

**Criminal Intelligence Service Alberta**

# **Semi Annual Report**

**April 2002 - September 2002**



**Unrestricted**

**September 2002**



# Criminal Intelligence Service Alberta Semi-Annual Report

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### INTRODUCTION

For the most part, over the course of our first three-year business plan, CISA has remained in the background while providing support services to our many partners. As part of the second three-year plan, one of the goals is the development of a communication strategy in order to gain a more informed public profile.

This goal is based upon the realization that we must do a better job meeting the needs of one of our more critical stakeholder groups, the citizens of Alberta. It is essential for the members of our communities to have a clear understanding of the social and economic impacts of organized crime in our province. Although citizens are often directly confronted with, or have knowledge of, the street level activities of organized crime (e.g. drug abuse), the link between local activity and organized crime is often opaque.

Previous CISA public surveys have shown the vast majority of those polled gain their knowledge and understanding of organized crime from the media. While the media does an excellent job reporting events that are tied to organized crime, the reality with most of these stories is that today's news becomes tomorrow's archive. We are bombarded daily with so much information in a variety of forms that it becomes difficult for much of it to make a lasting impression.

The entertainment industry, in an effort to produce interesting story lines with intriguing characters, romanticize the concept of organized crime. We need to erase this illusion and replace it with the reality that these criminal enterprises, and those that operate them, exploit, manipulate and victimize many of us for the sole purpose of profit and control.

Our initial step in the process of shattering this illusion is the development of an Internet website that is intended to inform the public how organized crime impacts their daily lives, ways they might prevent being victimized, and updating them on strategies the Government of Alberta and law enforcement are taking to suppress this criminal activity. This will be supported by research aimed at quantifying and qualifying the true economic and social impact of organized crime on our society.

To date, one of law enforcements greatest battles has been to overcome public apathy. One of the most powerful weapons in the battle against organized crime is an informed and responsive public. It is the strength of our partnership with the citizens and communities of Alberta that will dictate our success, and we are dedicated to maximizing this powerful force.

Inspector Brian Skeet  
Director, CISA



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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Intelligence gathering and reporting by CISA member agencies during the past six months declined, primarily due to a considerable number of intelligence investigators being redeployed to G8 planning and security duties. While the number of intelligence reports received was down during this period, the amount being entered into the Automated Criminal Intelligence Information System (ACIIS) increased. The temporary full-time ACIIS data entry clerk in the Bureau has been entering intelligence information on behalf of the police services; information that may otherwise not have been entered by some services.

The CISA Joint Forces Organized Crime Threat Assessment Team process is now fully entrenched as a strategic tool within Alberta. The Spring 2002 assessment was the third document prepared for police executives in Alberta and provided them with information enabling them to prioritize the identified organized crime groups for the purpose of initiating intelligence probes and/or enforcement actions. Twelve primary and known organized crime groups were identified as being active in Alberta at that time.

Three Joint Forces Operations concluded during this reporting period. Project Rush Hour, led by the Calgary Police Service partnering with the Edmonton Police Service, was a cocaine trafficking investigation targeting an Asian based organized crime group operating between Vancouver, Calgary, and Edmonton. Project Brandy, led by the Edmonton Police Service partnered with the Calgary Police Service, concluded in the spring. Several individuals of a South Asian based criminal organization were charged with a variety of offences including homicide, conspiracy, and weapons offences. Project Show Me The Money, led by the Lethbridge Police Service partnering with the RCMP, also ended recently. This was a proceeds of crime investigation targeting the alleged illegal proceeds of crime of associates of the Hells Angels, subsequent to earlier drug charges laid against those accused. Accused from all three projects are now proceeding through the courts and for some, convictions and forfeiture of proceeds of crime have already resulted.

G8 negatively impacted the delivery of training in the past six months. A three-day Intelligence Course was given in May and a Drug Expert Witness Workshop was delivered in September. The CISA training calendar between October 2002 and March 2003 will be very full with courses for Advanced Mobile Surveillance, Evidence and Reports Major Case Management, and Source Agent Development.

