Subject: PEACE TRAINING

You may recall an email sent by DCC LePard, back in August, regarding Dr. Snook's paper, "Reforming Investigative Interviewing in Canada", published in the Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice. This paper, co-authored by three police officers, one of whom is an inspector in the RNC, Insp. John House, was critical of the current state of interview training and practices throughout Canadian police forces. They advocated for the PEACE model of interviewing that is currently in use in the UK, New Zealand, Australia and Norway.

As you may be aware, the RNC has recently engaged in a pilot project in which twelve investigators were trained in the PEACE model of interviewing. I know one of the investigators, Cst. Todd Barron RNC, who is currently training members of the RNC and I have had discussions with him regarding the training and evaluation of the project. This is an excerpt of what he has passed on to me:
I see the potential benefits of undertaking a project similar to the RNC’s. This model teaches an approach to interviewing that is common to witnesses, victims and suspects. The emphasis is in obtaining information from the subject and enhancing the quality of information that is obtained. It incorporates a tiered approach to training. The tiers are progressive and tailored to the types of interviews that an investigator will be conducting. They are:

1. Probationer
2. Uniform investigators and detectives
3. Specialist interviewers - Victim/Witness/Suspect
4. Investigative interview manager
5. Specialist interview management
An ongoing process of evaluation and quality control is paramount to ensure that the product turned out by our members is consistently of a high calibre and that members continue to improve upon their successes.

The Behavioural Analysis Interview and the Nine Steps to Interrogation, taught by Reid and Associates, has come under the scrutiny of psychologists and hence the courts, due largely to the lack of empirical and scientific research supporting the techniques. Also, it is argued that the use of techniques such as the alternative question and the direct positive confrontation have led to false confessions and ultimately wrongful convictions because the subject is overwhelmed by the tenacity of the interviewer, his perceived belief that the subject is guilty and that the interview will not stop until the subject admits guilt.

There several models that incorporate some of the elements of PEACE being taught by The Forensic Alliance (Dr. John Yuille) and Wicklander, Zulawski and Associates (two former Reid Associates); however, I propose that we take advantage of the opportunity offered to us by the RNC. In a submission to Blue Line magazine in 2008, entitled Lessons from England and Wales, Dr. Snook and Inspector House, RNC, put a call out to all Canadian law enforcement agencies interested in conducting a pilot project. I anticipate that the VPD would benefit from their experience in conducting the research and other such projects. Also, it should be noted that this training is being offered by the RNC, in conjunction with Memorial University. It is not being offered by a commercial enterprise.

I recommend that Sgt. Gabriel and I undertake the PEACE training at Memorial University in January 2010. Upon conclusion of the training, we will evaluate and assess our experiences and present them to you. Consideration should be given to implementing a pilot project, similar to the RNC’s, with the Sex Crime Unit because they conduct the most victim, witness and suspect interviews and because they are also in the SIS, thereby only involving one Inspector. Assuming a positive evaluation of the pilot project, a plan to train the entire department, according to the appropriate tiers, should be considered.

In support of the goals of the 2008-2012 Strategic Plan, specifically to support and develop our members and to maximize their potential and achieve and maintain best practices, we would be remiss to ignore the direction that the courts and psychological research are providing with regard to interviewing practices.

I have attached the following appendices for your information:


Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shaun Deans
Sergeant 2066
Polygraph Unit
Date: January 17th, 2011
To: Inspector B. Usui
From: Sergeant S. Deans
Subject: PEACE Investigative Interview Training Report

As you are aware, I attended a PEACE Model of Investigative Interview training course at Memorial University from November 28th to December 10th 2010. The course was hosted by the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary and taught by Dr. Brent Snook, Department of Psychology, Memorial University and Cst. Todd Barron, RNC.

