous leaders, elders, and Community Justice Committees to discuss policing priorities, address community concerns, and explore local solutions. These conversations promote a community-led approach to justice and safety—helping to ensure that policing practices align with the values, expectations, and lived experiences of each community.

Restorative justice continues to be a priority for the RCMP's policing initiatives and "G" Division continues to exceed or lead other jurisdictions in the country with the number of referrals to the committees for recommendations regarding relatively minor criminal offences.

While the path to reconciliation and trust-building is ongoing, the "G" Division RCMP remains committed to continuous learning, respectful engagement, and being a visible and accountable presence in the communities we serve. Through cultural understanding, youth mentorship, and daily community involvement, we continue to work toward strengthening our relationships with Indigenous residents in a way that is honest, responsive, and rooted in mutual respect.

3) Provide policing services that reflect recognition and efforts to reduce harm to Indigenous women, girls, families, and children.

The "G" Division RCMP remains committed to delivering policing services that recognize and actively seek to reduce the disproportionate harm experienced by Indigenous women, girls, families, and children. High rates of family violence, intergenerational trauma, and systemic barriers continue to affect Indigenous communities, requiring a collaborative and culturally informed approach to policing.

Over the past year, members have worked closely with numerous community-based organizations to support victims of violence and help break the cycle of harm. RCMP detachments have partnered with agencies including the NWT Status of Women Council, YWCA, Alison McAteer House, Family Support Centres, and Sutherland House, among others. These partnerships focus on providing victims and their families with education and access to vital support resources. By strengthening these relationships, the "G" Division RCMP continues to bridge gaps between frontline law enforcement and the broader network of care that victims rely on.





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Efforts to support prevention have also been emphasized, particularly through early engagement with youth. Members have participated in school-based discussions on healthy relationships, providing tools and education to help young people identify the signs of abuse and foster respectful interpersonal behaviour. These proactive sessions are key in equipping the next generation with knowledge that may reduce future victimization and interrupt cycles of violence before they begin.

Recognizing the importance of service accessibility, RCMP members have also engaged directly with the directors of victim services agencies to identify strategies that improve community acceptance of and comfort with these supports. These discussions are essential to improving outreach, reducing stigma, and ensuring that services meet the diverse needs of those affected by violence, particularly Indigenous women and girls who are often underrepresented in formal support systems.

From an investigative standpoint, there has been continued progress in enhancing trauma-informed policing. "G" Division RCMP members participated in specialized sexual assault training, which expanded their knowledge of trauma-informed protocols and investigative best practices. This training ensures that sexual assault cases are approached with sensitivity, professionalism, and a deeper understanding of the complex factors often affecting victims.

One of the most significant oversight mechanisms supporting this work is the Sexual Assault Investigations Review Committee (SAIRC). The committee, comprised of external experts and stakeholders, met again this fiscal year to conduct reviews of randomly selected sexual assault investigations that are no longer active and were classified as "not cleared by charge" or "unfounded." These reviews are critical in assessing whether investigations are thorough, impartial, and appropriately classified. SAIRC also helps to identify systemic barriers that may impact the ability of victims to access justice. Since its inception in 2019, the committee has reviewed 63 files, including 10 in the past year, and continues to provide valuable recommendations that inform training, policy, and investigative improvements.

This year's collaborative efforts, training initiatives, and accountability measures reflect the "G" Division RCMP's ongoing commitment to improving how services are delivered to Indigenous women, girls, families, and children. The work is rooted in the recognition that trust must be continually earned, and that reducing harm requires partnership, education, and a willingness to evolve. Through prevention, responsive policing, and strong community relationships, the RCMP continues to work toward a future where all residents—particularly those who have historically faced marginalization—can feel safe, heard, and supported.

4) Increase community knowledge and understanding of RCMP roles and responsibilities.

"G" Division RCMP recognizes the need for greater transparency and more consistent access to information regarding policing activities and crime trends in our communities. Over the past year, "G"





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Division RCMP has made significant strides in strengthening its communication with the public. Upon being appointed as the new Commanding Officer, a commitment was made to "demystify policing" through more open communication.

In 2024–2025, "G" Division RCMP made key investments to enhance public communication and media engagement. While the Strategic Communications Unit was previously operated by a single Media Relations Officer, the successful recruitment of a Communications Strategist has allowed the unit to expand its capacity. As of February 2025, the unit is staffed by two employees and has taken a more proactive approach to public engagement and media relations.

