



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon Police Council seeks public input on policing priorities

The Yukon Police Council is seeking input from Yukon citizens and stakeholders on policing priorities and emerging issues in the territory.

Yukoners are asked to provide feedback on policing and public safety issues; areas of policing that require special focus; and how they would like to see policing delivered in Yukon.

In February, the Yukon Police Council will provide written recommendations to Minister of Justice Tracy-Anne McPhee that will be used to communicate territorial policing priorities to Yukon RCMP for 2017-18.

Submissions will be accepted until January 30th, 2017, by emailing yukonpolicecouncil@gov.yk.ca or by mailing comments to:

Yukon Police Council Secretariat
Box 2703 (J-10)
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 2C6

Quotes

"The work of our unique Yukon Police Council hinges on its ability to gain feedback from Yukon citizens and community groups. We can all take responsibility for the safety of our communities by remaining vigilant and speaking up when public safety matters arise. The Yukon Police Council is an effective means of ensuring that Yukon RCMP can focus its attention on policing matters of greatest concern to Yukoners."

–Minister of Justice Tracy-Anne McPhee

"As the new Commanding Officer of M Division, I'm looking forward to working with our partners to advance and enhance the work that has been done over the past several years. With the valued input of Yukoners, I'm confident that we can focus our efforts and resources to address important concerns in our communities. By working together, we can build an even better and safer Yukon."

–Commanding Officer Chief Superintendent Scott Sheppard, Yukon RCMP

Quick facts

- The establishment of the Yukon Police Council was a key recommendation from Sharing Common Ground: Review of Yukon's Police Force in 2010.

Learn more:

Yukon Police Council

See backgrounder for the current territorial policing priorities.

Contact:

Sunny Patch
Cabinet Communications
867-393-7478
sunny.patch@gov.yk.ca

Tyler Plaunt
Communications, Justice
867-667-3221
tyler.plaunt@gov.yk.ca

Backgrounder

2016-17 Yukon policing priorities

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

- Specialized Response Unit continues to support, provide advice and lead investigations into cases of intimate partner violence and sexualized assault.
- Coordination with other agencies in response to sexualized violence is strong.
- Unsolved cases of missing or murdered Indigenous women continue to be actively investigated.
- Continue to support efforts to strengthen coordination and relationships with the women's community through initiatives such as the Together for Safety and Together for Justice protocols and promote these nationally as a best practice.

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.
- Efforts to address drug trafficking and bootlegging are supported through partnerships with other agencies such as Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN) and Yukon Liquor Corporation (YLC). 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, including individuals with mental health issues.
- Front line officers' ability to effectively interact with vulnerable persons is improved through appropriate training.

Priority: connect and support children and youth including those at risk

- Opportunities to build trust and connections with youth are identified and pursued.
- RCMP are partners in inter-agency efforts to prevent sexualized assault and exploitation of children and youth.
- RCMP continues to build their knowledge and capabilities to fully investigate cyber bullying and online exploitation of children and youth.

Priority: foster strong relationships with First Nations and partner agencies

- The Yukon RCMP are visible and accessible to the public.
- Establish and maintain strong relationships with community leaders across Yukon.
- Lines of communication with Yukon RCMP continue to be fostered at the local and divisional level and contact with community leaders and citizens is a priority for all detachments.
- Local orientation of new police officers is consistently carried out and involves close coordination with First Nations, community leaders, NGOs and other stakeholders.
- Efforts are made to recruit police officers who are a good fit for each individual community.

Priority: improve traffic safety and compliance with safe driving measures

- Intensive public information efforts are supported with partner agencies and aimed at educating the public and reducing the incidence of impaired driving.
- Road safety is supported through enforcement of traffic related vehicle infractions, especially infractions which create a high risk to other people on the road including motorists, children, pedestrians and cyclists.
- Increased focus on improving safety and reducing accidents at higher-risk areas such as school zones, busy intersections and narrow bridges.

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