OPP Part II Materials Introduction



July 17, 2006

Introduction

Ontario Provincial Police: Aboriginal Initiatives – Building Respectful

<u>Relationships</u>. (Tab 2) An earlier version of these materials was provided in draft form to the Commission and to the parties. Those draft materials were designed to accompany a two-day presentation by OPP Commissioner Gwen Boniface and others in Forest, Ontario on January 26 and 27, 2006. Pursuant to Part II of the Inquiry's mandate, the presentation described the OPP's mission, vision and values in providing services to Aboriginal people and communities, as well as existing OPP initiatives to build and maintain respectful relationships with them. The materials at Tab 1 build upon the earlier draft materials in two ways: by incorporating additional information about OPP Aboriginal Initiatives to Build Respectful Relationships, much of which was referred to by Commissioner Boniface in her testimony; and by incorporating changes or refinements generated by the dialogue during this Inquiry.

Part II of the Inquiry is designed to assist Commissioner Linden in formulating recommendations to avoid violence in the future. It is to further address systemic issues and challenges. Accordingly, these materials do not address factual issues arising in Part I of the Inquiry. Indeed, one of the themes of the OPP presentation was to identify what are common interests and objectives of all concerned. Another theme was to demonstrate, through existing corporate, regional and local initiatives, the OPP's commitment to Aboriginal people and communities.

OPP Responses to Commission's Questions: Aboriginal Initiatives (Tab 3)

This document responds to specific questions addressed to the OPP by the Commission. These questions largely relate to the OPP Aboriginal initiatives to build respectful relationships with Aboriginal communities. A number of the questions yield information that supplements the OPP Aboriginal Initiatives materials at Tab 1. Accordingly, the two documents should be read together. By way of illustration only, the materials at Tab 1 articulates the outreach strategies to recruit Aboriginal officers to the OPP. The responses at Tab 2 provide the numbers of self-identified OPP Aboriginal officers in 1995 as compared to 2006. Similarly, the responses at Tab 2 outline additional OPP initiatives to build relationships with Aboriginal communities to those earlier described.

OPP Emergency Response Services: A Comparison of 1995 to 2006 (Tab 4)

This report outlines the evolution of emergency response services as provided by the OPP. It focuses primarily on a comparison of OPP emergency response services as they existed in 1995 with the current status of these programs (and their coordination as an integrated response) in 2006. The significant changes in selection, training (including First Nations awareness), equipment, command structure, tactics and strategy are documented. This report is intended to complement the OPP Incident Simulation of an Aboriginal critical incident and the integrated response to it.

OPP Public Order Units: A Comparison of 1995 to 2006 (Tab 5)

This report outlines the evolution of Public Order Units (POU) within the OPP. Again, it focuses primarily on a comparison between Crowd Management Units (CMU) as they existed in 1995 and POUs as they are now known. Again, significant changes in training, command structure, tactics and strategy are documented. For example, as noted in Commissioner Boniface's testimony, the POU Commander (who has training as an Level 2 Incident Commander, plus training as a POU Commander) attends the scene, and does not remain at the Command Centre. That POU Commander exercises some of the decision-making functions previously left with the Incident Commander. This report explains another development in command structure: Gold, Silver and Bronze Commanders, and how they interrelate. The Summary of Changes to POU 1995-2006 is reproduced at Tab 6.

OPP Intelligences Services: A Comparison of 1995 to 2006 (Tab 7)

This is a critical review of the OPP's intelligence process. It describes how intelligence is collected, evaluated, analyzed and utilized. Using the issues identified during the Inquiry as a reference point, it articulates the significant differences between how the intelligence process worked in the past and how it works today.

OPP Daily Journals and Note Taking Practices: A Comparison of 1995 to 2006 (Police Orders) (Tab 8)

Commissioner Boniface in her testimony at the Inquiry summarized the differences between best practices in 1995 and 2006, as reflected in Police Orders. For convenience, this summary is reproduced here.

The Impact of Stress on Officers and the OPP Response (Tab 9)

This report outlines officer vulnerability to stress and trauma, and how the OPP addresses this issue.

OPP Guide to Legislation and Policy (Tab 10)

To assist the Inquiry, the OPP has previously provided topical Regulations, Police Orders, Standard Operating Procedures/Manuals, Protocols and Course Training Standards. This document is intended to explain the interrelationship between these documents.

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