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Canada

CACP Informatics Sub-Committee

2009-2010 Year-End Report

Co-Chairs
Eldon Amoroso
Clive Weighill

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Committee has experienced a busy year. Interest for membership in the committee and our work has grown significantly over the past four years. We have been receiving an increasing amount of requests for membership from Police Executives and Vendors. It has reached the point where we have initiated a process to limit membership.

The Committee continues to work closely with the Police Information Portal Governance Committee (PIP). A PIP Governance Committee meeting is held in conjunction with most Informatics meetings.

There have been three face to face meetings over the past year:

- August 8, 2009, at the annual CACP convention in Charlottetown,
- November 13-14, 2009, in Halifax
- March 4-5, 2010 in Toronto
- November 15, 2009, following our meeting in Halifax, we conducted a one day strategic planning session for the committee.
- March 3, 2010, prior to the meeting in Toronto we held a joint CACP Emergency Management/Informatics session.

COMMITTEE MANDATE

The Informatics Committee identifies issues of concern regarding information management and information technology to the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and coordinates action with other CACP committees and stakeholders. This includes:

- Promoting and/or seeking the Association's involvement in promoting information technology opportunities/solutions which serve police requirements and advance police practices among members within the law enforcement community and, where necessary, through the criminal justice system; and

- Monitoring emerging technologies and their implications for policing practices and determining how they can be applied to improving the quality and effectiveness of policing.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES

- Interoperability and information sharing
- Voice interoperability for first responders
- Voice over IP
- IM issues and challenges
- IT Warehouse of Best Practices and the Microsoft Award
- Canadian Police College Network
- CPSIN Data Standards
- In-car video recording

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS – 2009/2010

1) "**A Working group on voice interoperability -** The following provides a brief synopsis of Canadian Interoperability Technology Interest Group (CITIG) activities since the last update in May, 2009.

Work on the CCIP has continued in 2009 and 2010. To truly make this plan a national strategy, the CITIG has been working with the Canadian Council of Emergency Measures Organizations (CCEMO) and the Senior Officials Responsible for Emergency Management (SOREM) — asking them to take responsibility for governance of the CCIP. This kind of partnership is indicative of CITIG's ongoing approach to interoperability — that no one group or country has all the answers and only by leveraging these world-wide best practices can interoperability be improved.

Work on the CCIP is being further enhanced during the Interoperable Communications Workshop held in Halifax in November 16, 17, 18, 2009. A national forum will be held in Victoria on December 4 and 5, 2010.

A draft CITIG Strategic Plan is now being reviewed by leaders from the CACP, CAFC and EMSCC. The document sets the roadmap for CITIG's foreseeable future. It also lists many of the strategies to:

- establish the CITIG as the key facilitator and catalyst to improve public safety interoperability in Canada.
- facilitate the implementation of the Canadian Communications Interoperability Plan on behalf of Public Safety Canada and Canadian responders.
- identify the governance structure to make CITIG a sustainable, appropriately resourced and formalized entity (i.e., transitioning from genesis phase to a more sustainable structure that includes clear governance structure).

2) **Informatics Committee continues to work closely with NIII and the Police Information Portal (PIP).** The committee continues to work with the RCMP CIO in relation to the prolific growth of the NIII project and PIP multi agency information sharing model. Information sharing has been a cornerstone of this committees' work over the past few years.

3) **The value of private industry as members of the Informatics Committee was shown again this year.** Microsoft Canada has given each member of the committee software and licensing for their new Share Point program. The new software has enabled the Informatics Committee to create a collaboration site to host our minutes, information, and agendas for upcoming meetings. Versaterm has come forth to create and host the site at their cost.

4) **A sub-committee has been struck to establish national data quality standards (NDQS)** The committee is chaired by Debra Fraser from Ottawa Police. The sub-committee has met three times during the past year.

