

Understanding The Crime Reduction Program

Presentation to Richmond Mayor and Council

May 9th., 2006

Assistant Commissioner Gary Bass Officer In charge Criminal Operations Branch Vancouver, B.C.



Crime Reduction

- -Crime Reduction Defined.
- -Implications for Policing.
- -Implications for Justice Partners.



Strategies vs. Program

- -Strategies are any and all of the current initiatives we undertake in efforts to prevent or solve crime.
- How many are there?
- Who is evaluating them?
- Are they working?



Strategies vs. Program

- -Program contemplates an over-arching structure with several key goals:
- a) To research, review, measure, coordinate and evaluate crime reduction strategies – an intelligence led process of determining "what works".



Strategies vs. Program, con't

- b)To bring together all of the stakeholders in the CJS, to form effective and productive partnerships with the common goal of reducing crime.
- c) To work in partnerships to seek solutions to the root causes of crime which do not fit easily into any one agency's mandate.



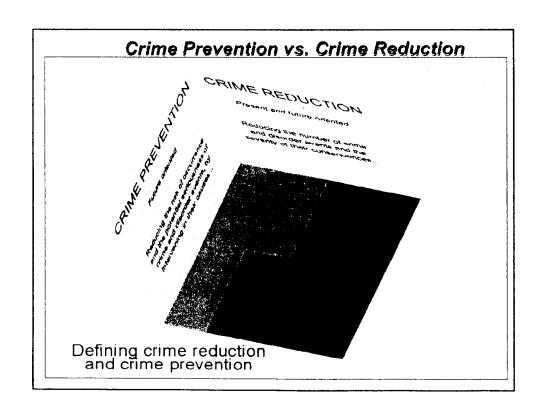
Crime Prevention

 Aims to reduce the <u>risk</u> of occurrence and the potential seriousness of crime and disorder events, by intervening in their causes.





- Aims to reduce the number and seriousness of crime and disorder events.
- Incorporates the future orientation of prevention in relation to both the reduction of individual criminal events or decreasing more general crime risks.
- Is divided into several broad spheres.





Crime Reduction Program

. Our Crime Reduction Program can be defined as an over-arching, strategically and tactically focused approach to the identification and execution of specific initiatives, or Crime Reduction Strategies, which have the ultimate aim of achieving the strategic goals of the Force; providing safe homes and communities in the jurisdictions we serve.



Textbook Definition:

Crime reduction is a specific methodology defined as:

"The highly coordinated and targeted application of technology-enabled problem-solving projects and enforcement actions and prevention measures that mandate constant redeployment of resources, relentless follow-up action, empirically based performance assessments and rigorous accountability on the part of police leaders..."

In short, crime reduction is:

"The marriage of: (1) community-policing & crime prevention; (2) problem-oriented policing; (3) intelligence-led policing; and (4) the emerging field of evidence-based policing."

15 Principles of Crime Reduction



Proactive concentration

- 1. Habitual Offenders
- 2. High Crime Areas
- 3. Crime Causation

Through:

- 4. Innovative prevention measures
- 5. Problem-oriented policing projects
- 6. Targeted enforcement actions
- 7. Quality, intelligence-led investigations

Deployed by teams which are:

- 8. Dedicated
- 9. Integrated
- 10. Flexible and rapidly deployable

Utilizing crime data that is:

- 11. Reliable and timely
- 12. Analyzed by crime analysts
- 13. Supported by crime analysis software

Led by Police Leaders who:

- 14. Have crime and disorder contracts in place with their community clients
- 15. Are accountable for Measurable Results



Why Crime Reduction Now?

Historical reality:

- There was a time when police could respond to most crime – that is no longer the case.
- Programs like Community Policing have sought to define tolerable levels of crime through community engagement.



Why Crime Reduction Now?

Today's reality:

- Crime and criminal-victimization rates are on the rise again.
- Police clearance rates are falling.
- · Fear of crime is increasing.
- Frustrated citizens report substantially less property crime.



Why Crime Reduction Now?

- -The nature of crime has changed for a host of reasons, eg. Proliferation through technology.
- Growth of the "capacity gap" "teaches" new criminals to become better criminals.
- Crime Reduction is the next phase in policing – a step beyond Community Policing, not a replacement for it.



Crime Reduction

Challenges:

- Can't be done without suitable enabling crime-analysis software
- · Lack of enabling legislation.



