

FOR RELEASE
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Minister of Justice sets Yukon policing priorities for 2017–18

Yukon's policing priorities have been set for 2017–18 as Minister of Justice Tracy-Anne McPhee has communicated six priorities, each with its own objectives, to RCMP "M" Division leadership.

Yukon's policing priorities are set each year by the Minister of Justice. They are drawn from recommendations given by the Yukon Police Council, as well as information and analysis provided by the Government of Yukon's Department of Justice.

Quotes

"I am grateful for the advice from the Yukon Police Council in setting this year's police priorities, which reflect our government's balanced approach to justice. While all the priorities are important, I have asked the RCMP to emphasize continued training for RCMP members in sexualized assault and domestic violence investigations, while working with community partners to ensure investigations are conducted with skill, expertise and compassion."

–Minister of Justice Tracy-Anne McPhee

"The annual policing priorities play an important role in the RCMP's planning process. The RCMP, in collaboration with our community partners, will continue to provide an accessible police service to meet the needs of all Yukoners across a number of important areas, with greater emphasis on crimes impacting vulnerable members of the communities."

–Commanding Officer Chief Superintendent Scott Sheppard, Yukon RCMP

Quick facts

The 2017–18 territorial policing priorities are as follows:

- Enhance prevention, investigation and enforcement activities related to violence against women.
- Proactively respond to emerging public safety issues and trends in criminal activity.
- Contribute to and improve the community response to vulnerable populations.
- Connect with and support children and youth including those at risk.
- Foster strong relationships with First Nations, communities and partner agencies.
- Improve traffic safety and compliance with safe driving measures.

Learn more: Department of Justice

See backgrounder for complete 2017–18 policing priorities.

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Backgrounder: Yukon's 2017–18 Policing Priorities

Priority: Enhance prevention, investigation and enforcement activities related to violence against women

- Unsolved cases of missing or murdered Indigenous women and girls continue to be actively investigated.
- RCMP continue to train members to ensure a compassionate and appropriate response to sexualized assault and domestic violence and this training is relevant to Yukon and to the highest standard possible.
- Specialized Response Unit continues to support, provide advice and lead investigations into cases of intimate partner violence and sexualized assault and coordination with other agencies remains strong.

Priority: Proactively respond to emerging public safety issues and trends in criminal activity

- Drug investigations and enforcement are focused at all levels of the drug trade.
- Continue to focus on enhancing the response to, and investigations of, violent crimes in the territory connected with the drug trade and criminal groups.
- Respond to emerging crime trends such as increased property crime through proactive and intelligence-led policing.

Priority: Contribute to improve the community response to vulnerable populations

- Police are active partners in efforts to coordinate responses for vulnerable populations with the view of prevention and harm reduction.
- Front line officers' ability to effectively interact with vulnerable persons is improved through appropriate training.

Priority: Connect with and support children and youth including those at risk

- Continue to build trust and connections with youth through collaborative efforts with other service providers.
- RCMP are partners in inter-agency efforts to prevent sexualized assault and exploitation of children and youth.
- RCMP continues to build their knowledge of, and access to, the technology required to fully investigate cyber bullying and online exploitation of children and youth.

Priority: Foster strong relationships with First Nations, communities and partner agencies

- Lines of communication between First Nations, communities and the Yukon RCMP continue to be strengthened at all levels. Constructive dialogue and relationship building remains a priority of all detachments and RCMP members are visible and accessible to the public.
- Local orientation of new police officers is consistently carried out in close coordination with First Nations, community leaders, non-governmental agencies and other stakeholders.
- Efforts are made to recruit police officers who are a good fit for each community.

Priority: Improve traffic safety and compliance with safe driving measures

- Road safety is supported through enforcement measures around school buses and school zones and of traffic-related vehicle infractions such as speeding, aggressive and distracted driving, failing to stop and impaired driving.
- Intensive public information efforts are coordinated with partner agencies and aimed at educating the public and reducing the incidence of impaired driving.
- RCMP continue to work closely with the local authorities, communities and the Government of Yukon on communications and public education efforts that focus on improving traffic safety.

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