



## NEWS RELEASE

### **Criminal Intelligence Service Canada releases 2010 Report on Organized Crime**

**EDMONTON, August 20, 2010** — Senior law enforcement officials from Criminal Intelligence Service Canada (CISC) gathered in Edmonton today to present the *2010 Report on Organized Crime*. CISC National Executive Committee (NEC) Chair, William J.S. Elliott (Commissioner, RCMP) presented the report, accompanied by CISC NEC Vice-Chair Richard Deschesnes (Director General, Sûreté du Québec), and other members of CISC.

Marking its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the *Report on Organized Crime* is released each year to provide the public with a national overview of criminal markets in Canada. Public awareness is essential as organized crime is constantly evolving to gain advantage in the criminal marketplace. From the more visible forms of organized crime, such as street gangs, to the more veiled threats posed by financial crimes, the 2010 Report highlights developments, general trends and provides the background on which criminal organizations operate.

“Criminal groups are constantly adapting to exploit new opportunities for illicit profit and take advantage of communication and transportation technologies that increase the scope and range of their unlawful activities,” said Commissioner William Elliott. “Too many Canadians are subjected to the damaging effects of criminal activity – ranging from the thousands of investors in Canada who have lost their retirement savings, to communities across Canada who struggle with the threat and harm posed by street gangs.”

The CISC 2010 Report examines Canada’s most prominent criminal markets including illicit drugs and financial crimes such as securities fraud, which is this year’s Feature Focus. “The objective of many criminal groups involved in high-yield, low risk investment schemes is to take every reasonable measure to appear legitimate and to offer attractive prospects. Once this is accomplished, there is the potential for the savings of many Canadians to be irreversibly compromised,” said Chief Mike Boyd of Edmonton Police Service and member of CISC’s National Executive Committee. “Market manipulation and investment schemes require

specialized skills and knowledge of the financial environment,” he added and referred to the varied Ponzi scheme cases in Canada that are cited in the 2010 report.

Because it is not always possible to know what is happening in different neighbourhoods in every community, the public also has a vital role in reporting suspicious activity. “Criminal intelligence is built on the information that is shared between law enforcement communities but also from information provided by the communities that we serve,” said CISC Vice-chair Richard Deschesnes. “We all have a role in keeping our communities safe and that includes promoting awareness and being alert to how organized crime is evolving.”

For more information on organized crime in Canada, the *CISC 2010 Report on Organized Crime* is available at [www.cisc.gc.ca](http://www.cisc.gc.ca).

### **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’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 that promotes integrated, intelligence-led policing in Canada.

**Contacts:** RCMP Media Relations, Edmonton. (780) 412-5260. General inquiries about criminal activities in specific provinces or regions may also be directed to the appropriate Provincial Bureau at the coordinates on the attached list.

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