The Honourable Henry Bell-Irving, D.S.O., O.B.E., E.D.,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

The Annual Report of the British Columbia Police Commission for the calendar year 1980 is herewith respectfully submitted.

ROY S. McQUEEN

Chairman
British Columbia Police
Commission

March 1981

The Honourable Allan Williams, Q.C.
Attorney General of British Columbia
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C.

DEAR MR. WILLIAMS:

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report of the British Columbia Police Commission for the calendar year 1980 pursuant to the provisions of section 10 of the Police Act, S.B.C. 1974, chapter 64.

Yours very truly,

ROY S. McQUEEN

Chairman
British Columbia Police
Commission

March 1981

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BRITISH COLUMBIA POLICE COMMISSION
1550-409 GRANVILLE ST., VANCOUVER, B. C. V6C 1T2

1980 ANNUAL REPORT
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April 1981

CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction	1
Chairman's Message	3
B.C. Police Academy	5
Crime Statistics	7
The Police and the Public	15
Citizen Complaints	17
Crime Prevention	25
Other B.C. Police Commission Activities	31

Introduction

B.C. Police Commission

The Police Act of British Columbia establishing the British Columbia Police Commission was proclaimed in June, 1974. The Police Commission was established to improve the quality of police service in the province and was given the following specific responsibilities under section 5 of the Police Act:

"Sec. 5 (1)

5. (1) It is the function of the commission
(a) to maintain a system of statistical records, and to carry out research studies or projects, related to law enforcement and crime prevention, for the purpose of assisting the provincial force and municipal forces;
(b) to consult with, and give information and advice to, the commissioner, chief constables, boards, and committees, on matters related to police and policing;
(c) to establish, subject to the approval of the minister, minimum standards for the selection and training of constables;
(d) to establish and carry out, or to approve and supervise, programmes, for the training and retraining of constables and persons who intend to become constables;
(e) to establish and carry out, or to approve and supervise, programmes for the promotion of harmonious relationships between constables and the public;
(f) to assist in the co-ordination of policing by the provincial force and municipal forces; and
(g) to perform such other functions and duties as may be given to it under this Act or the regulations.

(2) The commission, subject to the approval of the minister, may make rules regulating or prohibiting the use by the provincial force or municipal forces, or by both, of such firearms and equipment, or classes of firearms and equipment, as the commission may designate. 1974, c.64, s.5."

The executive of the B.C. Police Commission consists of a full-time chairman and two full-time commissioners, appointed for a maximum term of five years; two seconded police officers of Inspector rank (appointed for a two-year term); and the Director of the Police Academy.

The work of the Commission in carrying out its mandate includes liaison with Police Boards, with Municipal Councils, with Police Managers and Police Associations and with others in the field of policing and the

administration of justice. Keeping the community's interest in mind, with regard to policing service, is a basic policy of the Commission.

Policing in British Columbia

Policing in British Columbia is financed in four different ways. All municipalities with a population of over 5,000 are required by the Police Act to provide policing within that municipality. A total of twelve municipalities have their own municipal police department, namely Central Saanich, Delta, Esquimalt, Matsqui, Nelson, New Westminster, Oak Bay, Port Moody, Saanich, Vancouver, Victoria, and West Vancouver. Forty-three other municipalities contract with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to provide such services. Rural areas and municipalities with a population of under 5,000 are policed by the Provincial Force, which is also the RCMP under contract with the province of British Columbia.

All the enforcement of criminal law, provincial law and, in some cases, municipal bylaws, as well as the general maintenance of law and order is undertaken by these municipal and provincial forces. In addition, there is a federal force of RCMP responsible for the enforcement of federal laws (e.g., Food and Drug Act, Narcotic Control Act, Customs Act) within the province of British Columbia.

In the twelve municipalities which have their own police departments, the Police Act provides for the establishment of municipal police boards to govern these police departments. The police boards, consisting of the mayor (ex-officio chairman of the board), one person appointed by the municipal council and three persons appointed, after consultation in the council, by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, represent the citizens of the municipalities. Appointed members of police boards hold office for up to four years, or including re-appointment, for a total of not more than six successive years.

Police boards usually hold meetings on a monthly basis, or more often depending on the size and activities of the police department. The B.C. Police Commission gives advice to boards when asked, on matters such as budgets, police strength, policing policy and management.

Commission Offices

The B.C. Police Commission offices are located at #1550-409 Granville Streeet, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 1T2, telephone 668-2385 (main office), and at 947 Fort Street, Victoria, B.C. V8V 3K3, telephone 387-6696.

Chairman's Message

The British Columbia Police Commission has promoted in 1980, and will continue to promote in 1981, the high standard of professionalism already achieved in the police forces in British Columbia. In keeping with the message of the Lieutenant-Governor, His Honour H. Bell-Irving to the recipients of the first annual honours award for meritorious police service, the Police Commission will encourage public awareness and understanding of the role and duties of police.

In 1980 the British Columbia Police Commission endeavoured to improve public understanding and awareness of the complaint system, and I am happy to report that our endeavours did not generate a significant increase in complaints against the police. We plan to conduct again, during the summer of 1981, a survey auditing citizens who have complained, and police officers who have been the subject of citizen complaints, as to their degree of satisfaction with the complaint process. The object of such audit is, of course, to try to achieve the best process possible in the handling of complaints.

Again in 1980, law enforcement increased in British Columbia as did the crime rate. Criminal code offences increased 7.9 percent over 1979 and the crime rate rose to 120.8 pwe 1,000 population. This increase in the crime rate indicate we must not cease in our efforts to promote crime prevention practices and habits amongst the citizens of British Columbia. It is the view of the British Columbia Police Commission that crime prevention must be a primary goal for all police forces and the citizens of British Columbia. Effective crime prevention programs involving active participation by the public is one of the few ways of controlling the escalating cost of policing. Police forces are seeking more manpower in order to combat the rising crime rate, and even if the police population were doubled, the increased enforcement of law and order would not be as effective in reducing the crime rate as would the dedicated involvement of the public at large in crime prevention programs and practices.

We had some staff changes in the British Columbia Police Commission during 1980. Inspector Douglas MacLeod was appointed the Chief Constable of the Delta Police Department and he was succeeded as Executive Officer with the Commission by Inspector Neil Campbell from the Vancouver Police Department.

Norman Brown was added to the Commission staff in the role of Crime Prevention Co-ordinator with Gail Russell as secretary.

The administration staff of the Commission remains the same as last year with Anna Terrana as Administrative Assistant, Jeanne LaFlèche as Information Co-ordinator, Marnie Styan as Senior Secretary, Esther Vitalis as Secretary, Stella Macfarlane as Research Clerk and Journal Circulation Secretary, and Marilyn Johnson as Special Projects Consultant.

The British Columbia Police Commission invites suggestions or criticisms from all sources towards increasing understanding and support in attaining assistance for police work and crime prevention.

B.C. Police Academy

As submitted by John Post, Director, B.C. Police Academy.

The past year, 1980, has been a year of evaluation, reorganization and consequential change. Some progress, we hope, was noticeable.

During this year the Training Rules were presented to the police community. After seven months of discussion, consultation with police boards, chiefs, police associations, B.C. Federation of Police Officers and invaluable advice from the Training Officers Advisory Committee, these rules were accepted by all. The British Columbia Police Commission approved the rules as policy in November of 1980, the Attorney General has now signed them, and they will be gazetted in the very near future.