CISA continues to pursue new partners in the fight against organized crime and terrorism. Camrose Police Service recently upgraded its' status from Associate to Regular Member, and one other enforcement agencies in Alberta are in the application process to be considered for Affiliate members of the Bureau.



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CISA has been asked to participate in the Alberta Counter-Terrorism Crisis Management Process. The implementation phase has just begun and it is the intention of the Bureau to have the human, financial, and infrastructure resources in place later this fall.

A public access website has been developed and will be formally launched in the near future. The intent of this initiative is to provide the public with information concerning the impact of organized crime, ideas for prevention strategies, and information concerning the crime suppression activities of law enforcement and the government.

CISA continues to facilitate and manage the Proceeds of Crime Law Enforcement Grant Program on behalf of the Solicitor General of Alberta. Nine initiatives have been approved, funding provided, and are currently underway.



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CISA is actively pursuing the eight goals of the second three-year business plan. Our performance will demonstrate the continued commitment of the Alberta Government and police services to providing safe communities in which citizens can live and raise their families.

### **GOAL 1: To Provide Effective Collection, Analysis and Dissemination Of Criminal Intelligence.**

The number of intelligence reports received by CISA decreased somewhat over this reporting period. There is likely a direct correlation between this and the number of investigators and intelligence officers who were assigned to the G-8 Summit Joint Intelligence Group. It is anticipated this anomaly will be rectified as these officers return to regular duties.

A competition has been completed for the Research Analyst position, which became vacant in November 2001, and the secondment from the Calgary Police Service commenced duties in August. In view of the vacancy in the Research Analyst position, the annual client satisfaction survey was not completed, but will be undertaken by the new incumbent.

In January 2002, CISA was able to acquire funds from Criminal Intelligence Service Canada (CISC) to hire a temporary full-time data entry person for the input of intelligence into the Automated Criminal Intelligence Information System (ACIIS). This funding is in effect until March 2004 and the incumbent has begun entering intelligence data from member police services that may have otherwise not been entered. From one police service alone, CISA has acquired and entered into ACIIS over 250 intelligence records of members or associates of organized crime groups operating in Alberta.

During this reporting period, CISA conducted a random sampling of Administrative and Operational files to determine the level of compliance in accordance with the Federal Access to Information and Privacy Acts. In conjunction with this sampling, meetings were held with Federal Records managers and Access To Information personnel. As a result, the Administrative and Operational file systems have been revamped and are now fully compliant with the Federal legislation.

CISA has developed the ability to share information electronically with all its member agencies. The extent to which the electronic means is used depends on the security classification of the material and the security software that the various member agencies have. Regular members have Entrust encryption; therefore, CISA can disseminate and receive almost all levels of intelligence electronically. For other members who do not have encryption, CISA can disseminate and



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receive a significant amount of information electronically, while still using mail for more sensitive documents.

The Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police has initiated a research project aimed at developing an interface between the various police databases and record management systems. The goals are enhanced access to information and improved information sharing, and CISA is an active participant in and supporter of this project.

### **GOAL 2: To Develop Intelligence-Based Analytical Products And Participate in the Preparation Of Provincial Threat Assessments On Organized Crime For The Benefit Of Senior Police Managers And Various Levels of Government.**

While Alberta police services have completed a number of successful organized crime investigations in the past three years using ad hoc investigational teams, it is felt that increased effectiveness can result from more permanent Joint Forces Operations. Considerable work has been completed on the research project entitled "More Effective Response To Organized Crime". The goal of this project is to examine a number of enforcement models being used elsewhere in Canada, as well as other countries, and then develop the best model suitable to law enforcement's needs in Alberta.

In April 2002, the Joint Forces Organized Crime Threat Assessment Team met and the Spring 2002 classified assessment was prepared and distributed to the senior managers of the CISA Regular Membership. Twelve primary and known organized crime groups operating in Alberta were identified and will be considered for prioritization of intelligence probes and/or enforcement actions. Following are summaries of the current state of affairs in relation to the national priorities of CISC and the provincial priorities of CISA.