This expansion enabled more frequent and informative social media updates—particularly on Facebook—alongside the regular release of media statements on investigations, enforcement actions, and community safety initiatives. These efforts have generally been met with positive feedback, as residents appreciate being informed about ongoing RCMP operations and the steps being taken to reduce crime.

Despite these improvements, there is a continued need to enhance the availability of localized, timely public information. NWT residents benefit when they are aware not only of police presence and enforcement outcomes but also of emerging crime trends, public safety risks, and the full scope of RCMP roles and services. Better public awareness helps build trust, enables proactive problem-solving, and empowers communities to participate more fully in their own safety.

To support this work, the Division developed a comprehensive communications plan covering the 2024–2027 period. Aligned with the GNWT's policing priorities, this plan identifies five strategic communications goals, including building trust, transparency, and partnerships. This plan will guide "G" Division RCMP's efforts to increase the public's understanding of its work and ensure that communications contribute meaningfully to public safety, community engagement, and crime prevention.

The Commanding Officer (CO) of the division is leading a signage project aimed at updating detachment signs across the region. The initiative ensures that all signs reflect the two official languages—French and English—as well as the recognized local language(s), as part of reconciliation efforts. The project is currently at various stages of progress with work beginning in the South District, where some signs have already been purchased with others are pending approval.

The Commanding Officer's Indigenous Advisory Committee (COIAC) is yet another example of both reconciliation engagement through traditional knowledge sharing and beliefs, along with expanding the knowledge of RCMP operations through engagement. COIAC is comprised of trusted elders from throughout the territory who provide sage advice to the Commanding Officer on various topics of concern. In turn, the COIAC members gather insight directly from top RCMP leadership that they can bring back to their community members. COIAC meets biannually, but collaboration continues throughout the year.





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"G" Division remains committed to further strengthening public trust by improving how information is shared and by reinforcing the essential role officers play in supporting safe, informed, and resilient communities throughout the Northwest Territories.

"G" Division RCMP remains committed to fulfilling the GNWT's priorities through a balance of enforcement, partnership-building, culturally responsive practices, and transparent communication. While challenges persist, particularly in the areas of resource capacity and the social determinants of crime, the progress made in 2024–2025 demonstrates the Division's ongoing dedication to public safety and community well-being across the territory.

Sincerely,

C/Supt. Dyson Smith

"G" Division Commanding Officer

APPENDIX A: 2024-2025 NORTHWEST TERRITORIES POLICING PRIORITY ACTIVITY AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Prepared by G Division

Data Sources and Limitations

The information in this report provides a point in time snapshot of the law enforcement and community policing activities of the RCMP that live and work in the NWT from April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025. Information was retrieved from the police records management system, or PROS, and monthly policing reports.

It is important to keep in mind that information in this report is a sample of policing activities that will change as criminal proceedings progress and should not be used to accurately interpret trends, conduct comparisons with national statistical data or describe year-over-year changes in crime or crime rates.

The intended purpose of this report reflects the commitment to improve community knowledge and understanding about local policing services.

The report is structured by each Policing Priority and includes corresponding quantitative information for each performance measure related to law enforcement and policing activities.

Law enforcement activities are called occurrences, which include any type of police-related event, activity or call for service RCMP attend to or receive. Each member is trained to enter occurrences using a Uniform Crime Reported code (UCR) into the police records management, or PROS.

A single occurrence may encompass several offences. Depending on officer discretion only the most serious offence is usually reported. This means that many offences are under reported and not reflected in the information contained in this report.

It is important to know when RCMP are required to intervene, it is complex, constantly evolving and requires an officer's individual risk assessment of the situation and determines what information an officer enters as into the system.

The information about community policing activities is often very under reported as officers are not able to document the countless daily interactions with communities (community meetings, school liaison officer functions, regular patrols, recruiting, etc.). Some measures related to community policing activities are not yet formally documented and so reporting is not yet available.