The Training Rules moved the police career closer to true professionalism. They provided for minimum training standards as a prerequisite to continued employment in the office of municipal constable. They render persons qualified or certified under these rules eligible to that office for a period of time after their employment as a municipal constable terminates; they allow persons with previous police experience to qualify by writing exemption examinations and to be certified by submitting themselves to a challenge procedure; and they establish accountability to the police community for the general quality of training.

There has also been a significant reorganization of the Police Academy, which particularly strengthened the Advanced Training Program. Four instructors were assigned to a newly created 'instructional services' section to develop, co-ordinate and administer advanced training sessions under the supervision of the Advanced Training Program director. This has resulted in an extensive advanced training program calendar for 1981. New and modern methods have been adopted to develop training curriculum. One of the first courses developed by this means was the Radio Dispatchers/Complaint Takers program. If the critiques by the students in this course are any indication, we can consider these methods to be useful and applicable to our training.

Our recruit training section has had an extremely busy year also. In 1980, 339 recruits were enrolled at the academy. This increase of nearly 13 percent over 1979 did not go unnoticed. The fifteen instructors in this program were assigned in excess of one thousand "student training days" each, and it appears that in 1981 the training starts will have to be increased by 50 percent to meet the training needs.

The apparent, justified complaints about the content of our upper training blocks did not go unheeded. Remedial adjustments have been made to avoid a wasteful overlap with the curriculum of our lower level training blocks. This change has been met with very positive and favourable reaction by our students and has, no doubt, improved our standard

In August of 1980, two candidates submitted themselves to the first three-day challenge procedure. This procedure, designed to excuse candidates for municipal constable positions from all recruit training, prevents training for the sake of training. Persons eligible for this procedure are RCMP officers who served in British Columbia, and persons who were police officers in another province or were so employed in British Columbia but are no longer "an eligible municipal constable". Those belonging to the last two categories must first pass an "exemption examination". This examination excuses the individual from completing the "Basic Peace Officers Training Program" while the challenge procedure excuses the individual from completing the "General Peace Officers Program" (the former consists of training blocks I, II, and III, and the latter of IV and V). We and the candidates were very pleased with this proto-program and with minor changes this procedure consisting of simulations, skill testing and oral examinations, will be repeated for eight candidates this coming June.

Our Assessment Centre has provided considerable service to the police community by assisting in administering pre-selection and promotional procedures.

The following number of candidates went through the Assessment Centre in 1980:

166 recruits
40 corporals
8 sergeants
6 inspectors
18 faculty

for a total of 238 candidates. A further 26 peace officers were trained to be assessors.

During 1980 we contracted a reliability study to be done of our methodology in assessing personnel and prospective personnel. We were very pleased to learn that our reliability level was rated at 96 percent. Needless to point out that this is a favourable symptom of having a satisfactory validity level as well. At present, insufficient data is available to determine that level with any accuracy. However, if our volume continues at the present trend, we are advised that in 1984 a validity study will be feasible.

Also new and revamped is our Driver Training course. The total emphasis is on skilful and safe driving. A portion of the Boundary Bay airport's runway was secured as a permanent location for the course and a classroom was furnished in the adjacent communications building. Considerable notoriety has cultivated interest in our program on the part of other police training institutions.

In conclusion, we at the academy emphasize that this is your training school and we are grateful for any input and interest and are anxious to respond to your needs.

Crime Statistics

B.C. Totals

The Uniform Crime Reporting System indicated an increase in Criminal Code offences (excluding drug offences and traffic C.C. offences) of 7.9 percent, from a total of 295,030 in 1979 to 318,284 in 1980. This increase is almost three times the 2.7 percent increase recorded in 1979 and the largest increase in the last five years. The B.C. crime rate for 1980, based on a 2,635,900 population figure, was 120.8 crimes per 1,000 population.

The following table shows the major offence categories which added together represent the total Criminal Code offences (with the proviso mentioned above). Number of offences for 1979 and 1980 are shown with the percentage difference (+ for increase, - for decrease) as well as the percentage cleared.

Table 1

	1980	1979	% Diff.	% Cleared
Offences against Persons	27,582	24,630	+11.9	70.7
Offences against Property	196,279	180,255	+ 8.8	24.1
Other C.C. Offences	94,423	90,145	+ 4.7	33.5
Total C.C. Offences	318,284	295,030	+ 7.9	30.9

Offences against persons increased more than offences against property or other C.C. offences in the above table in terms of percentage; they also exhibited the highest clearance rate.

Offences against Persons

Table 2

	1980	1979	% Difference
Homicide	105	86	+22.0
Attempted Murder	99	84	+17.8
Sexual Offences	1,948	1,763	+10.4
Assaults	22,781	20,499	+11.1
Robbery	2,649	2,198	+20.5
Total	27,582	24,630	+11.9

Total Offences against Persons accounted for 8.7 percent of the total Criminal Code offences in Table 1. Homicides experienced the greates

increase at 22.0 percent followed closely by Robbery at 20.5 percent and that followed closely again by Attempted Murder (17.8 percent).

Offences against Property

Table 3

	1980	1979	% Difference
Break and Enter and Theft	46,786	42,697	+ 9.5
Motor Vehicle Theft	12,376	11,910	+ 3.9
Theft (Over $200 + Under $200)	117,458	107,666	+ 9.1
Possession of Stolen Prop.	2,499	2,420	+ 3.2
Frauds	17,160	15,562	+10.2
Total	196,279	180,255	+ 8.8

Total Offences against Property accounted for 61.7 percent of the total Criminal Code Offences in Table 1. The greatest percentage increase was experienced in Frauds, at 10.2 percent; the greatest numerical increase was in Thefts, at 117,458 for 1980, 9,792 more than the previous year.

Other Criminal Code Offences

Table 4

	1980	1979	% Difference
Prostitution	70	97	-27.8
Gaming and Betting	51	15	+240.0
Offensive Weapons	2,192	2,115	+ 3.6
Others	92,110	87,918	+ 4.7
Total	94,423	90,145	+ 4.7

Total Other Criminal Code Offences accounted for 29.6 percent c the total Criminal Code Offences in Table 1.

Drug Offences

According to the data collected, total Drug Offences increased t 20.2 percent from 9,325 in 1979 to 11,215 in 1980. However, due to a new reporting procedure implemented in 1979, the figures collected for that year are questionable and considered low, perhaps by as much as 10 e

Grand Total

The 'grand total' (total Criminal Code offences plus Drug offences plus Federal, Provincial and Municipal offences) was 378,251 offences in 1980, compared with 351,346 in 1979, an increase of 7.6 percent.

Federal Statute offences increased 15.9 percent over 1979 (from 3,936 to 4,562); Provincial Statute offences increased 0.8 percent, from 28,063 to 28,311; Municipal offences increased from 14,922 to 15,879, up 5.9 percent.

Intoxication in a Public Place

The number of offences in the State of Intoxication in a Public Place category increased only marginally in 1980, from 55,555 to 55,858, or 0.5 percent.

Persons Charged

The number of adults charged for all Criminal Code offences (including Drug offences, excluding Traffic offences) was 61,895, an increase of 8.1 percent over 1979. The number of juveniles charged for all Criminal Code offences (including Drug, excluding Traffic) was 14,941, an increase of 59.9 percent over the 1979 total of 9,340.

Traffic

The number of persons charged with Traffic offences totalled 287,936, an increase of 30.2 percent over 1979 (221,191).

The following table shows some of the traffic data for 1979 and 1980.

