



Royal  
Canadian  
Mounted  
Police

Gendarmerie  
royale  
du  
Canada

**REPORT TO COMMITTEE**

TO: General Purposes Committee

*To General Purposes - Oct 2, 00*  
DATE: 00-09-26

FROM: Officer in Charge  
Richmond Detachment R.C.M.P.

*File: 5350-01*

RE: **RCMP ADDITIONAL LEVELS - 2001**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

1. That Council approve in principle that Richmond Detachment be increased by ten regular members and one Tactical Analyst in 2001.
2. That Council approve in principle the capital items detailed on page 5 of this report.

(E.C. MacAulay) Superintendent  
Officer in Charge  
Richmond Detachment

<b>FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY</b>	
<p><b>ROUTED TO: CONCURRENCE</b></p> <p>Jim Bruce ..... Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>GENERAL MANAGER'S SIGN-OFF:</b></p> <p><i>Bruce</i></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

## **STAFF REPORT**

### **ORIGIN**

As the Government of Canada has made a commitment to contribute 10% toward the City's policing costs, the federal government needs some early indications of the additional resources that may be requested, as well as items of equipment costing \$100,000 or more per item, so that it can prepare its budget for the 2001/02 fiscal year. Any such indications are regarded as 'approval in principle' only and the City is not obligated to maintain such requests.

The requests contained herein will be supported by business cases in each instance and will form part of the City's overall budget deliberations.

### **ANALYSIS**

The following are the anticipated needs for additional police personnel during the calendar year 2001. Approval in principle is being sought for a total of ten additional regular member positions and one Tactical Analyst. The requests have not been prioritized by the management of Richmond Detachment.

#### **Four General Duty Positions**

- ❑ Each of the four general duty 'watches' (which are responsible for responding to calls for service every hour of the day every day of the year) consists of one staff sergeant, one sergeant, two corporals, and thirteen constables. Because of the junior level of service of Richmond's constables, we were forced to redeploy one constable position on each watch to create a second supervisory position at the rank of corporal in 1999. This reduced the available constables on each watch from fourteen to thirteen. In 1985, before the creation of the Bike Squad and the opening of community police stations, there were sixteen constables per watch. The City has grown since then and we are having a difficult time to provide timely response to calls for service with the existing complement.
- ❑ Richmond Detachment is divided into five zones (with Sea Island [ Zone 1 ] being policed by a combination of City and Airport Authority-funded resources). The other four zones, for timely response and officer safety needs, require a minimum of two police units per zone on each shift. With the current level of resourcing, we are incurring overtime to provide minimum coverage throughout the four Lulu Island Zones. With an additional constable on each watch, we would be able to minimize the need to call in members on overtime to provide minimum shift coverage.
- ❑ In 1997, an independent consultant completed a Performance Analysis and Resource Review (PARR) study of Richmond Detachment and concluded that an additional six general duty patrol resources were required to provide a minimum acceptable level of service at the time.

No additional resources have subsequently been provided for this purpose.

### **One Crime Prevention/Victim Services Position**

- This position would be used to institute and maintain a DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) within Richmond's schools.
- DARE is a proven program that attacks the roots of drug abuse, and related societal problems, in elementary schools. Although labour intensive, it is worth the cost and effort because of the significant long-term benefits to society (through the reduction of drug dependency and the associated criminal activity).
- The DARE program has a significant incidental effect in that it transforms the police personnel involved in its delivery into more community-oriented and dedicated members.
- Should Council wish to support this request, funding support could be sought from Richmond School District.

### **One Computer Investigative Support Position**

- The increasing sophistication of crime requires significant technical expertise on the part of the police. Formerly, this expertise was available from regional federal units (such as Vancouver Commercial Crime Section) but a combination of increased demand for such services and the reduction of the resource levels of federal units has made this type of support difficult to acquire in a timely manner if at all.
- The ability to search both software and hard drives of computers is often critical in solving crimes including serious 'crimes against persons' such as homicides and abductions. As well, computerized evidentiary trails are often vital in solving serious property crimes such as extortions, home invasions, gambling, loan-sharking, and credit/debit card frauds. This ability saves significant investigative time and contributes to our ability to bring difficult cases to a successful conclusion.
- Richmond Detachment has trained, equipped, and deployed a member in this discipline on a part-time basis. The member handled approximately 50 such cases during the past year and, in many cases, the computer evidence was vital to achieving convictions. The member was deployed from the Fraud Section which had 365 files referred to it so far in 2000. The section has 52 files currently under investigation and a further 11 files that have not yet been

assigned for investigation.