#### Asian Organized Crime:

At least five Asian based organized crime groups have been identified in Alberta as having extensive ties to other parts of Canada and the world. These groups are actively involved in drug importation, cultivation and trafficking, as well as money laundering, illegal gaming, extortion, credit/debit card fraud, and loan sharking. While many of the subjects of these groups more or less work independently, they are able to co-exist and get along. Some subjects have been very territorial and there have been violent conflicts involving weapons such as firearms, swords, machetes, hatchets, and baseball bats. Recently, in at least two major Alberta cities, there have been fatalities and severe injuries from gunshots or stabbings resulting from these types of incidents.



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Intelligence information, combined with evidence obtained during marihuana grow takedowns, clearly indicates that members and associates of Asian based organized crime groups are heavily involved in the cultivation of marihuana in Alberta. The increase in the number of grows detected in Alberta in the last year is consistent with a trend identified in British Columbia over the last few years. It is estimated there are in excess of 20,000 marihuana grows in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia alone, with the majority controlled by Asian based organized crime.

Prosecutions are continuing for charges flowing from Projects Kachou, Katalyst, and Kliu. These were Joint Forces Operations targeting Asian based organized crime groups operating primarily in Alberta, but with alleged crime connections to persons in at least three provinces in Canada, as well as the USA. Kachou and Katalyst were long-term drug investigations while Kliu was a long-term credit and debit card fraud investigation.

### Aboriginal Organized Crime

The northern part of the province still has some aboriginal based gang activity, with the Redd Alert, Warriors, and Indian Posse as the predominant gangs. While the gangs are primarily resident and operational in the large cities, some members of these gangs have been observed on First Nations Reserves.

On the street, the Redd Alert continues to assert its reputation of ruthlessness and violence, with several members and associates of the gang currently before the courts for assaults involving firearms, knives or pipes. Within the Federal and Provincial Institutions, tension between aboriginal based gangs is on the increase, and in a few cases the outbreak of violence required a police response.

In the next few months, several well-known gang members are due to be released from prison and it appears northern Alberta is one of the preferred areas newly released gang members gravitate to.

### Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs:

The Hells Angels continue to be the only known Outlaw Motorcycle Gang operating in Alberta. There are three chapters; Calgary, Edmonton, and a Nomads chapter, with a combined membership of 38 full patch members, two prospects, and six hangarounds. While the chapters and clubhouses are situated in Calgary, Edmonton, and Red Deer, the Hells Angels control a large portion of the drug distribution throughout Alberta. Street level dealers in many Alberta cities and towns are supplied cocaine, marihuana, and crystal methamphetamine (speed) by Hells Angels members or associates. Local dealers who attempt to sell product from other sources are routinely intimidated to change suppliers, pay some form of tax, or they are put out of business. Some of the marihuana grow operations



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taken down by police in Alberta were being tended by associates of the Hells Angels and information seems to indicate the product was destined for markets controlled by the Hells Angels.

In the past 12 – 18 months, several members and associates have been convicted of assaults, mischief, weapons, and drug offences, with sentences ranging from fines to six years in jail. Other members and associates are still before the courts on a variety of charges as a result of the conclusion of the Joint Forces Operation Project Shadow. The preliminary inquiry for the majority of the accused in this case is slated to commence this fall. Whether as a result of these court cases, or for other reasons, two Hells Angels are no longer members of the club.

There have been a number of recent occasions where Hells Angels members or close associates have been observed meeting with individuals of other known organized crime groups in Alberta. This would indicate that the Hells Angels have adopted networking as a business practice, consistent with other organized crime groups.

### Eastern European Crime:

Five East European based organized crime groups are known to be criminally active, to varying degrees, in several parts of Alberta. Drug trafficking, credit/debit card fraud, counterfeiting, fencing stolen property, auto-theft, extortion, and smuggling are illegal ventures that these groups are pursuing.