Terms

PROS	Police Reporting and Occurrence System (PROS) is a police records management system database.		
UCR Codes	The Uniform Crime Reporting Survey collects information on crimes that come to the attention of the police. UCR data do not contain a count of all crimes in Canada. Some crimes are never detected or brought to the attention of the police.		
Occurrences	An occurrence is any type of police-related event or activity entered the police records management systems (PROS), including a call for service or self-generated by a police officer, like stopping a driver they believe is impaired.		
Investigations	Synonymous with occurrences each occurrence must be investigated.		
Charge	When a person has been formally accused of committing a crime by the laying of charges by Crown counsel.		
Activities	Activities are formal or informal RCMP interactions with community or community leadership.		
CSC	Charged/Suspect Chargeable		
Weapons	Means any thing used, designed to be used or intended for use (a) in causing death or injury to any person, or (b) for the purpose of threatening or intimidating any person and, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, includes a firearm and, for the purposes of sections 88, 267 and 272, any thing used, designed to be used or intended for use in binding or tying up a person against their will; (arme)		
EPOs	An emergency protection order (EPO) is a legal order that provides emergency protection to victims of family violence. An EPO provides emergency protection that lasts up to 90 days, and can order the abusive person to stay away from you and your children; allow you to stay in your home without the abusive person being there; and/or require the RCMP to take away any weapons the abusive person may have.		
Proactive patrols	Proactive policing patrols prevent and deter crime from occurring.		
SAIRC	Sexual Assault Investigation Review Committee (SAIRC) includes RCMP and stakeholders representing victim services organizations and victim/community advocates. Committee tests the protocol for reviewing sexual assault investigations and provide observations and recommendations to the RCMP to improve investigations.		
Intimate	Means violence or abuse that happens within a marriage, or common-law or dating		
Partner	relationships—regardless of sexual identity—and can occur at any time during a relationship,		
Violence	including while it is breaking down or after it has ended. It includes many forms of violence, including physical, sexual, emotional, psychosocial and financial abuse, as well as neglect.		
Sexual Offences	Means an offence of a sexual nature that violates or threatens to violate the sexual integrity of the victim. Sexual offences can be committed by acts or gestures without words, physical contact, or verbal threats.		

Policing Priority Activities and Performance Measures

Priority 1: Target enforcement responses to reduce illegal drugs and alcohol			
Activities	Performance Measures	Results	
a) Law enforcement efforts to target and disrupt organized crime, illicit drugs, and alcohol.	Number of drug and organized crime investigations undertaken.	1343 occurrences	
G /	Number and type of weapon seized and if linked to organized crime by community.	276 firearms were seized and 138 'weapons' were seized.	
	Number type and amount of drug seizures by community.	283 drug seizures.	
	Number of people charged with drug trafficking.	74 individuals charged with trafficking offences.	
	Number of people charged with bootlegging.	1 individual charged with <i>Liquor</i> Act offences indicating bootlegging.	
	Number of calls related to bootlegging and drug trafficking by community.	134 occurrences related to bootlegging 1,082 occurrences related to drug trafficking. Table 1.	
b) Work collaboratively to support social programs with partners to recognize and work with at-risk people, including youth, who may be vulnerable to the influence of the drug trade and other serious	Report on activities undertaken with: Community Justice Committees Victim Services programs Community Safety Officer Shelters and other housing related social programs	 5 activities with Community Justice Committees. 7 activities with Victim Services programs. 12 activities with Community Safety Officer program. 11 activities with Shelters & other 	
crime ¹ . Anticipated Outcomes		housing related social programs.	

NWT residents have up to date information and confidence that the RCMP are responding to drug

¹ Retrieved from G Division monthly policing reports, **often under reported**.

and alcohol occurrences.

Pri	Priority 2: Continue to build strong relationships with Indigenous communities and residents.			
Activities Performance measure		Performance measures	Results	
a)	RCMP attends and participate in regular meetings to discuss, set and report on policing services, priorities, and orientation of new officers with key stakeholders ² .	Number of policing priority setting meetings with stakeholders, including: Community Justice Committees Municipal and Indigenous governments and organizations Number Letters of Collaboration and policing priorities in place	33 meetings with Community Justice Committees. 92 meetings with Municipal and Indigenous governments and organizations. 12 Letters of Collaboration signed, 19 meetings have taken place. 100% of communities have community policing priorities in place.	
b)	Community critical incidence response information sessions focused on safety protocols in communities without detachments.	Number of information sharing meetings in communities without detachments. Number of pro-active patrols and meetings with leadership in communities without detachments.	20 meetings Total reported pro-active patrols in communities without detachments: 2,993.Table 2 ⁱⁱ Meetings, events, and activities: 1417.	

Anticipated Outcomes

Community leaders and members share community-based and cultural knowledge and participate in community-based crime prevention and community safety activities with RCMP. RCMP visibility is increased.

 $^{\rm 2}$ Retrieved from G Division community based monthly policing reports, often under reported.

