

PERSPECTIVES FROM THE INSIDE OUT

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Sheraton Hotel, Fort William Room

May 29, 2017 to May 31, 2017

Day 1 – Monday, May 29, 2017

7:00	Conference Registration & Breakfast for Delegates
8:30	Welcome – Ian McPhail, CACOLE President The Honorable Andrew Parsons, Minister of Justice and Public Safety, and William J. Janes, Chief of Police, Royal Newfoundland Constabulary
9:15	Perspectives in Crisis Management Moderator: Stan Lowe Panelists: Tony Keller Tom Stamatakis Anil K. Kapoor
10:45	Refreshment Break
11:00	Perspectives in Crisis Management – continued
12:30	Lunch provided by CACOLE
1:30	Diversity Moderator: Ian McPhail Panelists: Peter Sloy Brian Corr
3:00	Refreshment Break
3:15	Civilianization – What Is the Right Answer? Moderator: Zane Tessler Panelists: Ronald J. Macdonald Micheal Vonn
4:45	CACOLE Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers
5:30	Welcome Reception 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

SESSION INFORMATION – DAY 1

PERSPECTIVES IN CRISIS MANAGEMENT

9:15 AM – 10:45 AM

Moderator: Stan Lowe, Commissioner,
Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner, British Columbia

Panelists: Tony Keller,
The Globe and Mail

Tom Stamatakis,
Canadian Police Association and Vancouver Police Union

Anil K. Kapoor,
Kapoor Barristers

The frequency of Police encounters with people experiencing emotional or mental crisis presents a global societal challenge. In terms of police calls, a significant aspect of policing has become dealing with “emotionally disturbed individuals”. In response, policing has created specialized units and integrated teams to attempt to address the issue; however, some encounters between police and persons in emotional or mental crisis result in the use of lethal force. This panel focuses on four perspectives in the wake of a tragic incident, the advocate for the family of person in crisis, the police, the media and the oversight agency. Each panel member will provide their own unique perspective following a tragic incident and the journey through the process of civilian oversight.

PERSPECTIVES IN CRISIS MANAGEMENT – CONTINUED

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Moderator: Gerry McNeilly, Director,
Office of the Independent Police Review Director

Panelists: Tony Keller,
The Globe and Mail

Tom Stamatakis,
Canadian Police Association and Vancouver Police Union

Anil K. Kapoor,
Kapoor Barristers

The second session marks a return to the bear-pit session which will examine a number of contentious issues related to each of the four unique perspectives on the panel. Audience participation is welcomed and encouraged to ensure a lively examination of the issues.

SESSION INFORMATION – DAY 1 (CONT'D)

DIVERSITY

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Moderator: Ian McPhail, Q.C., Chairperson,
Civilian Review and Complaints Commission for the RCMP

Panelists: Peter Sloly, Executive Director
Deloitte
Brian Corr, President,
National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement

As the Canadian population becomes more diverse, racially, ethnically, socially, religiously, and culturally, so too do the challenges to our police services. The challenges to policing oversight and review bodies increase as well. Our panel will help us navigate through them.

CIVILIANIZATION – WHAT IS THE RIGHT ANSWER?

3:15 PM - 4:45 PM

Moderator: Zane Tessler, Director,
Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba

Panelists: Ronald J. Macdonald, Q.C., Director,
Nova Scotia Serious Incident Response Team
Micheal Vonn, Policy Director,
British Columbia Civil Liberties Association

CACOLE's member organizations exist because the civilian oversight of police is an important and integral feature of our criminal justice system. The Canadian public now generally favours that the criminal investigation of serious matters be left to independent civilian bodies, and also requires the resolution of conduct complaints be overseen by a civilian organization. But these generally accepted principles do not answer a crucial question: should these organizations consist only of civilians, or can they include former or current police? Does having more civilians help the organization, or is it the other way around? How is the complex world of police investigation and use of force understood by a civilian? If we have former police on the team, how can we assure the public that an independent view is still given to each case? These, and many other questions, will be thoroughly discussed by the panelists in a debate format. Participation from the audience will be encouraged.

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Day 2 – Tuesday, May 30, 2017

7:30	Breakfast for Delegates
9:00	Ethics Moderator: John Clarke Panelists: Brent Cotter Robert Seymour Wright
10:45	Refreshment Break
11:00	Training in Civilian Oversight Agencies Moderator: Zane Tessler Panelists: Salman Azam Margaret Corion
12:45	Lunch provided by CACOLE
2:00	Transparency in Disciplinary & SIU Processes: Ensuring Openness While Respecting Privacy Moderator: David Loukidelis Donovan F. Molloy Panelists: Susan D. Hughson Catherine Tully
3:00	Refreshment Break
3:15	Public Interest and Public Engagement through Social Media: What, How and Whether Moderator: Ronald J. MacDonald Panelists: Theresa Rath Rosemary Parker Salman Azam
4:45	Group Photo
6:00	Board of Directors and Delegate Dinner Mitchell Lewis Award Presentation Entertainment by the Ennis Sisters

SESSION INFORMATION – DAY 2

ETHICS

9:00 AM - 10:45 AM

Moderator: John Clarke, Executive Director,
Saskatchewan Public Complaints Commission

Panelists: Brent Cotter, Chair,
Saskatchewan Public Complaints Commission
Robert Seymour Wright,
M.S.W., R.S.W.