Crime Reduction

Challenges:

- Human-resource systems and programs must also be tailored to accommodate unique resource and training requirements.
- Developing "buy-in" from the rest of government.

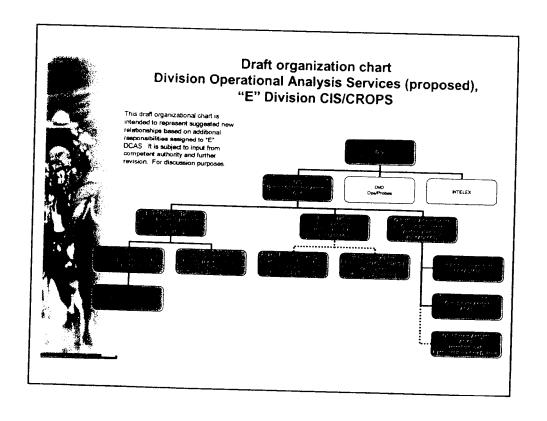


Crime Reduction

The Criminal Intelligence process:

Historically intelligence has been a Federally run initiative.

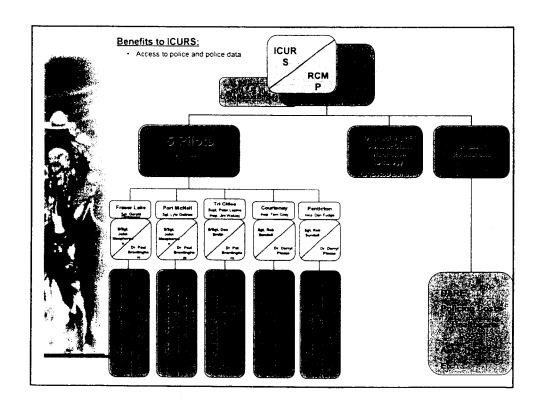
Amalgamation of intelligence throughout the Province

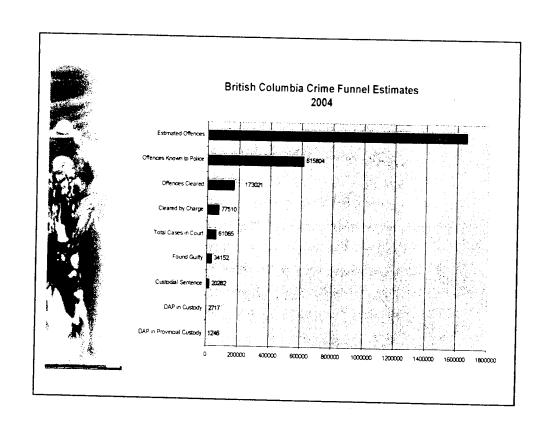


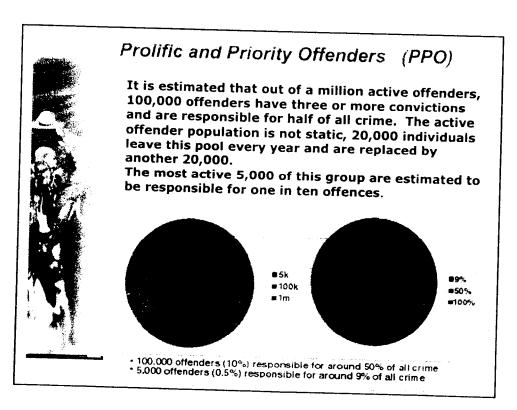


University Partnership

- Evidence-Based approach.
- M.O.U. signed September, 2005.
- Simon Fraser University.
- University College of the Fraser Valley.
- Full access to RCMP data.
- Responsible for research, program evaluation and implementation of programs.









Prolific Offenders

The Prolific and other Priority
Offender (PPO) Strategy is a
single, coherent initiative in three
complementary strands to reduce
crime by targeting those who
offend most or otherwise cause
most harm to their communities.
The three strands are Prevent &
Deter, Catch & Convict and
Rehabilitate & Resettle



Prolific Offenders

Prevent and Deter
To stop people (overwhelmingly young people) engaging in offending behaviours and graduating into prolific offenders.



Prolific Offenders

Catch and Convict

Actively tackling those who are already prolific or other priority offenders.



Prolific Offenders

Rehabilitate and Resettle

Working with identified prolific offenders to stop their offending by offering a range of supportive interventions. Offenders will be offered the opportunity for rehabilitation of face a very swift return to the courts.