One group has been actively counterfeiting Canadian currency, and in one case approximately \$100,000 was produced for distribution in smaller communities in the province. Another investigation by the Edmonton Police Service recently resulted in a subject being charged for producing counterfeit passports and other false documents. Investigation revealed that members and associates of Eastern European organized crime groups were, at a minimum, customers of the accused, but more than likely were actively involved in the production of these documents.

Other subjects, who are members or associates of these groups, are known to have been seeking sources for a variety of precursor chemicals used in the production of crystal methamphetamine.

### Traditional Organized Crime:

There are two Italian based organized crime groups operating in Alberta who are involved in drug trafficking, loan sharking, stolen property rings, and laundering the illegal proceeds of crime. The principals in both of these groups own legitimate businesses in their communities and information points to these as being locales for the distribution of drugs, as well as pipelines for laundering the profits from criminal activities.



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### Jamaican Organized Crime:

Four identified Jamaican based organized crime groups are known to be criminally active within Alberta. Their prime activity is drug trafficking; however, some of the members have been involved in property offences and crimes of violence, including murder.

### Middle East Based Organized Crime:

Recent investigations completed by police have resulted in nine persons associated to Middle East based organized crime groups being charged with drug trafficking, possession of stolen property, weapons offences and conspiracy to commit. What is evident from these investigations is that these groups are most likely larger and more active than what was initially believed and their disregard for others makes them a threat to the communities in which they reside or operate.

### South Asian Based Organized Crime:

During 1999, violence between different groups in Edmonton resulted in drive-by shootings, mischief and even murders. Subsequent investigations have resulted in charges being laid for many of those offences, including two murders. While the activities of the two main groups have been disrupted because of these investigations, the underlying animosity remains.

### Drug Trafficking:

Cocaine, marihuana, and ecstasy continue to be the drugs of choice in Alberta and by all reports there is a growing market. The production and use of crystal methamphetamine appears to be on the rise. In the past this substance was basically the product of the Hells Angels, however, it now appears Eastern European, Jamaican, and South Asian based organized crime groups have also become occupied with the production and distribution of crystal meth.

Alberta is also seeing the proliferation of marihuana grow operations being operated or controlled by the Hells Angels and Asian based organized crime groups. The grows vary in sophistication and size, but all pose public safety issues. CISA has begun a research project that will analyze information from all grows taken down by Alberta police services. The goals of the project are to quantify the situation, to determine common denominators, to provide strategic indicators for investigators, and to develop community impact statements.



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### Illegal Movement and Smuggling of Firearms:

Investigations in various parts of Alberta during the past year have resulted in seizures of significant quantities of handguns, rifles, and ammunition. Among the weapons seized were a fully automatic AK47, a functional silencer, and three Tazers. Many of the weapons seized had the serial numbers drilled out.

As an anti-smuggling initiative, the Edmonton RCMP Customs & Excise Unit has reinstated the firearms tracing program. Seized weapons will be processed through this program in an effort to track their origin, which may provide leads for future investigations and seizures.

### Gaming:

The long-term Joint Forces Gaming Investigation Team, under the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission, is just completing human resource acquisition and will be commencing gaming investigations throughout Alberta in the near future.

The casinos in Alberta continue to be targets for persons circulating counterfeit currency. \$20.00 bills seem to be the bill of choice for counterfeiting now and they are commonly passed through the VLT's. Additionally there are known members or associates of organized crime who use the casinos to target gamblers for the purposes of loan sharking.

### Sexual Exploitation of Children:

Some experts suggest child pornography is so prolific in Canada that this country ranks third in the number of cases, next only to the United States and Russia. Some children's rights advocates say Canada is an attractive nesting ground for kiddie porn because penalties upon conviction are relatively light.

There is no known intelligence of any organized criminal activities involving child prostitution, sex tourism or organized paedophile Internet activity in Alberta at this time.