5) **The committee held a one day strategic planning session** on November 15, 2009, following our fall meeting. The session was facilitated by Ruth Montgomery. The session confirmed the direction of the committee and reaffirmed our priorities. The following graph outlines the strategic initiatives:

Strategic Priority	Non Negotiable	Important	Parked	Champion
Voice and Data Interoperability	• Radio Spectrum Defence • Voice and Data			• Rick Finn • Co-chair • Lance Valcour
Information Management	• NDQS	• Governance and architecture • Video Asset • Data retention • Overlap and duplication	• BPM • BC & DR • Court Interface	• Deb Frazer • Jimmy Mui • Brad MacDonald
Situational Awareness Technology	• Maximizing and securing wireless tech	• Integration and convergence • Geographical Info systems		• Rick Finn
Education, Advocacy and Communication	• IM&IT 101 • Effectiveness of Committee • Awards (Champions: Roch and Clive)	•		• Francois Bidal
Emerging IM & ICT opportunities, risks, and trends.		• ALPR • Public space CCTV • Social networks • Visual analytics	• PPMB, KPI tools • Info overload • NG911 (emerging) • Situational awareness	• Kim Derry

Transcending all strategic priorities

- Innovation (R&D) … keep separate but aware
- Governance and security

6) **A Joint CACP Emergency Management/Informatics committee meeting** was held in Toronto on March 3, 2010, prior to our spring committee meeting. The two committees discussed joint priorities. Members of CACP Emergency Management (EM) and Informatics Committees joined forces to review current CACP and EM priorities to identify shared priorities and to develop joint action plans. Police, fire, paramedic, emergency management services, government and industry were represented at the Workshop, and the process was guided by the direction set at the February 17 meeting of the three major Chief's association (CACP, CAFC and EMSCC). Specifically, the three major Chief's association have called upon the federal government to work with first responders on the issues they have identified as top priorities, including providing resources and tools to address identified gaps in emergency management and communications interoperability. The specific priorities identified at the March 3 meeting are:

TOP PRIORITIES

- **Governance** — Establish a robust governance framework to be the voice of First Responders for EM and Interoperability in Canada (Federal, Provincial/Territorial and Municipal) that recognizes the National Emergency Management Framework as well as engages the leadership of all levels of government to achieve EM interoperability (in part achieved by creating a committee with representation from SOREM, PSC, the three national chiefs associations, among other stakeholders).

- **ICS/IMS Standards** — Informed by first responders, this government led initiative to formalize an ICS/IMS Model for Canada would result in the creation of national standards for incident management systems, national training standard for incident management systems and a common or compatible lexicon and terminology to support EM culture and interoperability.

- **Interoperability Centre —** Follow through on the Canadian Communications Interoperability Plan (CCIP) Action Plan for the creation of a Public Safety Interoperability Centre (PSIC) that would promote Canadian innovation and industrial competitiveness while advancing Canadian progress on the five tracks of the SAFECOM© Interoperability Continuum. (A supporting planning workshop occurs March 22-24 in Ottawa.)

IMPORTANT PRIORITIES

- **Build Capacity within PS** — Define requirements and build capability within PS Canada and the broader Public Safety Portfolio through secondments.

- **Develop a Capabilities-based Process Map among First Responders for EM in Canada** — harmonize operational/business processes (standards technology enabled) within the 3 main communities of practice (Fire, EMS and Police) in support of all EM responders.

- **National EM/Interoperability Exercise Program** – While different from the National Exercise program, this scalable scenario would assess the abilities and capabilities of First Responder communities, with a view to improving our collective level of interoperability.

Action Plans were drafted to support each key priority with the aim of fostering integration at the municipal, regional, provincial/territorial, national and international levels. Ongoing development and delivery of an operationalized and integrated framework for emergency management (and response) in Canada will benefit a variety of stakeholders — police, fire, paramedic, emergency management services, government and industry, to name a few — and would contribute to the safety and security of Canadians.

Conclusion

The Committee had a very busy year. The usual meetings combined with a strategic planning session and joint meeting with the Emergency Management Committee provided focus and meaning for the members.

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