

# Developments in First Nations Policing Governance

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## *First Nation Policing Policy (FNPP)*

- ❖ The FNPP was developed in 1991 with the key goal of providing culturally- responsive, professional, on-site policing for First Nations communities.
- ❖ The FNPP has grown to over 130 tripartite agreements serving more than 300 First Nation communities across the country (over 60%).
- ❖ First Nations police services are achieving great success in building the foundation for secure and stable communities with enhanced social and economic development.





## *FNPP- Two models of policing*

Under the FNPP there are two models of policing

- ❖ Self Administered Police Service:
  - First Nations community is the employer.
  - Police Governing Authority (e.g., Police Commission) may have responsibilities for various oversight capacities(e.g. budget, policies and procedures), may preside over final stage of disciplinary procedures, and must consult with community regarding priorities for policing.
  
- ❖ RCMP Community Tripartite Agreement (CTA)
  - RCMP is the employer.
  - Designated units with Aboriginal RCMP members.
  - Establishes a Community Consultative Group, which plays a different role from that of a Police Commission.
  - Key function is to provide forum for community- police service dialogue on policing priorities and concerns.



## Responsibility for First Nations Policing

- ❖ The Provinces have jurisdictional responsibility for all policing within their territories, including First Nation communities
- ❖ Police services can be provided to varying degrees by provincial police services, First Nations police services, and community or Band constables
- ❖ The federal interest in First Nations communities is expressed through cost-shared funding for policing funded under the First Nations Policing Policy (FNPP), and, in part, by support for developments in enhancing governance and accountability.



## Provincial Variations in First Nations Policing

- ❖ While there are minor variations in each province, by and large the distribution of the two FNPP policing models is as follows:
  - British Columbia, Saskatchewan and the Atlantic Provinces have opted primarily for the RCMP-FNCPS (CTA) model; while
  - Ontario and Quebec have opted for the self-administered model; and
  - Alberta and Manitoba have a balance of both models.
  - There are no First Nations police services in the Territories, other than one CTA in Yukon.





## *Variations in FN Police Governance Across the Country*

- ❖ Different models of policing result in different models for Police Governing Authorities (PGAs) across the country:
  - ✓ The RCMP-FNCPS (CTA) agreements utilize Community Consultative Groups or Police Management Boards, with limited oversight responsibilities, e.g., identifying priorities and ensuring communication with police detachments
  - ✓ Self-Administered agreements utilize Public Security Committees in Quebec and Police Commissions in Ontario and Alberta. The latter have greater oversight responsibility for human and financial resources.
  
- ❖ There are several tripartite initiatives underway to assist First Nations in identifying desirable and feasible PGA roles and responsibilities; and we are also working on various approaches to training and capacity-development to assist in supporting and strengthening PGA's.



# Self-Administered First Nations Police Governance Authorities

- ❖ The First Nations Police Governance Authority (FNPGA) Steering Committee was established in June 2002, in response to demands for better access to training, and sharing of best practices
- ❖ In just over three years, the Steering Committee has developed the expertise and infrastructure to deliver both large information-sharing conferences and hands-on training workshops.
- ❖ In addition to the national workshops, and in response to specific challenges being faced, the FNPGA Steering Committee has developed targeted regional workshops in Alberta and Ontario.





## *First Nations Police Governing Authority (FNPGA) Steering Committee*

- ❖ National conferences and workshops (Ottawa, Calgary, Toronto, Quebec City, and Victoria) have focused on the clarification of roles and responsibilities; the delivery of human resource and financial management training modules; and the development of Codes of Conduct.
- ❖ In addition to these items, the targeted regional workshops have focused on the development of policies and procedures, including the need to ensure the accountability and political independence of the police service.





# Community Consultative Groups and Police Management Boards

- ❖ RCMP-delivered First Nations Community Police Services (FNCPS) have a different oversight structure
- ❖ The RCMP is the employer, and the on-site FNCPS detachments utilize RCMP human resource and financial management practices, including the handling of complaints
- ❖ The primary role of Community Consultative Groups (CCGs) and Police Management Boards (PMBs) is to ensure that community priorities have been identified and serve as the basis for an ongoing dialogue with the police



## New Developments with Community Consultative Groups – British Columbia

- ❖ An initiative underway in British Columbia is designed to improve the delivery of services, enhance the capacity of Community Consultative Groups, and ensure accountability for the level and quality of service
- ❖ Both governments and the First Nations in BC believe that the CCGs have an important role to play in enhancing the effectiveness of First Nations policing, and in serving as the basis for greater integration of public safety with other programs at the community level that foster social and economic development



## Police Management Boards - Saskatchewan

- ❖ In Saskatchewan, a long-standing partnership between the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN), the Province and Canada is evolving, with the goal of enhancing local community (Police Management Board) capacity
- ❖ A key objective of this initiative is to assist the PMB in ensuring that the police service meets local community needs and that progress is made on achieving community priorities