



PACIFIC REGION REPORT

November 17-18, 2005
Ottawa, Ontario

The Pacific Region is pleased to provide this report on its activities for the first half of fiscal 2005/2006. The year to date has been another busy and fruitful one for the Region. The following summarizes some of the key activities undertaken in the Pacific Region and identifies initiatives that will be explored or implemented prior to the end of the fiscal year.

- (a) **Inter-Agency Manual on the Investigation, Prosecution and Correctional Management of Dangerous and Long Term Offenders** – This Manual, a fully electronic document, is undergoing its first revision to take into account case law developments. The Pacific Region is pleased to report that the Manual is being translated by PSEPC and expanded to make it relevant on a national basis. Requests for copies of the Manual have been received by the Pacific Region from policing, prosecutorial and correctional organizations across the country. The Manual is housed on the Intranet site of the Criminal Justice Branch, Ministry of Attorney General, British Columbia. As discussed below, it is also available on the newly launched NJC (Pacific Region) website.

- (b) **Community Protection and the Release of the Federally Incarcerated Detained Offender** – This Manual, also converted to a pdf format and burned to a disc with electronic links to policy and legislation, has been the focus of the Pacific Region's energy for the first half of fiscal 2005/2006. The Manual discusses, from a British Columbia perspective, a systemic approach to offenders detained until warrant expiry. Highlighted in the Manual are the responsibilities of the High Risk Recognizance Advisory Committee (HRRAC) which contributes to public safety by assisting justice agencies to determine whether an offender's presence in the community warrants further court-ordered supervision through application for a s.810.1 or s.810.2 recognizance. HRRAC has representation from the Abbotsford Police Department, the Corrections Branch of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, CSC, the Criminal Justice Branch, Ministry of Attorney General, Forensic Psychiatric Services Commission, Police Services Division, Ministry of Public Safety and

Solicitor General, the RCMP, the Vancouver Police Department and the Victim Safety Unit. Where a recognizance application will be made, the offenders are brought forward prior to the expiration of their sentences to ensure that the recognizance order, or interim terms designed to promote public safety, are in place until the recognizance application can be dealt with. This pre-release process involves cooperation and an exchange of information as between CSC, the National Parole Board, the Crown's office and police forces throughout the province. The report also examines community support available for offenders released to the community having been detained until warrant expiry.

The Province of British Columbia is considering the centralization of intake for all potential s.810.1 and s.810.2 recognizance applications such that report preparation would be co-ordinated through the RCMP's Behavioural Science Group and the application itself dealt with by experienced Crown counsel in either the Abbotsford and Chilliwack offices. The report examines the benefits of pre-release centralization from a policing and prosecutorial perspective.

The report also identifies, for future discussion, the adaptation of the process in place in British Columbia for: (1) high-risk offenders on statutory release who prove to be management problems in the community; and (2) long-term offenders coming to the end of their long-term supervision orders.

Close to 200 copies of this Manual and/or disc have been distributed to the following agencies or organizations: The British Columbia Association of Chiefs of Police, The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, The Police Services Division of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, The National Joint Committee of Senior Criminal Justice Officials, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada, The Correctional Service of Canada (Pacific Region, other CSC Regions and CSC National Headquarters), The National Parole Board (Pacific Region, other NPB Regions and National Parole Board Headquarters), the Criminal Justice Branch of the Ministry of Attorney General, the Corrections Branch of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA) and all representatives to the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Heads of Prosecution Committee.

With respect to Heads of Prosecution, it is noted that the establishment of a best practices strategy for the management of federally incarcerated offenders detained until warrant expiry has been identified as a priority item.

- (c) **Conference Proposal** – The Conference proposal developed by the Pacific Region is appended to this Report and builds on the topics discussed in the *Community Protection and Release of the Federally Incarcerated Detained Offender Manual*.

As will be discussed at the Semi-Annual National Meeting in Ottawa on November 17-1, 2005 options exist as to where and when such a conference might take place.

Mary Campbell has kindly brought to our attention the possibility of including this conference proposal in the agenda planning for the third "What Works" Conference in Ottawa in March, 2006. Funding and logistics support is in place for this event.