The acronym PEACE stands for Preparation and Planning, Engage and Explain, Account, Closure, Evaluation. The PEACE model of investigative interviewing was developed between 1991 and 1992 by a working group of lawyers, psychologists and police in response to judicial and public criticism of police interview standards in the UK. This is a structured model of interviewing that allows for flexibility, and emphasizes that the interviewer’s purpose is to seek the truth and limit the possibilities of suggestibility and compliance. The PEACE approach to suspect and accused persons interviews is an inquisitorial approach as opposed to a persuasive approach. The cognitive interview and conversation management approach figure prominently in this interview model.

Advocates for the PEACE model claim that it produces consistent and professional interviewers, it is grounded in psychological science, reduces lost statements in court, produces better quality of information from witnesses and victims, reduces interviewee resentment and few suspects change their account.

Critics of the PEACE model claim that it is a “soft approach” that does not allow for challenging suspects, relies on a cooperative interviewee, and does not fit with our Canadian legal system because we do not have the equivalent of Special Warnings as in the UK.

The steps, as taught, are explained below.
**Preparation and Planning**

Being prepared and having a plan in place prior to the start of an interview is imperative. PEACE requires that the interviewer consider the following: points to prove, prepare questions, possible defences, how the interview will contribute to the investigation, information about the interviewee and any practical issues that may arise such as smoking, wheel chair access, etc.

**Engage and Explain**

This is when the interview with the subject commences. In addition to building rapport and trust, the interviewer advises the subject of any pertinent legal rights, the purpose for the interview and the *route map*, or the way in which the interview will be conducted, as well as the routines and expectations. The purpose of the *route map* is to reduce the subject's anxiety and thereby increase the subject’s ability to concentrate and access their memory.

**Account**

The goal of the interviewer is to obtain an uninterrupted account from the subject. The interviewer will then expand and clarify the account and when appropriate, challenge any inconsistencies.

The interviewer is encouraged to plan his questions and to formulate them in such a way as to avoid closed ended questions, forced choice questions or leading questions and to sequence them in a manner compatible with the subject’s version.

Once the subject provides an account, *PLAT*’s are identified. *PLAT* is an acronym for People, Locations, Actions and Time. *PLAT*’s that have been identified from the account are probed using as many open ended questions as possible. Specific issues can be narrowed and dealt with closed questions as necessary. *PLAT*’s or topics are explored one at a time. This becomes what is known as the question loop.

Once the *PLAT*’s have been probed to the interviewer’s satisfaction, the interviewer summarizes the subject’s account and invites the subject to add, change or correct any information. The interviewer then invites the second interviewer to ask any questions on the topic being discussed. It is important that the interviewer avoids topic hopping as it breaks the contextual reinstatement of the witness.

**Conversation Management**

The Conversation Management approach is used for suspects and accused persons. The approach fits within the PEACE structure as it is employed during
the account gathering phase. Conversation Management was developed in 1983 by Professor Eric Shepherd as a way of maximizing the spontaneous disclosure of suspects, witnesses and victims. As applied to PEACE, it assumes that the suspect or accused person is uncooperative or cooperative but providing false information.

The account gathering phase is opened with a direct question as to whether the subject committed the offence; ostensibly, “did you do it?” Prior to the interview, the interviewer has identified the material time frame. The material time frame covers the time that the offence occurred. The subject is then asked to provide an account of what they were doing during the material time frame.

The questioning loop is identical to that of a witness or victim: identify topics, probe the topics, summarize and link.

After the topics have been exhausted the interview is reviewed. Inconsistencies with what is known are identified and then a decision of whether to challenge the subject with these inconsistencies is made.

The interviewer challenges the subject through the strategic use of evidence (Hartwig et al., 2006) or the tactical use of evidence (Dando and Bull, 2011).

**Closure**

The interviewer concludes the interview when there is no purpose served by continuing. This decision is made based on the interviewer’s belief that all questions have been covered, the aims of the interview have been met, or at least attempted to be met, and that the interviewee has provided all the information that they are able or willing to provide.

The interviewer verifies and consolidates the information by reviewing the account with the interviewee. This gives the interviewee an opportunity to confirm, alter, clarify, deny or add anything they wish. The main points are reviewed for those who remained silent or made no comment and a last opportunity to respond is provided.