Table 5

	1980	1979	% Difference
Driving while Impaired	22,977*	21,264*	+ 8.0
Traffic Accidents	146,302	125,854	+16.2
Persons Killed	784	723	+ 8.4
Persons Injured	35,000	31,106	+12.5

There were 203 accidents in British Columbia in which fatalities occurred where the driver(s) had been drinking (an 8.6 percent increase over the 187 in 1979) and 10,256 non-fatal accidents where the driver(s) had been drinking, compared with 8,975 in 1979 (up 14.3 percent).

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* Number of offences

Municipal Crime Trend Comparisons

	Population[1] 1980	No. of Crimes[2] 1979	1980	% Change	Crime Rate[3] 1980	Police Strength (Dec.31/80)	Pop. Police Ratio	Caseload per Member
* Vancouver	392,500	51,707	57,849	11.8	147.4	982	400	58.9
Burnaby	139,600	14,293	15,262	6.7	109.3	211	662	72.3
Surrey	136,300	15,963	17,663	10.6	129.6	185	737	95.5
Richmond	95,300	9,900	9,837	-0.6	103.2	128	745	76.9
* Delta	80,800	6,671	6,144	-7.8	76.0	94	860	65.4
* Saanich	75,600	5,326	5,356	0.5	70.9	116	652	46.2
Prince George	70,400	10,483	10,662	1.7	151.5	97	726	109.9
Kamloops	67,000	8,736	8,856	1.3	132.2	86	779	102.9
North Vancouver District	64,900	4,899	4,939	0.8	76.1	73	889	67.7
* Victoria	63,450	10,626	10,482	-1.3	165.2	154	412	68.1
Coquitlam	61,000	4,906	5,299	8.0	86.9	68	897	77.9
Kelowna	58,900	6,336	7,664	20.9	130.1	62	950	123.6
Langley Twsp.[4]	48,300	3,169	3,462	9.2	71.7	46	1050	75.3
Nanaimo	45,500	6,342	6,616	4.3	145.4	61	746	108.5
Chilliwack	42,800	4,748	5,222	10.0	122.0	48	892	108.8
* Matsqui	36,750	3,185	3,797	19.2	103.3	51	721	74.5
* New Westminster	36,300	5,560	7,147	28.5	196.9	89	408	80.3

1. Population figures taken from British Columbia Police Commission projections, by Ken Collins and John Walkinshaw.
2. "Crimes" means "Criminal Code Offences" excluding Drug offences and Traffic C.C. offences.

	Population[1] 1980	No. of Crimes[2] 1979	1980	% Change	Crime Rate[3] 1980	Police Strength (Dec.31/80)	Pop. Police Ratio	Caseload per Member
* West Vancouver	36,100	3,014	3,165	5.0	87.7	65	555	48.7
North Vancouver City	34,500	3,924	4,251	8.3	123.2	49	704	86.8
Maple Ridge	34,250	3,899	4,257	9.1	124.3	47	729	90.6
Port Coquitlam	27,500	2,312	2,999	29.7	109.0	31	887	96.7
Penticton	23,900	3,072	3,092	.6	129.3	28	854	110.4
Vernon	21,000	3,276	3,820	16.6	181.9	23	913	166.1
Port Alberni	20,300	2,567	2,687	4.6	132.4	30	677	89.6
Mission	18,300	1,809	2,250	24.3	123.0	23	796	97.8
* Oak Bay	17,900	1,269	977	-23.0	54.6	24	746	40.7
North Cowichan	17,800	1,467	1,416	-3.5	79.6	20	890	70.8
* Esquimalt[5]	15,300	2,051	1,508	-26.4	98.6	29	464	52.0
Cranbrook	15,100	2,046	2,342	14.4	155.1	25	604	93.7
Langley City[4]	14,200	2,722	2,565	-5.7	180.6	26	546	98.7
White Rock	13,800	1,404	1,535	9.3	111.2	19	726	80.8
Prince Rupert	13,600	2,964	3,565	20.2	262.1	32	425	111.4
Powell River	13,500	1,385	1,598	15.3	118.4	19	711	84.1
Campbell River	13,350	2,585	2,903	12.3	217.5	24	556	121.0
* Port Moody	12,500	1,722	1,615	-6.2	129.2	23	543	70.2
Kitimat	12,100	1,632	1,655	1.4	136.8	16	756	103.4
Abbotsford	11,200	1,329	1,571	18.2	140.3	16	700	98.2
Salmon Arm	10,900	1,440	1,477	2.5	135.5	11	991	134.3

5. Total strength with Esquimalt Force is 33, four members on fire department duty daily.

	Population[1] 1980	No. of Crimes[2] 1979	1980	% Change	Crime Rate[3] 1980	Police Strength (Dec.31/80)	Pop. Police Ratio	Caseload per Member
Terrace	10,500	1,765	1,996	13.0	190.1	18	583	110.9
Trail	9,600	944	1,041	10.2	108.4	16	600	65.1
Dawson Creek	9,500	2,211	2,641	19.4	278.0	18	528	146.7
Squamish	9,500	1,159	1,157	-0.1	121.8	14	679	82.6
* Nelson	9,300	1,049	966	-7.9	103.9	15	620	64.4
Fort St. John	9,100	2,261	2,785	23.1	306.0	21	433	132.6
Quesnel	8,950	1,203	1,361	13.1	152.1	15	597	90.7
* Central Saanich	8,500	1,011	852	-15.7	100.2	12	708	71.0
Courtney	8,300	1,363	1,591	16.7	191.7	10	830	159.1
Sidney	7,700	632	750	18.8	97.4	9	856	83.3
Summerland	7,300	413	424	2.6	58.1	6	1217	70.7
Williams Lake	6,900	1,675	2,194	30.9	318.0	15	460	146.3
Kimberley	6,700	530	629	18.6	93.9	9	744	69.9
Castlegar	6,200	813	962	18.3	155.2	9	689	106.9
Mackenzie	5,900	810	729	-10.0	123.6	8	738	91.1
Comox	5,750	495	529	6.8	92.0	6	958	88.2
Merritt	5,700	1,016	1,001	-1.4	175.6	9	633	111.2
B.C. Municipalities Totals & Averages	2,047,900	240,089	259,113	7.9	126.5	3341	613	77.6

Police Strength Statistics

1975 - 1980

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	% Change Over 1975
Police Strength Totals @ December 31, 1980	4,608	4,737	4,993	5,212	5,305	5,439	18.0
Average Caseloads (Criminal Code)	64	63	62	64	74	67.2	5.0
Clearance Rates	29.0	30.8	32.4	32.2	31.1	30.9	6.2
Breakdown - Police Strength (Sworn Members)							
Federal (RCMP & H.Q. Admin.)	516	516	584	695	700	701	35.9
Provincial (RCMP)	1,313	1,247	1,283	1,331	1,369	1,397	6.4
Municipal (RCMP)	1,244	1,414	1,542	1,596	1,625	1,687	35.6
12 City Municipal	1,535	1,560	1,584	1,590	1,611	1,654	8.0
TOTAL	4,608	4,737	4,993	5,212	5,305	5,439	18.0
TOTAL WITHOUT FEDERAL	4,092	4,221	4,409	4,517	4,605	4,738	15.8

Police Use of Firearms

The Commission is required, under the Police Act, to receive a report on the number of shots fired by police officers on duty. In 1979, there were 102 shots fired by 51 police officers. In 1980, there was a total of 111 shots fired by 66 police officers. Thirty-four shots were fired by 23 members of municipal police departments; seventy-seven shots were fired by 43 members of the RCMP.

