



NEWS RELEASE

Criminal Intelligence Service Canada releases report on organized crime

August 22, 2008

MONTREAL - Criminal Intelligence Service Canada's *2008 Report on Organized Crime* was released today at a news conference in Montreal. CISC National Executive Committee Chair, William Elliott (RCMP) presented the report, along with CISC Vice-Chair Richard Deschesnes (Sûreté du Québec), Yvan Delorme (Service de police de la Ville de Montréal), and the President of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, Steven Chabot (Sûreté du Québec).

Aimed at raising public awareness about the various threats posed by organized crime, the report provides a national overview of common techniques and methods used by criminal groups, as well as the criminal markets where they are most active.

Such methods include violence and intimidation, money laundering and the exploitation of individuals with specialized skills. The report also highlights global trends that may impact Canada, including illicit disposal of electronic waste, organ trafficking, exploitation of natural resources and the use of electronic money to facilitate crime.

"The Report on Organized Crime is a means for CISC to educate the public about this issue, including some of its less visible or obvious aspects," said RCMP Commissioner Elliott. "It also provides information about how to recognize criminal activity, such as identity theft and identity fraud, that can help individuals prevent themselves from being victimized."

The feature focus section on identity theft and identity fraud provides information on common techniques used by criminals to illegally obtain personal information, and some of the ways they use the stolen information for criminal purposes. In addition, the section includes tips on how to recognize when one's identity has been compromised, as well as how to minimize the risk of becoming a victim.

CISC Vice-chair Richard Deschesnes says the report serves as a public resource, in part by helping people better understanding how organized crime operates. "However, it is also important for the public to be diligent in safeguarding their personal and financial information, and to report suspicious activity to law enforcement and other government or commercial authorities."

CISC Director General Donald Dixon also comments that in today's criminal environment, the

need for effective coordination among law enforcement agencies is more essential than ever. “Organized crime often operates in a border-less environment, and across multiple jurisdictions. CISC’s role of facilitating the collection and exchange of criminal intelligence within our membership is essential in helping to diminish the harm caused to Canadians.”

About Criminal Intelligence Service Canada

CISC is a strategically-focused organization that facilitates the timely production and exchange of criminal information and intelligence within the Canadian law enforcement community. CISC supports the effort to reduce the harm caused by organized crime through the delivery of strategic intelligence products and services and by providing leadership and expertise to the criminal intelligence community. CISC’s nearly 400 members include police agencies from the federal, provincial, regional and municipal levels as well as various law enforcement, intelligence and regulatory agencies. With 10 Provincial Bureaus and a Central Bureau in Ottawa, this membership represents a truly national criminal intelligence network.

The *CISC 2008 Report on Organized Crime* is available at www.cisc.gc.ca.

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General inquiries about criminal activities in specific provinces or regions may also be directed to the nearest Provincial Bureau at the coordinates on the attached list.

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