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MALIGALIQUIYIKKUT  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
MINISTÈRE DE LA JUSTICE



## **Nunavut Minister of Justice – Nunavut RCMP Commanding Officer**

### **Shared Directional Statement 2016-2018**

This Shared Directional Statement is a reflection of the recognition from both parties that policing in Nunavut is as unique as the Territory itself.

The Government of Nunavut (GN) and the Government of Canada (GC) are parties to a 20 year contract to provide stable and effective policing in Nunavut by utilizing the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) as the Territorial Police Service. This contract is indicative of the partnership and commitment of Nunavut and Canada to work together to provide Nunavummiut with police services that are delivered in an efficient, effective, and culturally considerate manner.

Building on the priorities identified by Nunavummiut, the GN and RCMP will work to foster the further development of healthy communities with a focus on public safety through communication, crime reduction, crime prevention, community engagement and enforcement. The GN and the RCMP both recognize that all Nunavummiut deserve safe and healthy communities secured by a first class police service.

The policing goals shared by the GN and RCMP will be accomplished through shared priorities which will enhance the health and welfare of communities in Nunavut and ensure that the RCMP continues to strive to be the organization of excellence and accountability that clients and stakeholders have come to expect.

These shared priorities are:

- I) Communication;
- II) Communities at Risk; and,
- III) Crime Reduction / Prevention.

#### **Communication**

The RCMP will continue to build and foster relationships and partnerships through effective communication.

The GN and RCMP acknowledge the importance of police being able to communicate with Inuit in their language, for both public and officer safety.

To ensure effective communication, the GN and RCMP will work to improve the use of Inuktitut within the force, will work to encourage recruitment of Inuit officers, and will make efforts to ensure non-Inuit officers understand, and are sensitive to, Inuit culture and realities.

In addition, the GN and RCMP will work to provide signage, services, and correspondence to Nunavummiut in the Inuit languages.

Furthermore, the GN and RCMP will continue to support training and recruitment programs such as:

- (i) School programs;
- (ii) RCMP youth mentorship;
- (iii) The RCMP summer student program;
- (iv) The community constable program;
- (v) The development and implementation of an orientation program for RCMP employees new to Nunavut; and
- (vi) The development and implementation of language training for non-Inuktitut speaking officers

The GN and RCMP agree that allegations of police misconduct must be taken seriously and acted upon. For this reason, the RCMP has in place a comprehensive and independent review structure to address all allegations of police misconduct. We will work to ensure that the public is aware of the steps they should take should they have any concerns regarding police misconduct in Nunavut.

The GN and RCMP agree communication between and with the community are necessary in fostering a partnership between Nunavummiut and their police force. For this reason, mutual engagement by the RCMP with Hamlet councils and community members, as well as public education and community based partnerships, will be supported and sustained.

### **Communities at Risk**

#### *Youth*

Young people are the future of Nunavut; Nunavut has the youngest and one of the fastest growing populations in Canada. However, youth who lack supervision or motivation can turn to criminal activity resulting in increased demands for police services. Therefore the GN and RCMP agree that focusing on prevention and early intervention initiatives geared towards youth is essential.

In an effort to support young people at risk, the GN and RCMP will collaborate to find ways to prevent youth crime and address the challenges of young offenders.

The GN and RCMP agree that they must work together with partners and stakeholders including: hamlet councils, community justice committees, the courts, the public prosecution service, health services, defence representatives, and others to develop proactive solutions to the root causes of youth criminal activity and effectively deal with the consequences of youth crime.

The RCMP will also continue to focus efforts on preventing the importation and use of illegal drugs and alcohol which can cause our young people to go down the wrong path.

#### *Suicide Prevention*

Suicide remains a barrier to the success of Nunavut. The development and implementation of the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy recognizes this barrier.

In focusing on suicide prevention, the RCMP will continue interagency partnerships focused on identifying and resolving issues that lead to suicide. The RCMP will continue as an active member of the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Implementation Committee.

As a key partner on the Nunavut Suicide Prevention Strategy Implementation Committee, the RCMP will implement police related action items in support of the overall Strategy.

The RCMP will also continue its strong support for Mental Health First Aid training program and will provide such training to ensure officers are prepared to deal with emergency situations involving suicide.

#### *Family Violence (Elder, Spousal and Child Abuse)*

The GN and RCMP recognize that family violence has a devastating effect on Nunavut families and that work must be done to help victims and address the circumstances that lead to violence in the home.

The RCMP will continue to work in collaborative partnerships with agencies committed to reducing family violence in Nunavut. The RCMP commits to fully investigating all incidents of family violence.

Where circumstances permit, the RCMP will consider the use of community agencies and/or elders in an advisory role to offer holistic healing to the suspect, victim, and witnesses.

The GN commits to continued funding for community based counselling and community justice programming.

The GN, RCMP, and their staff will remain committed to reducing family violence by ensuring the *Family Abuse Intervention Act* is leveraged to its full potential and will explore ways to improve the implementation of the *Act* to ensure it is being used effectively.

The GN will fund a domestic violence coordinator position to work collaboratively with the RCMP.

**Crime Reduction / Prevention**

The GN and RCMP will develop further strategies to implement the Liquor Act Review recommendations where appropriate, which will enhance targeted enforcement of prolific offenders of this statute.

With multi agency partnerships, a firearms safety and education program will be implemented to focus on enhancing public safety and community wellness. Partners and stakeholders will include the GN, RCMP, federal agencies, hamlet councils, Hunters and Trappers Organizations, community justice committees and other stakeholders.

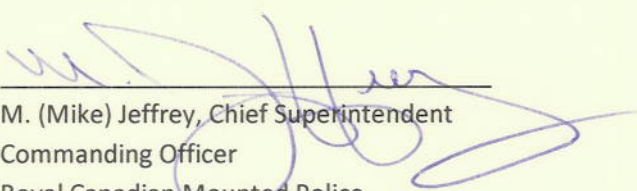
The GN and the RCMP commit to seek resources to address the related social and economic impacts of increased mining operations.

**Summary**


The Minister of Justice for Nunavut and the Commanding Officer for RCMP "V" Division (Nunavut) recognize the continued commitment and dedication that RCMP employees bring to the Territory.

The model of policing provided to Nunavut remains grounded in service delivery that strives for excellence. That standard of service to Nunavummiut is realized through the application of the RCMP's core values of accountability, respect, professionalism, honesty, compassion and integrity.

The maintenance and fostering of collaborative working relationships with all our communities, focused on enhancing public safety and community wellness, will result in the continued development of safe homes and safe communities leading to a safe and secure Nunavut.

  
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M. (Mike) Jeffrey, Chief Superintendent  
Commanding Officer  
Royal Canadian Mounted Police  
"V" Division (Nunavut)

2016-10-20  
October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016

  
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Keith Peterson  
Minister of Justice  
Government of Nunavut

October 20, 2016  
October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016