Revolvers accounted for 95 of the shots fired in 1980; shotguns accounted for 15; rifles accounted for one. One hundred and six of the shots fired were fired intentionally, while five were fired unintentionally. One person was killed and seven injured. Property damage totalled approximately $ 3,100.

The Police Firearms' Regulations set specific instructions about the type of firearms and ammunition allowed; the terms under which a firearm may be carried; the use of firearms; and, within the report on number of shots, the terms under which firearms may be used. Copies of the Regulations are available, upon request, from the B.C. Police Commission.

The Police and the Public

"The ability of the Police to perform their duties is dependent upon public approval of police existence, actions, behaviour and the ability of the Police to secure and maintain public respect."

Sir Robert Peel, founder
of the modern police system
in Britain in 1822

The vital importance of mutual respect between police and public and the necessary public support of policemen which flows from that attitude has been said often but it cannot be said too often. History shows that when this essential aspect of policing loses support there can be only harmful results.

Policemen are not set above the public. They are themselves members of the public, and although they are granted a few special powers, they remain, in essence, citizen-policemen, differing from the rest of us only in that they devote their full time to preservation of peace and good order.

The average citizen recognizes that policemen deserve his willing co-operation and, at times, his active assistance.

That recognition will be more widespread as knowledge of police responsibilities and policing problems becomes more widely known in the community.

The British Columbia Police Commission has two major responsibilities in this area, one to the police and one to the general public.

For the police there is a broad program of studies at the British Columbia Police Academy, a set of province-wide standards for police dress, deportment and general policies and, last year as in previous years, numerous seminars where police and concerned citizens are brought together to seek solutions to problems.

It is less easy for the Commission to carry the message of mutual dependence to the general public. Most people are busy with their own affairs. Under ordinary circumstances they do not have to call on the police for help and they do not feel much need to be informed about police work and police problems. A vague and generalized approval seems sufficient contribution to them. However, the Commission seeks to speak to as many as will listen. Police work in this province is, in our opinion, generally at a high level of professionalism and it is important that as many people as possible

should be informed. Meetings of public bodies, including police boards, lectures and speeches to interested citizen groups and the dissemination of information through the B.C. Police Journal are among the methods of informing the public.

Particular attention is paid to arranging for the freest possible flow of information between police and ethnic minority groups.

Citizen Complaints

British Columbia's public complaint system, enacted in 1975, has since formed the basis for similar legislation in other jurisdictions. It provides for the right of any citizen to have a complaint against a policeman dealt with. A process of four stages is provided: the first, an attempt to resolve the matter informally, provided the complaint is not so serious that is required to be dealt with immediately as a criminal investigation. Approximately eighty percent of citizen complaints are resolved informally. If informal resolution fails, there may be a formal request for police investigation, and, in some cases, a police disciplinary hearing. The complaining citizen has the right to carry his complaint beyond the police inquiry stage to citizen bodies, first the local police board and finally the B.C. Police Commission. (In the case of the RCMP, a federal force acting provincially, the Attorney General may approve the appeal of police action on citizen complaints directly to the B.C. Police Commission.)

Three main programs in relation to citizen complaints were undertaken by the Commission during 1980:

1. A universal complaint form, which would supply fuller statistics on a comparable basis for all forces, was designed and is now being tested by Victoria City Police for suitability.

2. More than 30,000 single-sheet brochures were issued to municipal halls, libraries, police stations and other public places, outlining citizen complaint processes for the public.

3. Audits of the 1979's public complaints in three forces were conducted to determine the degree of comprehension of the system and satisfaction with it on the part of both citizens and policemen.

The audits were conducted in the jurisdictions of Vancouver Police Department, North Vancouver Royal Canadian Mounted Police municipal detachment and Surrey RCMP municipal detachment. Lengthy personal interviews were conducted by researchers with citizens and police.

Unfortunately the results fell far short of statistical reliability. Although the number of citizens and police who refused to partcipate was small, large numbers of citizens who had made complaints the previous year proved untraceable. In the three municipalities only a third could be reached. Proportionate responses from police were higher, although some had since been transferred out of the area, but the number was, nevertheless, small with a resultant large statistical error factor.

The results, therefore, are considered indicative rather than

conclusive as to the functioning of the complaints system. Within these limits, responses indicated citizen dissatisfaction with the resolution of their complaints in a third of the cases. The proportion of dissatisfaction felt by officers involved was about the same. General public attitudes toward all three municipal forces was indicated to be about 70 percent favourable or highly favourable.

The responses indicated that, in all three municipalities, knowledge of the complaint process was widespread only among police. Four out of five of the citizens complaining did not know of the existence of complaint procedures when they made their complaint and, having gone through the process, a significant number appeared to remai in ignorance of the process.

The Commission, this year as last, has grave doubts there is adequate public knowledge of this section of the B.C. Police Act. If the public lacks knowledge of the provisions of the Act for internal police investigation followed, if necessary, by civilian review, it follows that public confidence in the complaint procedure must also be lacking.

It may reasonably be inferred by our 1980 audits that the average citizen has much more confidence in his police than he has in the ability of the system to correct abuses of police power when they do occur.

The number of complaints registered during 1980 was lower than the previous year. There were 652 against RCMP officers, compared with 795 in 1979 and 305 against municipal forces, compared with 465.

Three appeals, still pending, were made to police boards from municipal force discipline court procedures during 1980. Seven requests for inquiries into RCMP discipline matters have been referred to the Attorney General with requests for public review.

Further complaint statistics are contained in the following charts. Vancouver, being a much larger force than any other, is shown in a separate graph.

An additional comment in this year's report concerns the number of citizen complaints as compared with the number of police-citizen contacts during the year. An example of some of the recorded contacts is as follows:

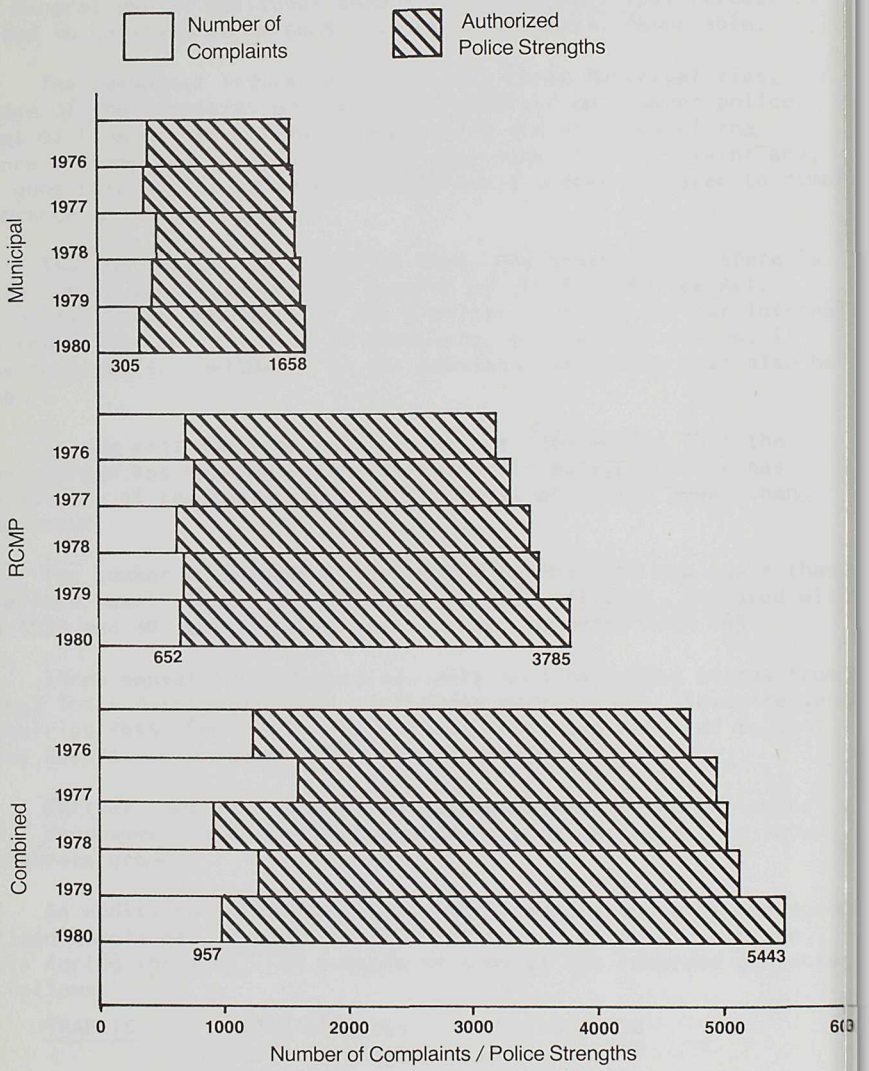
TRAFFIC	Traffic offences	750,852
	Written warnings issued	144,948
	Suspensions	19,349
	Accidents	146,302
	Total criminal code offences (other than traffic) including drug offences	378,251
	Total	1,439,702