Interviewers are encouraged to close the interview in a courteous and professional manner. It is stressed that every subject is a source of information, present and future. It also reduces subject resentment for future dealings with the police.

**Evaluation**

The evaluation component of the PEACE model is extremely important. The interview must be evaluated in terms of how it effects the investigation and how it was conducted.
Immediately after the interview, interviewers are to assess what effect any new information has on the investigation as a whole. The new information should be assessed to determine if it is consistent with what is already known and if it is not, what conflicts need to be resolved through future inquiries. In other words, evidence is re-evaluated after each interview.

The interviewer’s performance must also be evaluated. This is accomplished through the interviewer's self reflection of what went well and what did not, peer evaluation and debrief. Most importantly, the organization must have an evaluation process in place for interviewers in order to ensure that interviewers are maintaining the standard taught, improving their skill set and that bad habits are not being re-enforced and adopted by others in the organization. I am aware of two studies have been conducted that examined the common errors and improper application of the Cognitive Interview Technique by police officers newly trained in this technique (Dando et al. 2009).

**Impressions**

I was impressed with this training. The instructors were experienced, knowledgeable and represented both academia and practical policing. Dr. Brent Snook is a professor at Memorial University and Constable Todd Barron is a polygraph examiner with the RNC.

The course was divided equally into theory and practice, with the final three days consisting of scenario based training that involved several victim, witness and suspect interviews. All interview subjects were RNC police recruits in training and psychology students. The level of training was appropriate to new investigators.

The Enhanced Cognitive Interview was taught. This was the best training on the Enhanced Cognitive Interview that I have received. It was balanced with practical application and critique.

Question formulation and presentation were discussed as well as memory recall. I have attached a training memo that I circulated throughout MCS and SIS immediately upon return from Newfoundland. Questions to be asked of eyewitnesses in order to assess the credibility of their information were discussed.

**Criticisms**

Persuasive techniques such as theme development, behavioural observation questions, evidence connecting (bait) questions and alternative questions were discouraged in this training. The arguments made against these techniques were well presented and based on research and statistics. However, as
repeatedly upheld by the Supreme Court of Canada, these techniques may be appropriate when dealing with certain suspects and when fully exposed and evaluated by the trier of fact, lead to admissible statements. There is no doubt that the structured approach taught and the scientifically sound techniques of gathering information from the subject are currently the standard that all police departments should be striving to achieve with all interviews. I can find no valid argument to the contrary. However, when these techniques fail to gather any information from a suspect or accused person, I fail to agree that persuasive, "traditional" interview techniques should not be attempted, when appropriate, in order to attempt to elicit information from the subject; especially when the Supreme Court of Canada has made it abundantly clear that such techniques do not necessarily render a statement inadmissible (R. v. Oickle).

The organization wide evaluation component is valuable and necessary; however is a daunting undertaking considering that each interviewer would be required to submit a specified number of interviews to be evaluated by an approved evaluator.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Sgt. Rankin and I conduct a four day training programme for 10 investigators (5 from SIS and 5 from MCS). The investigators to be chosen will be selected from a group that routinely conducts interviews and are competent interviewers. Once trained, the group will exclusively utilize the PEACE model of investigative interviewing for a period of time to be determined. Each investigator will provide Sgt. Rankin and me two examples of interviews conducted in the field; one victim/witness and one suspect. At the end of the trial period, the investigators will report back with their perceptions of the training and practical application of the interview model. A qualitative analysis of the interviews conducted during the trial period will also be conducted. This information will then be presented for consideration with regard to a department wide interview training programme.

Works Cited


A Word on Questions

Those familiar with interviewing children or vulnerable victims/witnesses are aware that investigators should avoid asking leading questions and closed-ended questions. Those subjects that we view as being vulnerable must not be limited to children or the mentally ill. It must be expanded to consider those with an IQ of less than 80; those who are drugged or intoxicated; those who are sleep deprived; and those who are very anxious; in other words, those who are vulnerable to suggestibility or compliance.