### **Two Traffic Section Positions**

- ❑ In 1997, an independent consultant did a Performance Analysis and Resource Review (PARR) study of Richmond Detachment and concluded that an additional seven members were required to provide a minimum level of traffic services. No additional traffic members have been provided since this report was completed while the demand for such services has increased.
- ❑ Richmond Detachment has been able to maintain reasonable levels of traffic safety through provincially-funded initiatives (such as Photo Radar, the Intersection Camera Program, Enhanced Counterattack, and Corridor Enforcement). All of these programs, except the Intersection Camera Program, are in jeopardy. The current opposition party is on record as stating that the Photo Radar program will be terminated and the current provincial review of traffic services is expected to recommend against continued enforcement through the use of overtime hours.
- ❑ Richmond is one of the few local jurisdictions that continues to respond to the more routine traffic collisions and we may have to discontinue this service if there is any substantial reduction of provincial initiatives and no enhancement of our traffic services personnel.
- ❑ The City should embark upon an increase in traffic services personnel over the next few years to, at a minimum, reach the level recommended in the 1997 PARR study.

### **One Tactical Analyst (Municipal Employee or Civilian Member)**

- ❑ Richmond Detachment is progressing toward a fully-automated records management system which will include software for crime analysis. To fully exploit this technology, a skilled analyst could be employed to assist unit commanders in the strategic use of human resources to more efficiently deploy available personnel. Tactical analysts have proven to be very beneficial in major criminal cases to chart investigations and provide profiles of the target groups and link analysis reports. As well, such expertise can be utilized to maximize the value of criminal intelligence received.
- ❑ This would result in a higher 'solve rate' (especially of property crimes such as break and enters and vehicle thefts). This would lead to the reduction in the level of fear of crime and a consequent enhancement to the livability of the community.
- ❑ This position could be staffed with either a qualified municipal employee or a civilian member of the R.C.M.P.

### Two Drug Section Positions

- ❑ The current marihuana 'grow-operation' problem has diverted most of the available resources away from enforcement in the area of 'hard drugs' (such as cocaine and heroin) which is being almost completely neglected (other than what is being done regionally and internationally by the federal unit in the area). Despite regional initiatives, the marihuana cultivation problem is expected to continue in the foreseeable future.
- ❑ In 1999, Richmond Detachment investigated 29 heroin cases but have only done 11 such investigations in the first three quarters of 2000. Similarly, in 1999, Richmond Detachment conducted 21 cocaine trafficking investigations but have only conducted 6 such investigations in 2000. The volume of drug investigations has increased significantly (largely due to marihuana cultivation). Richmond Drug Section has opened over 500 more files that they did during the same period of 1999. In 1999, they investigated 53 marihuana grow operations and have investigated 243 so far in 2000.
- ❑ The current problems call for a change from a reactive mode to a proactive strategy.
- ❑ There is some consideration being given to reallocating some federal drug enforcement resources to municipal detachments in the Lower Mainland. A 'matching' with municipal resources would be considered supportive of this proposed initiative.

### Additional Capital Items

The following additional capital items are required to support the additional human resource requests and to maintain our operations:

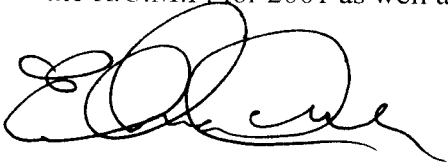
4 additional vehicles (2 general duty, 1 traffic and 1 drug section) @ \$30,000	\$120,000
16 additional laptop computers @ \$4,000 each	64,000
20 stand-alone computers @ \$2,500 each	50,000
1 stand-alone computer (tactical analyst position) @ \$5,000	5,000
3 printers (training room) @ \$500 each	1,500
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>\$240,500</b>

### FINANCIAL IMPACT

The projected per-capita cost for a regular member of the R.C.M.P. in 2001 is \$94,500 per member or a cost of \$945,000 for 10 members. The estimated cost for a civilian member or a municipal employee is \$53,550 (including benefits). The total cost of these additional resources and the capital items is \$1,239,050.

**CONCLUSION**

Recognizing that no actual commitment is required at this time, it is recommended that 'approval in principle' be given to this request for ten additional regular members and one civilian member of the R.C.M.P. for 2001 as well as the above capital items.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E.C. MacAulay', with a stylized, cursive script.

E.C. MacAulay, Superintendent  
Officer in Charge,  
Richmond Detachment.