It is estimated from traffic and criminal offence records totalling approximately 1,500,000 contacts, that a small percentage of .07 resulted in citizens filing complaints concerning the behaviour of police in British Columbia.

TOTAL NUMBER OF CITIZEN COMPLAINTS AGAINST POLICE TO TOTAL STRENGTH OF FORCE

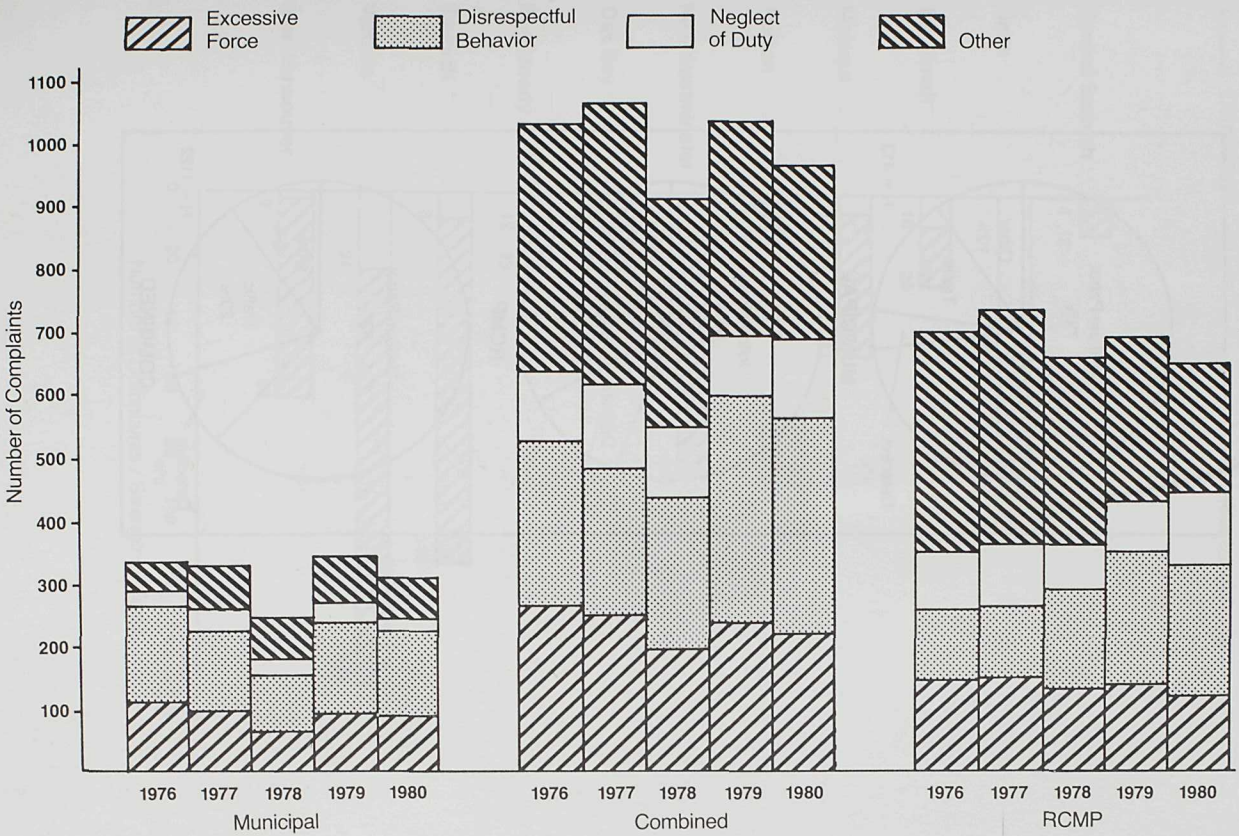
MUNICIPAL, RCMP, AND COMBINED

1976 - 1980



TOTAL NUMBER OF CITIZEN COMPLAINTS AGAINST POLICE BY TYPE OF COMPLAINT

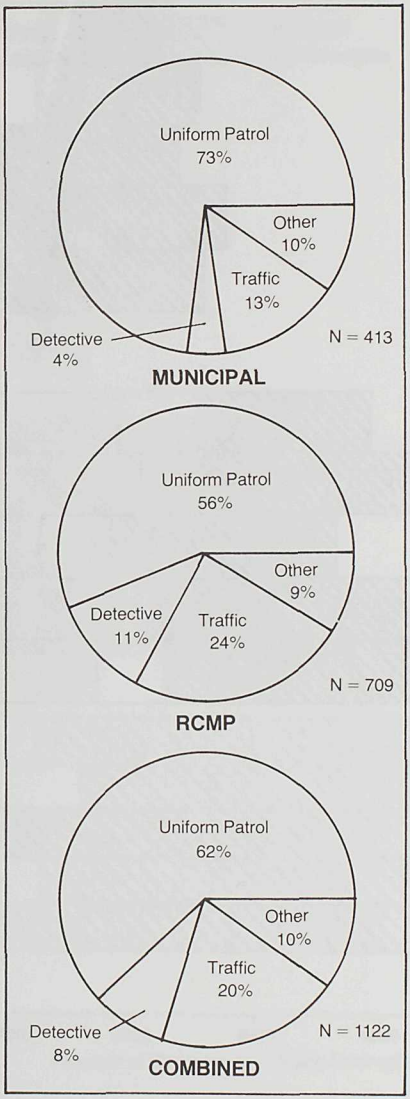
MUNICIPAL, COMBINED, AND RCMP
1976 - 1980