Prolific Offenders

Role of Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs)

The new strategy will be led by the CDRP, with schemes set up to cover every CDRP in the country. The emphasis will be on a multi-agency approach with Police, CPS, Prisons and Probation working together, with LCJB co-ordination, to effectively catch, convict, monitor and manage these offenders in the community or custody and work towards rehabilitating them.

Drug Intervention Program (DIP)



. Aims to break the cycle of drug misuse, offending behaviour and custody by intervening at every stage of the Criminal Justice System to engage offenders in drug treatment. In order to do so, it has built on the best existing interventions, such as arrest referral, and introduced some new elements (drug testing on charge for selected acquisitive crime offences etc). Interventions now exist at arrest, in court, during community and custodial sentences and for those finishing sentences or leaving treatment in the community.

Drug Intervention Program (DIP)



. DIP is designed to engage with the broad range of drug misusing offenders, who are at different stages in their drug misuse and offending careers. It aims to prevent crime through early interventions as well as reduce crime levels by engaging the most problematic and prolific offenders. Special measures for young offenders are also being implemented.

Drug Intervention Program (DIP)



CJITs in these areas are expected to provide:

- Access to rapid prescribing services. a referral assessment and a tier 2 treatment service (including counselling, harm reduction, - Motivation and preparation for referral). a single point of contact on a 24 hour basis by phone, particularly for those leaving custodial establishments and/or treatment.

- A single point of contact for referrals from professionals including criminal justice agencies, CARAT teams and treatment agencies.



Drug Intervention Program (DIP)

- A case management approach to ensure continuity of care.
- Access to DAT commissioned services from local treatment providers at tier 3 and 4 level (in line with NTA models of care), providing pathways to suitable drug treatment.
- Partnership with probation and prison healthcare teams/CARAT workers to prepare jointly agreed release plans.
- Partnership with other relevant service providers to broker access to wraparound services such as housing, employment, education, lifeskills (e.g. finance management) etc. to address the individual's broader range of needs.



Drug Intervention Program (DIP)

Once an individual is identified, schemes are expected to manage offenders through a combination of enforcement measures and incentives to change behaviour. Therefore the aims of the schemes are to:

- Enhance arrest, investigation, detection, charging and prosecution of offenders, bringing to justice as much of the criminality committed by the targeted PPOs as possible;
- reduce re-offending of PPOs, and consequently reduce the number of victims of crime;
- Develop a rapid and effective partnership intervention which enables effective supervision and monitoring of PPOs;
- Address non-compliance/re-offending speedily and effectively.



An Integrated Criminal Justice System Strategy



Section 718 of the Criminal Code:

"The fundamental purpose of sentencing is to contribute, along with crime prevention initiatives, to respect for the law and the maintenance of a just, peaceful and safe society by imposing just sanctions that have one or more of the following objectives:

- a) To denounce unlawful conduct;
- b) To deter the offender and other persons from committing offences;
- c) To separate offenders from society, where necessary;
- d) To assist in rehabilitating offenders;
- e) To provide reparations for harm done to victims or to the community; and
- f) To provide a sense of responsibility in offenders, and acknowledgement of the harm done to victims and to the community. 1995, c. 11, s.6."



"We need to reevaluate the relationship between the justice system and the public service.

"We need a visible, accessible criminal justice system that is firmly rooted in the community it serves. For people to have confidence in the system and to participate in it, they must feel that it listens and responds to them, values their contribution and works on their behalf."

> Baroness Scotland of Asthal, Minister of State for Criminal Justice System & Law Reform, House Office



A New Integrated Criminal Justice Strategy for British Columbia

Two principles:

- Unifying the Criminal Justice System
- Engaging the community



Currently

- · Some level of integration exists with:
 - Court users committees.
 - Police/Crown meetings
- Limitations:
 - Not every CJS agency is represented.
 - Not consistent across province.
 - Problem solving only; no joint priority setting.

