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# **POLICING WITH ABORIGINAL PEOPLES COMMITTEE**

Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police

2010/2011 Annual Report

## **Message from the Co-Chairs**

We are pleased to present the 2010/2011 Annual Report of the Policing with Aboriginal Peoples Committee (PWAPC).

Over the past year the fledgling PWAPC worked on:

- Revitalization of the committee to ensure a consistent and balanced representation of committee members;
- Contributing to public policy on the First Nations Policing Program (FNPP); and
- Examining effective strategies for dealing with Aboriginal protest and conflict.

It has been a challenge to ensure consistent and committed representation on the PWAPC. The PWAPC has been successful in attracting a core group of people to enable the revitalization of the committee.

The Federal Government is currently undertaking a comprehensive review of the FNPP. Stakeholder engagement is currently underway. The PWAPC Federal Representative has assured the committee the opportunity to review and to provide input prior to the completion of the final report.

Through various meeting formats including a meeting held in Calgary April 12 & 13, 2010, the committee identified the need for broader representation. The Co-Chairs have sent out invitations to ensure representation from coast to coast including urban, provincial/territorial and regional representation.

Issues relating to Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women continue to be topical as well as Police Response to Aboriginal Protest.

The current PWAPC members believe that to move ahead there is a need to have a full understanding of the work that the PWAPC has completed since its inception. To accomplish this a workshop has been proposed for Fall of 2010.

Over the course of the next year PWAPC will focus on the following priorities:

- 1) Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women; and
- 2) Police Response to Aboriginal Protest.

Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women

Objectives:

- Build community trust and address public perception
- Ensure consistent response and standard process
- Address gaps in current system

Action Items:

1. Examine, identify gaps and make recommendations to the CACP on the Federal Government response to the Missing and Murdered Women issue:
    - Proposed enhancements to CPIC
    - Public access website
    - Support centre
  2. Workshop
- OBJECTIVE: Inform and educate PWAPC members on police response to Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women
- Strategically examine issues
  - Better understand current issues
  - Identify gaps and opportunities to address them

Police Response to Aboriginal Protest

Objective:

- Facilitate the constitutional right to peaceful protest

Action Items:

1) Workshop

OBJECTIVE: Inform and educate PWAPC members on Police Response to Aboriginal Protest:

- Strategically examine issues
- Better understand current issues
- Identify gaps and opportunities to address them

Although a Workshop was not conducted in the fall of 2010, the PWAPC held a Committee Meeting at Wendake, Quebec and addressed these priorities and committed to following up with subject matter experts, through invitations, for the 2011 Spring PWAC Meeting.

At the 2011 Spring PWAPC Meeting held at the Ontario Provincial Police Offices in Orillia, Ontario in April 26-27, 2011, presentations were provided by the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) and Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) on the topic of Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women. Great strides were achieved in this area; yet more work needs to be done by both the PWAPC and law enforcement agencies across Canada.

Committee Representatives from the Ontario Provincial Police Service and the Edmonton Police Service had synthesized information pertaining to Police Response to Aboriginal Protest. However, due to operational exigencies the 'draft' resolution pertaining to this item has been 'tabled' to the 2011-2012 Reporting Year.

These issues will continue to be challenging for Aboriginal communities and police. CACP must continue to address these issues to enable a universal police response.

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