NUMBER AND TYPES OF POLICE INVOLVED IN CITIZEN COMPLAINTS

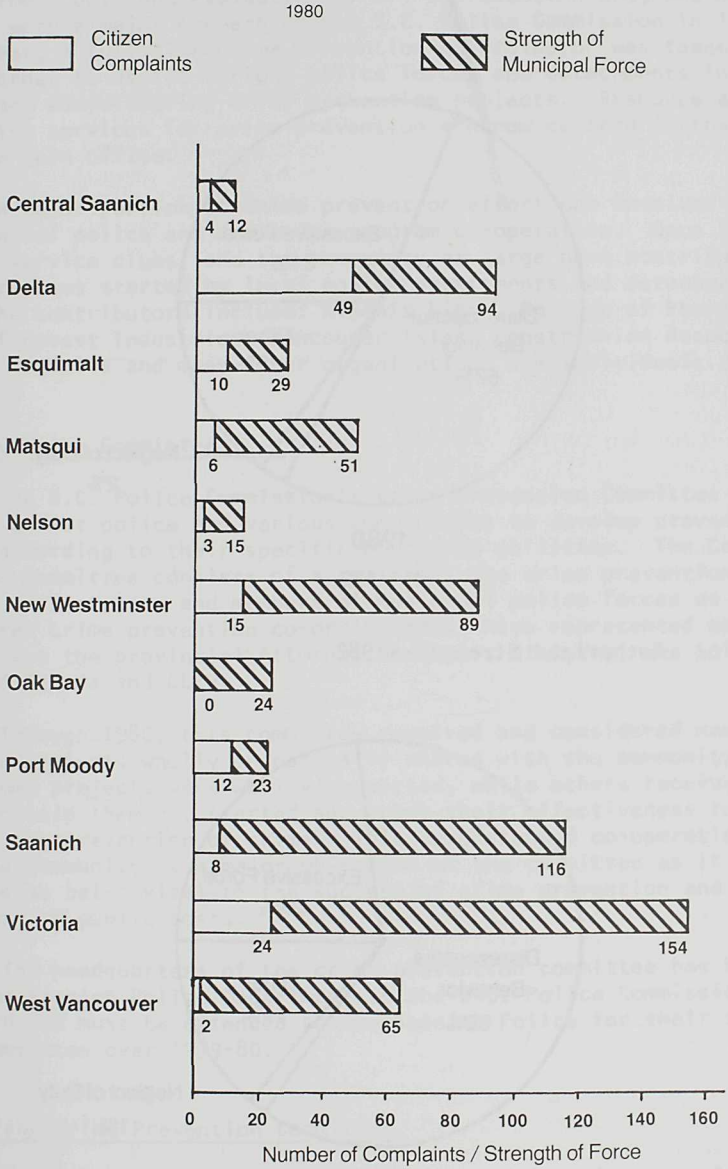
MUNICIPAL, RCMP, AND COMBINED

1980



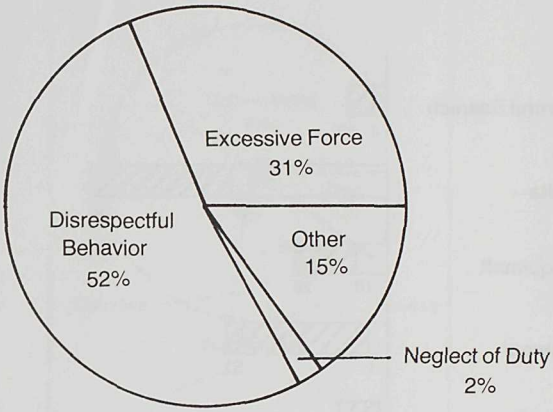
TOTAL NUMBER OF CITIZEN COMPLAINTS AGAINST POLICE TO TOTAL STRENGTH OF MUNICIPAL FORCE

1980



CITIZEN COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT BY TYPE OF COMPLAINT

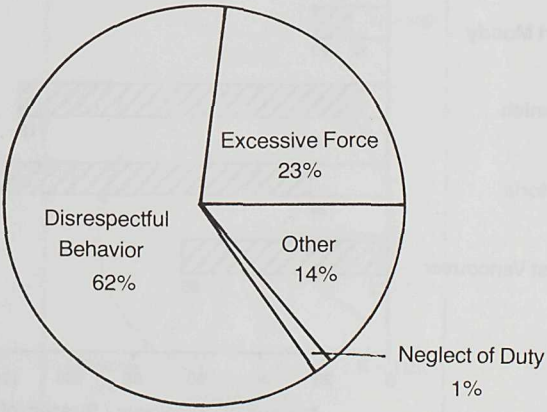
1979 & 1980



1980

N = 172

Authorized Strength = 982



1979

N = 155

Authorized Strength = 958

Crime Prevention

The growth and evaluation of crime prevention programs and practices were a major concern of the B.C. Police Commission in 1980. In September, a full-time crime prevention co-ordinator was taken on staff in order to assist various police forces and detachments in building and administering crime prevention projects. Resource and consultative services for crime prevention are now centred in the Commission main office.

A major portion of crime prevention effort has involved the enhancement of police and community program co-operation. Once again, business, service clubs, and the community at large have contributed to many programs started by local police departments and detachments. Some of the contributors include: Kiwanis Lions, College of Pharmacists, Council of Forest Industries, Vancouver Island Construction Association, municipal councils and many other organizations and individuals.

Crime Prevention Committee

The B.C. Police Commission's Crime Prevention Committee was set up to assist police and various communities to develop preventive programs according to their specific needs and abilities. The Crime Prevention Committee consists of a chairman, the crime prevention co-ordinator, a secretary and members of municipal police forces as well as RCMP area crime prevention co-ordinators. Also represented on the committee are the provincial Attorney General's Ministry, the Solicitor General of Canada and CLEU.

Through 1980, this committee received and considered many worthwhile projects wholly or partially shared with the community at large. Some projects were wholly supported, while others received "seed" funding to help them get started and prove their effectiveness to the community in the prevention of crime. This demonstrated co-operation of police and community is a major objective of the committee as it is recognized as being vital to the success of crime prevention and the containment of public costs.

The headquarters of the crime prevention committee has been moved from Saanich Police Department to the B.C. Police Commission. A vote of thanks must be extended to the Saanich Police for their support of the Committee over 1979-80.

Goals of the Crime Prevention Committee

1. To reinforce the fact that crime prevention has always been and will be an inherent part of the peace officers' role;

2. To increase the activities of the community in their own crime prevention efforts;
3. To generate effective government support and commitment to crime prevention at all levels of government: municipal, provincial, federal;
4. To develop ways of evaluating the effectiveness of crime prevention efforts and of predicting future crime and social trends;
5. To give more attention to the Native people and their problems and concerns; and
6. To establish crime prevention priorities and to allocate resources accordingly.

Crime Prevention Association

The B.C.Police Crime Prevention Association is now in its fourth year of operation, having been incorporated in April 1978 with the support of the B.C. Police Commission, to further the cause of crime prevention in the province. The Association has, in its constitution, specific objectives relating to crime prevention - the promotion of agency operation, the improvement of capabilities, the encouragement of the co-ordination of resources, and the development of province-wide training programs. The Association membership is made up of representatives from both municipal police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police from all areas of the province, united in the common purpose of crime prevention.

In 1980, the Association saw the realization of its efforts to establish a course for crime prevention practitioners. Held at the Justice Institute in November, 1980, the course was a major step forward for crime prevention practice in British Columbia. One of th first courses of its kind in Canada, the expertise of both the Police College and RCMP training sections were utilized to establish trainin standards and format.

The members of the Association have been involved in many se workshops and projects. Aside from their own major seminar in Octobe the Association has sent representation to the Canadian Chiefs of Pol conference and the International Crime Prevention Practitioners' confr in Louisville, Kentucky. Members of the Association have made themsev available for many speaking engagements and training sessions for bot police and community.