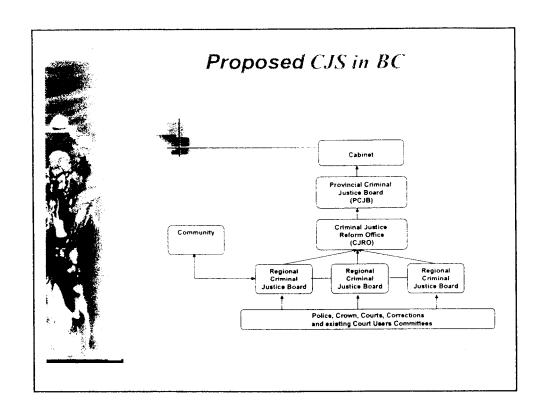
Counter productive use of resources

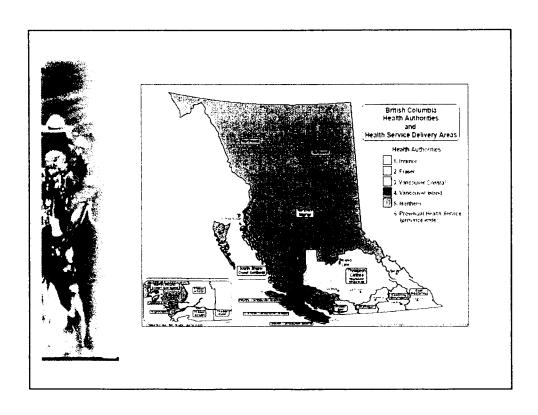
- No community involvement.
- No integration of criminal justice system with health or social systems.

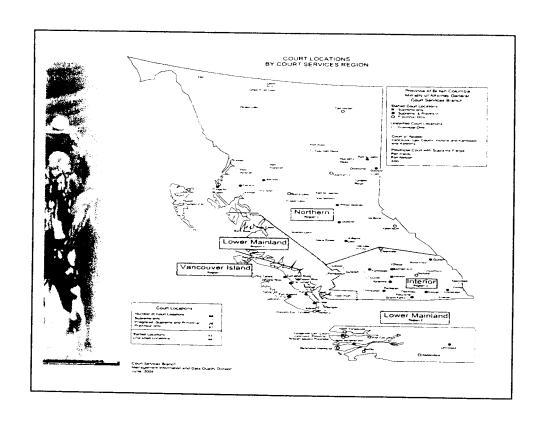


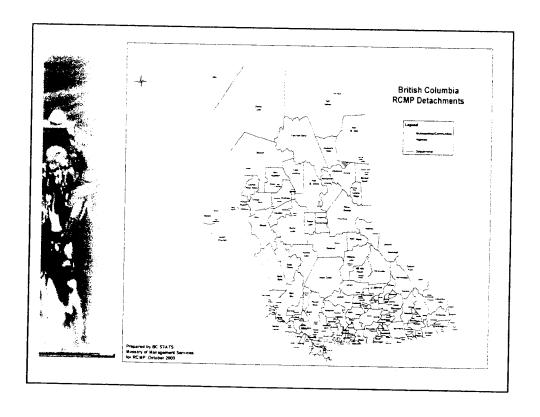
Proposed Strategy

- Independence is critical to the proper functioning of police, prosecutors and judiciary. But that independence has been allowed to create unnecessary barriers between some agencies.
- It should be possible to function more interdependently, in appropriate areas, without threatening proper and necessary independence
- "Systems Thinking" required, across agencies
- Provincial Criminal Justice Board (PCJB)
 would identify long term priorities and targets for the province
- Regional Criminal Justice Boards (RCJBs)
 would identify regional priorities and develop a regional delivery
 plan
- Criminal Justice Reform Office would coordinate RCJBs and provide support to PCJB
- This could support cross-agency, big picture "strategic thinking," without threatening each agencies' independence or exercise of discretion on a case-by-case basis.











Provincial Criminal Justice Board (PCJB)

- Composed of AG, Sol Gen, chiefs of police, Chief Judge, Chief Justice and Ministry's senior executives
- Would report directly to Cabinet
- Would be responsible for:
 - Identifying short and long term CJ priorities and targets
 - Supporting Regional Criminal Justice Boards
 - Removing barriers to joint working
 - Securing resources to meet objectives
 - Tracking delivery of the provincial objectives and targets
 - Monitoring the performance of RCJBs



Regional Criminal Justice Boards (RCJBs)

- Composition: Municipal Chief of Police/RCMP Detachment Commander, Regional Crown Counsel, Corrections, Court Services
- Reporting to Provincial Criminal Justice Board
- Responsible for:
 - Consulting with community on public safety priorities
 - Identifying regional priorities and targets
 - Developing a regional delivery plan
 - Developing performance indicators to monitor plan
 - Monitoring performance
 - Liaising with other RCJBs
- Five regions