Priority 3: Provide policing services that are reflect recognition and efforts to reduce harm to Indigenous women, girls, families, and children.			
Activities	Performance Measures	Results	
a) RCMP will strengthen relationships with victim	Number of Victim Services Workers accompanying RCMP to calls to support victims.	Not currently tracked	
services partners, victim support advocates & hold regular meetings to share	Number of RCMP referrals to safety programming, including Victims Services, Shelters, Emergency Protection Order (EPO), and Independent Legal Advice and Representation Programs.	 4,219 Total referrals 2,930 Victim Services referrals 1,040 Child and Family Services /Social Services referrals 208 EPO referrals 	
information, identify concerns and work collaboratively to support victims.	RCMP provides bi-annual reporting on policing data for NWT family, intimate partner, and sexualized violence.	1,177 occurrences related to Intimate Partner Violence.452 occurrences are considered sexual offences	
b) RCMP members receive cultural awareness & safety training & apply cultural awareness & safety to their service delivery.	Number and type of "G" Division employees trained in cultural safety, awareness and competency training for RCMP employees and trauma informed practices.	95% of employees have completed the National Cultural Awareness and Humility course.	
c) RCMP conduct Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Investigative Review Committees.	Number of reviews completed by the Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Investigative Review Committees. Number of RCMP members who participated and are trained in courses to increase knowledge and awareness about family, intimate partner, and sexualized violence	Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Investigative Review Committee met once in FY 24/25 and reviewed 10 files. 70 members were trained in National Sexual Offence Investigators Course, and 17 members were trained in Child Interviewing.	
Anticipated Outcomes			

RCMP are providing policing services that are responsive, culturally safe, and sensitive to the needs of Indigenous women, girls, families, and children. Stakeholders and resident express confidence in the RCMP in dealing with the needs of Indigenous women, girls, families, and children experiencing family, intimate partner, and sexualized violence in the NWT.

Priority 4: Increase community knowledge and understanding of RCMP roles and responsibilities.			
Activities	Performance Measures	Results	
a) Increase knowledge about RCMP programs and services through online tools, in person activities, social media, radio and other forms of communication mechanisms, and ensure RCMP members are visible and approachable to the public. b) RCMP work with the	 Number of online, in person, social media, radio, and other communication on RCMP programs and services about policing in the NWT. Number of community events and activities where RCMP participate and/or share information³ Number of public reporting of 	85 Facebook posts & 12 "X" posts. 1,417 events and activities.	
Department of Justice to ensure there is up to date and publicly available policing services information to ensure the public are aware of emerging trends	RCMP policing information.	highlight significant calls for service and trends.	
c) Ensure RCMP members are visible and approachable to the public.	Number of community patrols, community meetings, events activities	Total reported pro-active patrols: 2,993 . Table 2 iii Meetings/events/activities: 1,417	
Anticipated Outcomes			

³ Retrieved from G Division monthly policing reports, **often under reported**.

presence is visible to community members.

Expanded Information

Table 1 Priority 1, Activity A: RCMP Calls for Bootlegging and Drug Trafficking.

Community	Bootlegging	Drug Trafficking
Aklavik	5	5
Behchoko	26	172
Colville Lake		7
Deline	1	16
Dettah		
Enterprise		3
Fort Good Hope	9	33
Fort Liard	22	4
Fort McPherson	41	27
Fort Providence		88
Fort Resolution		29
Fort Simpson	1	34
Fort Smith	1	71
Gameti	1	11
Hay River		116
Inuvik		202
Jean Marie River		
Kakisa		
Katlodeeche First Nation		
Lutsel K'e		6
Nahanni Butte		
N'dilo		1
Norman Wells		25
Paulatuk	2	
Sachs Harbour		1
Saamba k'e		
Tsiigehtchic	1	2
Tuktoyaktuk	3	2
Tulita	4	20
Ulukhaktok	7	
Wha Ti	9	84
Wrigley	1	
Yellowknife		123
Grand Total	134	1082

Table 2 Priority 2, Activity B & Priority 4, Activity C: Number of Pro-Active Patrols in Communities Without Detachments.

Community	Number of Proactive Patrols
Colville Lake	8
Enterprise	182
Gameti	47
Wekweeti	10
Jean Marie River	13
Kakisa	51
K'Atlodeeche First Nation	1003
Nahanni Butte	18
Saamba K'e	10
Tsiigehtchic	14
Dettah	522
N'Dilo	1088
Wrigley	27
Total	2,998

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