### Racism/Hate Activity:

While overt actions by groups have not been prevalent in the last while, information still indicates that the Aryan Resistance, White Power, Aryan Nations, and Aryan Brotherhood continue to be present in Alberta.

The Internet is used by some individuals to spread anti-Semitic literature, as noted through the site [www.patriotsonguard.org](http://www.patriotsonguard.org).



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### Subversive Activity:

Members, or known associates, of several groups promoting anti-government positions have been active in Alberta during the past six months. Groups such as “We The People” and “Puget’s Sound Agricultural Society Limited” continue to promote anti-government actions. One group provides documents to its “members” indicating they are covered under an Insurance Financial Responsibility Program for personal cars, trucks, and other vehicles, when in fact these documents are not valid.

A member of one of these groups refused to pay GST at a local restaurant that resulted in an arrest during which he resisted police. He was also charged later with cultivation of marihuana when 700 marihuana plants were found at his residence.

### Smuggling:

With increased security at airports, bus terminals, and train stations, it is possible there will be fewer attempts to import contraband at those points. The criminal element will not cease in their efforts, which means our road systems will be the main conduit for the next while.

The recent increase of taxes on tobacco products by many provincial governments may well lead to a renewed interest by organized crime groups to either steal truckloads of cigarettes or import illegal ones. There have been a number of large thefts of cigarettes in Alberta recently. There are also aboriginal groups, whose reserves span the Canada/USA border in Ontario and Quebec, manufacturing cigarettes and selling them for less than one-half the normal price.

### Threats and Intimidation:

CISA has begun capturing incidents of police, witnesses, prosecutors, jurors or judges being threatened or intimidated by one or more members of organized crime. Twenty-three historic and current occurrences involving threats to police, witnesses, and prosecutors have been investigated, documented, and entered into ACIIS II.

### Technological Crime:

The use of advanced technology to facilitate illegal criminal activities continues to increase. In Alberta, we have witnessed organized crime groups using the Internet and text messaging on digital phones to distribute narcotics.

Recently, security specialists have determined wireless devices like cell phones, pagers, and palm pilots worn into meetings or briefings may be a vehicle for the



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criminal element to intercept communications or keep track of the whereabouts of a certain individual.

### Terrorism:

During the Project Shock investigations subsequent to the September 11<sup>th</sup> tragedy, several individuals were identified as illegal entrants to Canada, and some of them possessed multiple sets of identification. While these individuals have not necessarily been connected to any terrorist groups, these investigations have illustrated that more needs to be done to ensure the security and safety of Alberta citizens, as well as critical government and private sector infrastructures.

CISA will be an integral component in the Alberta Counter-Terrorism Crisis Management Process. By enhancing our existing intelligence infrastructure, we will be in a position to provide analytical assessments to the Government and law enforcement on any potential threats.

### Identity Theft and Document Fraud:

Some of the private registry offices under the Alberta Registries umbrella continue to be compromised by individuals operating on behalf of different groups for the purpose of acquiring false or fraudulent documents.

Several new investigations have begun, by at least two Alberta police services, where false documents are being acquired and/or false documents being prepared and the recipients are persons associated to crime.

CISA continues to work with the Alberta Registries working committee examining ways that Alberta can reduce or eliminate these security concerns.

### **GOAL 3: Participate In Multi-Agency and Multi-Disciplinary Joint Forces Operational Enforcement Strategies For Targeting Organized And Serious Crime In Alberta Through The Prudent Allocation Of Resources.**

The secondment of many police personnel to G8 Security has had a definite impact on the number of joint forces operations undertaken. Only three projects concluded recently:

- A Joint Forces Operation led by the Calgary Police Service partnering with the Edmonton Police Service, RCMP, and the Organized Crime Agency of BC, recently concluded. Project Rush Hour targeted the illegal trafficking of cocaine by an Asian based organized group that was moving large quantities of cocaine from



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Vancouver to Calgary and Edmonton. Nineteen persons were arrested for a variety of drug charges and almost ten kilograms of cocaine were seized. Additionally, approximately \$100,000 in cash, four residences, and four vehicles have been restrained as the alleged illegal proceeds of crime.

