



RESOLUTION 2020-02

Resolution for the Urgent Replacement of the Automated Criminal Intelligence Information System (ACIIS) for Law Enforcement in Canada

WHEREAS Ontario's law enforcement community works together every day to combat increasingly complex criminal threats to public safety, including money laundering and financial crimes, the inter-jurisdictional flow of illicit drugs, traffic victims, cyber information, as well as guns and gang activity, and;

WHEREAS the efficient sharing of criminal information and intelligence is critical for effective and efficient law enforcement and enhanced public safety, particularly in light that half of the assessed organized crime groups in Canada operate in Ontario, and;

WHEREAS Criminal Intelligence Service Ontario (CISO) was established in 1966 to address the growing threat from serious and organized crime. CISO is a federation of over 100 federal, provincial, First Nations and municipal police, federal department and provincial ministries, and non-profit, non-government organizations. CISO has a Provincial Bureau with facilities and infrastructure to enable for the collection, analysis and dissemination of criminal intelligence, and the delivery of shared, centralized investigative supports to policing and the broader law enforcement community. CISO is the oldest of the bureau which compose Criminal Intelligence Service Canada (CISC), and;

WHEREAS CISC is an inter-agency organization that produces, coordinates and shares criminal intelligence among its law enforcement member agencies. The CISC has a central bureau in Ottawa that is co-located with the RCMP and a bureau in each province offering services to over 400 member agencies across Canada, and;

WHEREAS since 2000, CISO and its members have solely relied on the Automated Criminal Intelligence Information System (ACIIS) to assist in the production and sharing of intelligence assessments, which contributes to operational decision making, priority setting and targeted enforcement activities. As Canada's only national serious and organized crime information and intelligence databank, law enforcement agencies use ACIIS daily, with Ontario consistently being the largest contributor, and;

WHEREAS introduced over 40 years ago, ACIIS is showing its age and is no longer an effective platform for the collection, analysis and sharing of large volumes of information that is generated by today's law enforcement community. ACIIS was not designed to handle the information and intelligence requirements of law enforcement and its ever-expanding 21st century data collection and processing needs, and;

WHEREAS as technology issues and information silos grow, Canada's law enforcement agencies will be significantly hampered in its ability to input, obtain, analyze and share modern criminal intelligence, thus leading to an overall lack of criminal intelligence and collaboration across Canadian law enforcement. There is also a significant risk that ACIIS may be rendered unusable by future law enforcement computing upgrades, and;

WHEREAS CISC's National Executive Committee (NEC) provides CISC with its strategic leadership and is comprised of 25 ex-officio members who are leaders from Canada's law enforcement community at the municipal, provincial and federal levels. CISC's NEC, of which CISO agencies hold a seat, has recognized the critical and urgent need to replace ACIIS and has tasked CISC to identify a replacement. Upgrading ACIIS is not viable as it is no longer supported by the vendor and has no additional program development capability, including interoperating with modern technology such as videos and the automatic uploading of intelligence data, and;

WHEREAS ACIIS has been fully funded by the RCMP since its introduction. Although CISC is currently considering available replacement options, there is currently no approved funding mechanism for this initiative. Without urgent funding for an ACIIS replacement, Canada's law enforcement agencies will continue to be hampered in their ability to input, obtain, analyze and share 21st century criminal intelligence and Canadians will not benefit from improved public safety provided by more fulsome law enforcement collaboration, and;

WHEREAS police services at the municipal, provincial and national levels require a modernized system in order to effectively combat the evolving threats posed by serious and organized crime in Canada. Ensuring that Canadian police are provided the tools to enable efficient sharing and analyzing information is key to the integration of joint investigations; supports operational decision making to ensure finite resources are focused appropriately; and significantly impacts both police and public safety.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police urges the Federal, Provincial, and Territorial (FPT) Ministers responsible for Justice and Public Safety to support the urgent replacement of ACIIS as a top public safety priority. Without such a replacement, Ontario's law enforcement community and Ontarians will continue to not fully realize the full public safety benefits of a modern, robust criminal intelligence platform, supporting strategic, evidence-based decision-making.