The Association is looking forward to continued co-operatio the B.C. Police Commission, and expansion of its role of service to te police community and the public at large. There are many people in te province who have much to contribute to the art of crime prevention; h Association hopes to reach those people and utilize their expertise.

Provincial Crime Prevention Seminar

In October of 1980, the British Columbia Police Commission again sponsored the annual Provincial Crime Prevention Seminar for members of the B.C. Police Crime Prevention Association. Ninety police officers participated from around the province.

The key-note speaker was Chief/Supt. W. Neill, Officer in Charge of the Criminal Investigation Branch "E" Division 1. The key-note address theme was "Crime Prevention into the 80's" and this theme was followed throughout most of the deliberations and discussions.

Highlight of a very stimulating seminar was an address by the Honourable Allan Williams, Attorney General of British Columbia. After making a major speech regarding community crime prevention policy, he referred to the group present as being key in implementing necessary programs.

B.C. Police Commission Crime Prevention Fund

In 1980, funds were disbursed to a variety of sources. Projects ranged from the target hardening variety such as Block Parents, Neighbourhood Watch, Range Patrol, etc., to newer programs such as the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design training course and educational programs. Also, resource material was continually being developed and uptdated throughout 1980.

In 1980, a renewable provincial Attorney General allotment of $ 75,000 and a non-renewable federal Solicitor General fund of $ 70,000 was expended on behalf of crime prevention and preventive policing in British Columbia.

Crime Prevention Projects funded in 1980 by B.C. Provincial Government

Many of the crime prevention programs authorized in 1980 were a continuation of some developed in 1979; others were new. Major disbursements of funds were as follows:

(i) Vandalism Programs

Vandalism is recognized as one of the major crime problems in Canada and the Crime Prevention Committee has therefore authorized expenditures of monies to prevent vandalism. The Saanich Police Department was the major developer of such programs. The Committee had an "Anti-Vandalism" brochure published for distribution.

Total . . . . . $ 10,500

(ii) Provincial Programs

The Crime Prevention Committee has contributed to several programs started all around the province with the printing of stickers (i.e. "Didya" stickers), booklets (i.e. Preventive Approach booklets), brochures (i.e. Operation Provident, Apartment Security, Valuable Property), posters (i.e. Ski Watch posters), crime prevention folders, etc.

Total. . . . . $ 20,00

(iii) Crime Prevention Projects

The CPC has shared with the Kiwanis, the Vancouver Island Construction Association and other groups, projects aimed to alleviate crime in the area of youth and construction.

Total. . . . . $ 5,00

(iv) Rural Crime

Programs have been authorized in the area of rural crime. Booklets have been printed and a book for the logging industry has been prepared together with the Council of Forest Industries.

Total. . . . . $ 4,50

(v) Block Parents

As a continuation of the Block Parents program, funding has been granted to Maple Ridge, Revelstoke, Nanaimo and Nakusp RCMP detachments and to the Victoria Police Department.

Total. . . . . $ 1,75

(vi) Neighbourhood Watch

As a continuation of the very successful Neighbourhood Watch program, the CPC authorized printing of decals, posters, and buttons.

Total. . . . . $ 6,00

(vii) Range Patrol

As a continuation of the Range Patrol program, the CPC has authorized some funding to small detachments for the acquisition of signs and a radio.

Total. . . . . $ 1,000

(viii) Signs and Display Boards

Expenditure for roadway and tourist warning signs and display boards was authorized by the CPC.

Total. . . . . $ 1,600

AND OTHER PROJECTS bringing the Crime Prevention funding offered by the Province of British Columbia to a total of:

$ 75,000

Crime Prevention Projects funded in 1980 by Solicitor General

The funding for crime prevention received from the Solicitor General's department for the years 1979 and 1980, amounting to $ 70,000, was the last subsidy to be received from Ottawa to share this particular type of funding of crime prevention projects with the Province of British Columbia. A remaining total of approximately $ 30,000 was expended from such funding during the year 1980 as follows:

(i) Allocation of Funding to Association

For organization of annual seminar and attendance at crime prevention workshops and conferences of the members of the B.C. Police Crime Prevention Association in order to improve police preventive programs in the province of British Columbia.

Total. . . . . $ 12,000

(ii) Development of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

For production of an information package which will develop an understanding of the need for

as well as the means by which we can design buildings and place them in the environment so as to limit opportunities for crime. The package will contain material obtained within the City of Vancouver and should be applicable to other cities.

Total. . . . . $ 9,800

(iii) Victoria Kiwanis Wheels Project

For a program to provide initiatives to students to stay in school and out of trouble; to improve police image in the community and in youth/school relationship and to develop youths mentally and physically through a constructive supervised experience.

Total. . . . . $ 10,000

Nine thousand dollars, approved in 1979 for the production of a training film for store security and rental sales clerks in small businesses, was returned by the Vancouver Board of Trade because the film was not produced.

These expenditures are the last in a cost-sharing arrangement for crime prevention between the Solicitor General's department and the B.C. Police Commission over a period of more than three years. The program has proven to be very successful and has witnessed a very co-operative and productive relationship of two government agencies. The executive of the B.C. Police Commission wishes to thank the department of the Solicitor General for their co-operation in the important field of crime prevention.

Other B.C. Police Commission Activities

Research

One of the specific responsibilities of the B.C. Police Commission, under Section 5 of the Police Act, is to maintain a system of statistical records and to carry out research studies related to law enforcement and crime prevention.

On a continuing basis, the Commission collects crime statistics on all departments and detachments in B.C., including related statistics such as citizen complaints, authorized police strengths, and shots fired by police members. As well, the Commission gathers manpower and policing data, including sociodemographic data and police costs, in a Community Information Profile, from all departments and detachments. The Commission also maintains a library on selected law enforcement issues, with a wide range of periodicals in the criminal justice field.

In view of the above, the Commission is an active resource for police, police planning personnel, students, and criminologists, and other concerned citizens.

In 1980, a number of research projects were carried out either by Commission staff or under the sponsorship of the B.C. Police Commission. In response to a request from the Attorney General's ministry, a report on trends in municipal policing costs was undertaken. In-house reports were prepared on policing costs in Williams Lake and the costs of witness protection in British Columbia. The final draft of a report on regionalization in the Capital Regional District was completed. A Victims' Services Directory, the result of a summer student project, will be available for distribution in May. Another summer students project involved the auditing of citizen complaints (see Citizen Complaints section).

The consultant, special projects, of the Commission meets regularly with the Quarterly Research Committee of the ministry of Attorney General.

The B.C. Police Journal

The B.C. Police Journal has been enjoying ever-increasing support and acceptance from members of the policing community since its inception in 1978. The Journal covers news of particular relevance to police members and encourages contributions from police and other members of the criminal justice system. A regular feature of the Journal is "The Thin Blue Line", reporting news from the B.C. Federation

of Police Officers. The Journal is published quarterly and distributed free to all police officers in British Columbia. Subscriptions and exchange subcriptions are also available.

The B.C. Police Journal serves as an effective means of promoting internal communications among members of the police community.

Symposium of Provincial Police Commissions

In October 1980, the annual symposium of provincial police commissions was held in Banff, Alberta, hosted by the Law Enforcement division of the department of the Solicitor General of Alberta. The B.C. Police Commission was represented by Chairman Roy McQueen and Commissioners Paul St. Pierre and Gordon Dalton.