- The Edmonton Police Service partnered with the Calgary Police Service to undertake an investigation into the alleged criminal activities of a South Asian based organization. Project Brandy concluded with the arrest of several individuals, who are before the courts on a variety of charges including murder, conspiracy, weapons, and drug offences.
- Project Show Me The Money was led by the Lethbridge Police Service and joined by the RCMP. This investigation pursued the illegal proceeds of crime resulting from known associates of the Hells Angels trafficking a considerable quantity of narcotics. Several residences and vehicles were restrained and subsequent to the accused being convicted, approximately \$150,000 has been forfeited to the Crown.

Three other long-term Joint Forces Operations continue. Two new Joint Forces Operations were recently reviewed, approved, and have just begun. These five operations are targeting several different organized crime groups who are involved in auto theft, drug trafficking, and marijuana grows.

Five post investigation debriefings have now been completed and the culmination of best practices and problem areas are being tabulated. A document is being prepared to identify operational strengths and weaknesses and it will be shared with all of the police services involved in Joint Forces Operations. The goal is to aid police services in developing new projects with the benefit of knowledge from previous cases.

### **GOAL 4: To Provide Professional Development For Alberta Law Enforcement Personnel In Order To Comprehend And Respond To The Criminal Activities Of Organized Crime Groups And Serious Criminal Predators.**

Training provided by CISA over the past six months has been greatly affected by the G8 Summit in Kananaskis. A large number of instructors and candidates, particularly from Calgary Police Service and the RCMP, were occupied by G8 related duties and this limited the number of courses offered by CISA. During the same period, Evidence and Reports III (E&R III) was upgraded to a new version and CISA has been working with the contractor to schedule training and software



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and hardware upgrades. E&R III training will resume in late September to coincide with the software upgrades.

In May 2002, 48 candidates from CISA regular, associate, and affiliate agencies attended a three-day Intelligence Course in Penhold. Candidates received presentations on a variety of organized crime subjects, ACIIS II, Informant Handling, Intelligence Collection, Analysis and Dissemination, and Sexual Exploitation of Children. The course also presented the opportunity for intelligence officers from over twenty agencies to meet and network each other.

Many of the courses offered by CISA deal directly with establishing standards across the province in training organized crime investigators. One example of this is the Drug Expert Witness Workshop that deals with standardizing courtroom evidence in drug investigations. CISA hosted a second workshop in September and 40 drug investigators from Alberta and an additional four from Saskatchewan attended. Candidates heard presentations on a number of related topics and participated in round table discussions on others.

CISA has worked with instructors from the Advanced Mobile Surveillance Course to assist in standardizing the methods and techniques that may cause difficulties in joint forces investigations across the province. Several issues have been resolved over the past year and a standardized lesson plan for the three-week course has been developed. The updated course will be delivered to 30 candidates in October.

Recently, amendments were made to the Criminal Code (Bill C-24) which allow police officers to have limited protection from criminal liability for certain otherwise illegal acts. In order for police officers to be designated they must receive a two-day training course that was designed by Justice Canada and the RCMP in Ottawa. CISA will be co-coordinating the training in Alberta with assistance from the RCMP, the Federal Department of Justice and the Provincial Departments of Justice and the Solicitor General. Tentative plans are for two, two-day courses, in Edmonton and Calgary that will train 120 police officers.

### **GOAL 5: To Provide Enhanced Use Of Technology To Combat The Evolution Of Technologically Based Organized Crime.**

As a result of budget limitations, CISA was unable to acquire the services of a full-time High Tech Crime Coordinator in the current Business Plan. Until that situation changes, CISA will rely on the limited high tech resources that the Calgary Police Service, Edmonton Police Service, and RCMP currently have in order to assist the police in this area of investigation.