A central aspect of professional ethics is the duty to be competent in one's field. One aspect of competency, highly relevant to our work and shared by professional police officers and members of civilian oversight bodies, is the duty to be 'culturally competent'. This panel will look at the nature of 'cultural competency' in the context of policing and civilian oversight of policing, focusing on the importance of this aspect of professional competence, the potential consequences of a failure of cultural competence and ways in which professionals in these two areas of public service become, or can become, culturally competent.

TRAINING IN CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT AGENCIES

11:00 AM - 12:45 PM

Moderator: Zane Tessler, Executive Director,
Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba

Panelists: Salman Azam, Chief Administrative Officer,
Independent Investigations Office of BC
Margaret Corion, Mediator

Police oversight in Canada is an emerging and developing field. With an increasing number of civilians entering the field, oversight training is playing a critical role in professionalizing the field and setting standards for how oversight should be practiced. This panel will share trends, practices, initiatives and programs in place and that are being developed to enhance, standardize and professionalize the practice of police oversight in Canada. The panel will also share some of the common challenges and the state of current training programs in their respective jurisdictions.

SESSION INFORMATION – DAY 2 (CONT'D)

TRANSPARENCY IN DISCIPLINARY & SIU PROCESSES: ENSURING OPENNESS WHILE RESPECTING PRIVACY

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Moderator: David Loukidelis, Q.C., Chair,
Law Enforcement Review Board
Donovan F. Molloy, Q.C.,
Information and Privacy Commissioner of Newfoundland and Labrador

Panelists: Susan D. Hughson, Q.C., Executive Director,
Alberta Serious Incident Response Team
Catherine Tully,
Information and Privacy Commissioner for Nova Scotia

There is a public interest in the openness and transparency of police disciplinary proceedings. Knowing who has been disciplined, and why, are important considerations, consistent with the open courts principle in Canada. At the same time, police officers, complainants and witnesses retain important privacy rights even in this context. This session will examine important issues around the openness of disciplinary hearings and proceedings, and how to properly balance privacy interests in the bargain. We will discuss questions of public attendance at disciplinary hearings, post-hearing access to transcripts of testimony and exhibits, through the open court principle. Practical solutions to ease the burden on disciplinary authorities and oversight bodies will be at the forefront. Disciplinary authorities must balance openness through freedom of information with appropriate privacy considerations. Join this panel of experts in freedom of information, privacy and police discipline as they grapple with the tension between openness and privacy for all involved.

PUBLIC INTEREST AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA: WHAT, HOW AND WHETHER

3:15 PM - 4:45 PM

Moderator: Ronald J. MacDonald, Q.C., Director,
Nova Scotia Serious Incident Response Team

Panelists: Theresa Rath, Communications,
Halifax Regional Police
Rosemary Parker, Manager, Communications and Outreach,
Office Of Independent Police Review Director
Salman Azam, Chief Administrative Officer,
Independent Investigations Office of BC

A fundamental aspect of any police oversight agency is their mandate to act in the public interest. This includes a need to effectively communicate with the public during investigations, when disseminating decisions, and to conduct general outreach. This panel will explore whether social media might offer innovative ways of public engagement, including the variety of platforms available, how to use them, and whether they should be used at all in certain circumstances.

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Day 3 – Wednesday, May 31, 2017

7:30	Breakfast for Delegates
9:00	Keynote Speaker: Justice Michael H. Tulloch
9:45	Refreshment Break
10:00	Social Media: Do You Really Want to Do That? Moderator: Salman Azam Ronald J. MacDonald Panelists: Theresa Rath Rosemary Parker
11:30	Concluding Remarks from Ian McPhail 2018 CACOLE Conference Announcement

SESSION INFORMATION – DAY 3

SOCIAL MEDIA: DO YOU REALLY WANT TO DO THAT?

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Moderator: Salman Azam, Chief Administrative Officer,
Independent Investigations Office of BC

Panelists: Ronald J. MacDonald, Q.C., Director,
Nova Scotia Serious Incident Response Team

Theresa Rath, Communications,
Halifax Regional Police

Rosemary Parker, Manager, Communications and Outreach,
Office Of Independent Police Review Director

Social media offers ways for oversight agencies to communicate with the public. It also offers ways for the public to communicate with the agency, and with other members of the public, about the agency and its actions and decisions.

This Panel will review specific situations that might arise, and suggest possible approaches in each, including what response if any might be needed for specific types of public comment. This topic will encourage input from conference participants and include polling of opinions.