A wide range of mutual concerns were discussed. Each Commission presented a brief of specific subjects pertaining to the policing field and a report on their activities. The B.C. Police Commission prepared a brief with special emphasis on auditing and the complaint system in an endeavour to ascertain the degree of satisfaction of both complainants and officers involved in the complaint system. This issue has been on the priority list of the B.C. Police Commission for the last two years.

A vote of thanks is owed to Ed Hale, director of Law Enforcement and his staff for a well organized interesting symposium.

Next year the symposium will be held in Quebec City.

Police Board Workshop

In 1979 a decision was made by the executive of the B.C. Police Commmission to hold an annual police board workshop. Both in 1979 and 1980 the workshop was held in Vancouver and was well attended by all of the municipalities.

Issues of concern to the municipalities were discussed. Priority was placed by the participants on police costs, cost increases and the negotiations presently in progress between governments. A police board handbook, the first published in British Columbia, was circulated by the B.C. Police Commission to the police board members.

Workshops proved to be very successful and a worthwhile effort that gives the members of the various police boards an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas.

Police Honours Night

In 1980 the idea of establishing a Police Honours Night was formed and arrangements were made to hold the first police honours night in the beginning of 1981. The event is held to recognize those police officers in British Columbia who performed in an outstanding manner during the previous year. The event will be a yearly occurrence.

Regional Visits

In 1980 the executive of the B.C. Police Commission have organized regional visits to areas of British Columbia other than the Vancouver Lower Mainland and Greater Victoria.

Members of the executive met with people in policing, minority groups, municipal officials and the general public in Kelowna and Prince George. Communities from surrounding areas were also invited to attend.

Among the subjects discussed at these meetings are: the changing role of policemen in society, police rights and responsibilities, the limits of police power, professionalism and its implications, crime prevention, statistical data on crime and policing, the public complaint procedure and many aspects of the costs of policing.

The visits have served to give the Commission a clearer insight into the issues touching the populations of smaller communities and have brought those issues and concerns to the attention of the provincial government.

B.C. Police Commission Goals and Activities

1980	Progress
Nelson Communication Study	Completed
Motor Vehicle Standards	Completed
Regional Visits	Continuing
Indian Special Constable Program	Continuing
Review of Police Act and Regulations	Continuing
Processing of Police Board Members	Continuing
Police Board Workshops	Continuing
Victims Services Project	Continuing, almost complete

Crime Prevention	Continuing
Regionalization Studies	Completed
Negotiating RCMP Contracts	Continuing
Citizen Complaint Forms and Audits	Continuing
Evaluation Report re Constables	Completed
Major Crime Investigation Procedures	Continuing
Monitoring of Shots Fired	Continuing
UBCM Involvement	Continuing
Promotional Pre-requisites - NCO's	Continuing
Police Manning Studies - Various Regions	Continuing
Police Honours Night	Continuing
Meetings- Minority Groups	Continuing
Auditing of Municipal Police Departments	Continuing
Visits of Municipal Police Departments	Continuing
Visits of RCMP Detachments	Continuing
Visits of Police Boards	Continuing
Public Information	Continuing
Attending CACP and BCACP Meetings	Continuing
Meetings with B.C. Federation of Police Officers	Continuing
Attending annual Police Commission Symposium	Continuing
Reorganization of Records and Filing	Continuing, almost complete
Sponsoring Workshops and Seminars	Continuing
UCR Audit Seminars	Continuing
Research Projects	Continuing
Community Information Profiles	Continuing
Police/Citizen Complaint Survey	Continuing
Juvenile Crime Prevention	Continuing
Publication and Co-ordination of B.C. Police Journal	Continuing

RCMP Negotiations

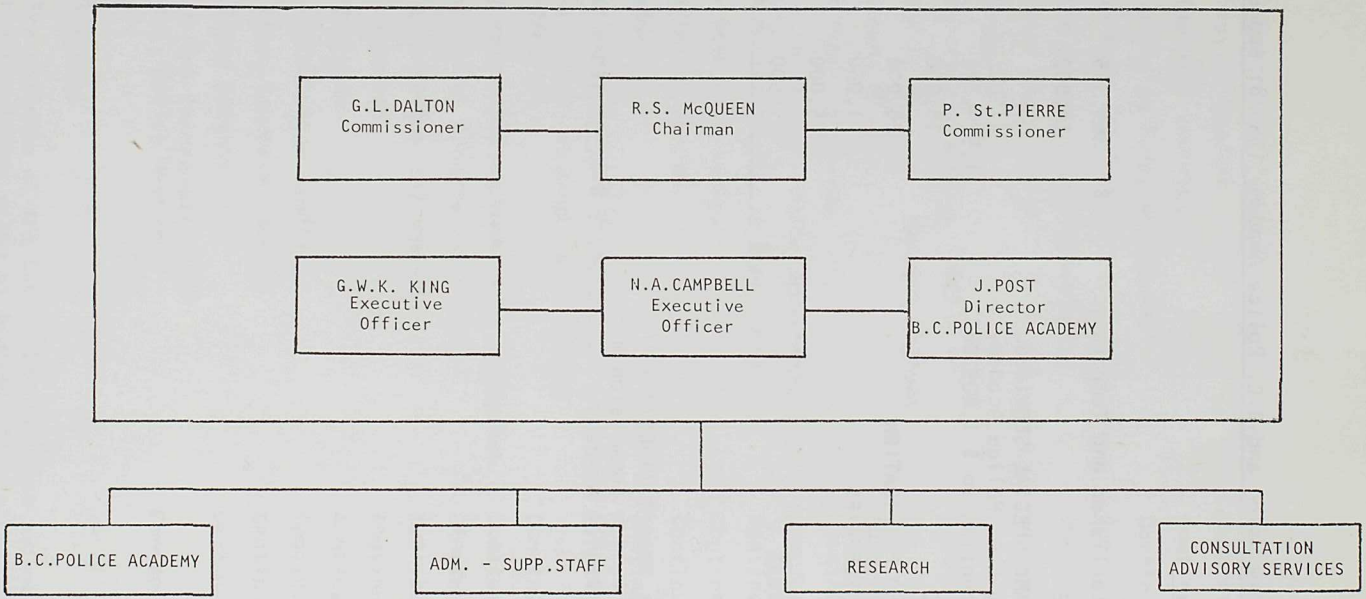
The chairman of the Commission has been attending RCMP contract advisory board meetings along with other officials of the Attorney General's ministry. Negotiations are in progress.

B.C. Police Commission and B.C. Police Academy 1980/81 Budget

SALARIES - Established and Temporary	$ 264,345
TRAVEL EXPENSE	34,000
PROFESSIONAL AND SPECIAL SERVICES (including B.C. Police Academy budget amounting to $ 1,409,065)	1,579,315
OFFICE EXPENSE	18,000
ADVERTISING AND PUBLICATION	26,000
MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	1,000
GRANTS	5,000
OTHER EXPENDITURE	5,500

TOTAL BUDGET (1980/81)
B.C. Police Commission and
B.C. Police Academy. . . . . $ 1,933,160

BRITISH COLUMBIA POLICE COMMISSION
Organizational Chart



Lore Ciammaichella
- Secretary

Support Staff

Faculty

Anna Terrana
- Adm. Assistant

Marnie Styan
- Senior Secretary

Jeanne La Fleche
- Information

Esther Vitalis
- Secretary

Gail Russell

Marilyn Johnson
- Consultant
Special Projects

Stella Macfarlane
- Clerk

As required for
specific projects

Norm Brown
- Crime Prevention
Co-ordinator

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