Compliance is a tendency to go along with people in authority. Suggestibility is a tendency to internalize information communicated during questioning. Subjects meeting the aforementioned criteria may have a vulnerable memory and the interviewer may, unwittingly, make suggestions to a subject through questioning that can influence the subject’s memory. The way, in which questions are phrased, the order in which they are sequenced and the frequency that they are asked can influence the information provided by the subject and may affect the subject’s memory.

With this in mind, we as interviewers should concern ourselves with what we can control in order to avoid the pitfalls of suggestibility and compliance and to obtain the most accurate information possible.

Question Formulation

The following question types are defined. The order of the following definitions reflects the order in which questions should normally be sequenced.

**Open-ended question**- a question directed towards a specific event or occurrence that cannot be answered simply with yes or no or a brief phrase. The way the question is phrased allows for a full range of responses. For example, “Tell me about the man in the bank.” Open-ended questions are not phrased as questions, but as instructions. Use the acronym TED (Tell, Explain, Describe) to formulate an open-ended question.

**Cued invitation**- a question that assists the subject in recreating the context of the event. For example, “You said that he smelled like he had been drinking. Describe what you smelled.”

**Probing question**- a question that is more intrusive and requires a more specific answer. Usually the 5 W’s and How. For example, “Who were you with?”

**Closed-ended question**- a question that can be answered with yes, no, I don’t know, maybe, or other such brief phrase. For example, “Did he have any facial hair?” Closed-ended questions are entirely appropriate when probing the subject’s version and the interviewer has led off with open-ended questions.

The following questions are usually not desirable because they force a choice or suggest an answer.
Forced-choice question- a question that allows for a limited number of possible responses. For example, “Did he have a gun or a knife?”

Leading question- a question that suggests an answer. For example, “Are you always such a jerk when you’ve been drinking?”

Opinion or statement question- the interviewer poses an opinion or puts statements to the subject rather than asking a question. The opinion or a statement, although not a question, may invite a response. For example, “I think you robbed that bank.”

Multiple questions- several questions asked at once without allowing the subject time to respond to each question. For example, “Where were you, who were you with and what did you do?”

Witness Compatible Questioning

Most of our investigators are familiar with the Cognitive Interview (CI) and employ the strategies associated with the CI, such as mental reinstatement of context and recalling events in different orders. One of the most important strategies, witness compatible questioning, is often overlooked.

An effective interviewer will be able to infer the witness’s mental representation of the event through the witness’s mental reinstatement of context. In other words, the witness will mentally “re-live” the event and will likely have mental images of the event in mind. The goal of the interview should be to provide retrieval strategies in order to facilitate the witness’s ability to access these mental images. The most effective memory enhancing interview model is the CI.

Questioning sequence should be based on the order of information provided by the witness during the witness’s narrative and not by the interviewer’s desired order or thought process. In other words, the interview format must be compatible with the witness’s knowledge. Remember, the witness knows more than you.

The following two principles will assist investigators in their understanding of compatible questioning.

Principle of Detail

An object or an event may be represented in more than one mental image. For example, a witness to a robbery has two images of the suspect in mind; head on and right profile. The interviewer should attempt to determine which mental image has the most detail and explore it first.
Principle of Momentum

Order questions so that each question can be answered by the image currently held in the witness’s consciousness.

Question Sequencing

Taking into account the Principle of Detail and the Principle of Momentum should assist investigators in the sequencing of questions.

Think of questioning as a funnel, start wide with an open-ended question (*tell, explain, describe*), in order to prompt the witness’s version or narrative. From the narrative, identify topics that need to be explored further. Start with another open-ended question or cued invitation, drill down with probing questions and if necessary ask a closed-ended question in order to exhaust the topic. Question sequencing should reflect the sequence of events as they are recalled by the witness, not necessarily in chronological order.