(d) NJC (Pacific Region) Website – With the kind assistance of the Vancouver Police Department, the Pacific Region has developed its own website hosted on the Vancouver Police Department's server. The website address is www.njcpacific.ca. The following web-based manuals and documents are housed on this site:

- *NJC (Pacific Region) Inter-Agency Manual on the Investigation, Prosecution and Correctional Management of Dangerous and Long Term Offenders*
- *NJC (Pacific Region) Manual entitled, Community Protection and the Release of the Federally Incarcerated Detained Offender*
- *The 2005 Police/Parole Handbook*
- *NJC Annual Reports*
- Information concerning the February, 2005 Conference hosted by the Pacific Region in Richmond, BC, entitled, *Community Protection is Paramount: Coordinating the System's Response to High-Risk Offenders*.

The Pacific Region would like to thank the Vancouver Police Department and Deputy Chief Doug LePard, our Regional Vice-Chair, for their assistance of the creation of this website.

The Pacific Region is also in the process of revising its educational material for public dissemination and is designing Pacific Region NJC folders so documents can be delivered to requested parties in a way which clearly identifies them as an NJC (Pacific Region) product.

(e) Zone Activities – All of the zones have held or are planning Police/Parole Workshops. For events which have occurred to date, see the list of activities in the Pacific Region set out below.

- (f) **Contact Party to Celebrate Release of the 2005 Police/Parole Handbook** – A Contact Party was held on September 22, 2005 between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. to celebrate release of the 2005 Police/Parole Handbook. This reception was catered, to great acclaim, by the staff and residents of Belkin House, a halfway house located in downtown Vancouver. The function was attended by over 100 people. Speakers included Pacific Region Chairs and Vice-Chairs, past and present, along with Don Demers, CSC's Pacific Deputy Commissioner.

The Contact Party was such a success that the Pacific Region plans to host it as an annual event.

- (g) **Pacific Region Budget Report** – The Regional budget was reduced this fiscal to \$9,000.00. The Pacific Region is projecting an anticipated deficit for 2005/2006. This has been identified for discussion with NJC's National Chair as the projected shortfall jeopardizes the Region's ability to follow through with some of its planned activities.

- (h) **Teal Maedel** – Teal Maedel has completed her two year term as the Pacific Region Chair and will now begin a two year term on the Executive Committee as Immediate Past Chair. I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the leadership, vision, dedication and extraordinary commitment of time Teal put into the role of Chair. Teal is passionately committed to the work of NJC and tirelessly promotes the building of bridges and promotion of dialogue between organizations to the end of enhancing public safety. The Pacific Region honoured Teal with a presentation made during our last Regional meeting.

On November 25, 2005, Teal will receive the Corrections Exemplary Service Award in a ceremony to be held in Victoria, BC to mark her years of dedication and innovation in the field of corrections.

The Pacific Region thanks Teal for her leadership and energy and looks forward to working with her in her capacity as past Chair.

- (i) **Pacific Region Activities to Date** – The activities undertaken in the Pacific Region to date are summarized below:

Function	Date	Location	Numbers
Executive Committee Meeting	May 24, 2005	Vancouver	12
Police/Parole and ISPIN Training Workshop	June 15, 2005	Vancouver	75
Presentation to BCACP on Inter-Agency Cooperation in Addressing High-Risk Offenders and Organized Crime	June 15, 2005	Prince George	50
Police/Parole Workshop	June 21, 2005	Terrace	50
Executive Committee Meeting	September 22, 2005	Vancouver	10
Contact Party: Launch of the Pacific Region 2005 Police/Parole Handbook	September 22, 2005	Vancouver	100
Police/Parole and ISPIN Training Workshop	October 5, 2005	Vernon	80
Regional Committee Meeting	October 6, 2005	Vernon	15
Crown/Police Liaison Committee Meeting: NJC Initiated Discussion of Systemic Coordination for Pre-Release Process in Relation to Federally Incarcerated Offenders Detained Until Warrant Expiry	October 27, 2005	Victoria	25
Police/Parole and ISPIN Training Workshop	November 3, 2005	Victoria	75
Presentation to CSC Pacific Regional Management Committee	November 15, 2005	Abbotsford	20
Total Number of Functions = 11		Total Number of Attendees = 512	

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