CISA has contracted out the design and development of a website which will consist of two levels. The public domain will be accessible by anyone and will



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contain information concerning what CISA is, who the members are, what responsibilities the Bureau has, what impact organized crime has on Albertans, and some interest stories about organized crime. The private domain will be accessible by law enforcement agencies only and will contain officer safety items, training opportunities, and general organized crime information, to name a few. The public domain aspect of the website is nearing completion and should be going on-line in the near future, following which the private domain will be engineered.

### **GOAL 6: To Establish And Enhance Partnerships With All Stakeholders To Reduce And Control Organized Crime And To Be Accountable To All CISA Partners.**

CISA continues to pursue new partners in the fight against organized crime and terrorism. During the last business plan, our pursuit of new partners was directly related to combating organized crime. While those types of partnerships will continue to be pursued, CISA will also be examining potential partners to assist in meeting our terrorism mandate.

CISA has been asked to participate in the Alberta Counter-Terrorism Crisis Management Process. The full extent of the mandate and responsibilities are still evolving, but the intent is for CISA to be the collection, collation, and analysis center for all intelligence related to terrorism, and to prepare any subsequent threat assessments. The implementation phase has just begun and it is our intention to have the entire human, financial, and infrastructure resources in place later this fall. Two of our current partners, the RCMP and CSIS, will be supplying human resources on secondment to the Bureau, while the finances for other infrastructure requirements will have to come from within the current CISA budget.

During this reporting period, Camrose Police Service was approved as a Regular Member of CISA, as they assigned a full-time resource to the intelligence function. Camrose will also have a manager participate on the CISA Supervisory Committee.

The Insurance Bureau of Canada has applied for Affiliate membership and that application is proceeding at this time.

CISA has just concluded the best practices study, based on the information gleaned during operational debriefings from concluded projects. This document, and other supporting information, will be used as the foundation for the development of a new enforcement model for organized crime in the province. Research on various options is presently underway, with the expectation a proposal will be submitted this fall.



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**GOAL 7: To Develop A Communications Strategy That Assists In Delivering An Accurate Message Of The Scope And Impact Of Organized Crime In Our Communities And To Assist In The Building Of a Preventative Culture.**

The Research Analyst position in CISA was vacant until late August, and this has hindered the pursuit of this goal. However, one strategy, a public access website, is currently under development. The intent of this initiative is to provide the public with information on the impact of organized crime, ideas for prevention strategies, and information on the crime suppression activity of law enforcement and government. Further action will be initiated on this goal during the next six months.

**GOAL 8: To Facilitate And Manage The Proceeds Of Crime Law Enforcement Grant Program On Behalf Of The Ministry Of The Solicitor General.**

For the 2002 Proceeds Of Crime Law Enforcement Grant Program, CISA received eighteen applications for project funding totaling \$497,800. Following the review of those applications and subsequent recommendations to the CISA Executive, twelve initiatives in the amount of \$410,190 were approved, subject to the availability of funding.

In 2001, \$237,274.05 in proceeds of crime funds was unused or returned and was carried forward to 2002. Federal Seized Property Management Directorate provided \$98,892.50 in new funds to the Alberta Solicitor General in July 2002, for a total of \$336,166.55. Accordingly, nine initiatives amounting to \$335,740 have been approved and are underway. All of the approved applications are for operational issues and are either investigation specific or pursuing standardized practices for Alberta police services.

An interim progress report will be submitted to the Solicitor General in September, with a final report being provided in January 2003.



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### **CONCLUSION**

As CISA begins to pursue the goals of the second Organized and Serious Crime Business Plan, it is evident that the role of the Bureau continues to evolve in order to meet the needs of the citizens of Alberta, while supporting the many CISA partner agencies.

CISA will continue to work closely with law enforcement to develop long-term strategies to battle organized crime in Alberta. Additionally, CISA will be a strong partner in ensuring that the appropriate processes are in place to safeguard Alberta critical infrastructure entities against potential terrorist activities.

In conjunction with the foregoing responsibilities, CISA is also dedicated to developing a communication strategy that will inform the public about the social and economic impact that organized crime has on Albertans.