It is important to stay on topic and exhaust the topic rather than returning to the same topic over and over throughout different parts of the interview. “Topic hopping” hinders the mental reinstatement of context and can be mentally taxing for the witness.

For example, suppose that a witness to a sexual assault has two mental images of the suspect. One is face to face and the other is the suspect’s back as he runs away. The interviewer should attempt to determine which mental image has the most detail and explore that image first. If the most detailed mental image is face to face, question the witness about details and descriptions that would likely be held in that mental image. Once those topics have been exhausted, move on to those associated to the suspect running away.

Be aware that repetitive questioning may coach the witness to give the same answer, even if it is incorrect, or it may lead the compliant or suggestible witness to change the answer in order to please the interviewer or go along with the interviewer.

If you have any questions or would like further information, contact Shaun Deans or Geoff Gabriel in the Polygraph Unit.
Yes. Have you seen my methodology for the PEACE study? I'm hoping to have the trg completed by end of Apr. Had to postpone in Feb due to operational requirements.

----- Original Message ----- 
From: LePard, Doug 
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 02:53 PM 
To: DEANS, Shaun 
Subject: Re: UK tool for interviewing witnesses 

K, thx. Might be a good little proposal for you to write up. Always good to have a selection of answers for the question, "Give us an example of when you wrote and presented an important report..."

Deputy Chief Doug LePard 
Operations Division 
Vancouver Police Department 
Office: 604-717-22(1) 
Cell: 22(1) 

----- Original Message ----- 
From: DEANS, Shaun 
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2011 02:43 PM 
To: LePard, Doug 
Subject: Re: UK tool for interviewing witnesses 

I agree. The study would be pretty simple. It would likely be labour intensive in terms of reviewing and coding the data. I think that the first thing that we would need to do is get the trg in order to see if it's even worth pursuing. I'll check into how and where it's being delivered. It looks like they've got a tight grip on it.

----- Original Message ----- 
From: LePard, Doug 
Sent: Sunday, April 24, 2011 09:30 AM 
To: DEANS, Shaun 
Subject: UK tool for interviewing witnesses 

Shaun,

This is very interesting. The implications are for both Patrol members and also detectives who are called out. It might be worth talking to P+R about designing a small study to pilot this with a control group. Your thoughts?

Deputy Chief Doug LePard 
Operations Division 
Vancouver Police Department 
Office: 604-717-22(1) 
Cell: 22(1)
Hey Shaun
Have you been using PEACE more lately? How are you thinking about it all?

I think you will a lot of interest in the method as more and more people learn about it - really just keep growing out this way...slow, but steady increase in interest.

Brent

On 18-Oct-11, at 9:04 PM, DEANS, Shaun wrote:

> Thanks v much. The Office of Police Complaint Commissioner has asked
> Lawrence and I to come and give a presentation to them re the way that
> we have been conducting interviews. Apparently they like it and want
> us to show other PSS sections.
> >
> > ----- Original Message -----
> > From: Brent Snook [mailto:bsnook@mun.ca]
> > Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2011 06:10 PM
> > To: DEANS, Shaun
> > Subject: Re:
> >
> > Hey Shaun
> > That point pertained to some excruciating interrogations that occurred
> > in the UK in the 70s (some reports of PTSD from these
> > interrogations) and maybe even some that suffer from the
> > interrogations that occur in the US - long 10+ hours, sleep and food
> > deprivation, etc. I always tell people that this one is the very
> > extreme of what can happen when interrogations are highly stressful,
> > coercive, and manipulative. Gisli Gudjonsson in the UK raised these
> > concerns in this seminal text on police interrogations and false
> > confessions in 2003.
> > >
> > > Hope this helps,
> > > Brent
> > > let me know if you need anything as you progress...
> > >
> > >
> > > On 2011-10-18, at 7:25 PM, DEANS, Shaun wrote:
> > >> Hey Brent,
> > >>
> > >> I'm running a PEACE course right now for our Professional Standards
> > >> Section. One of our members is a recent MA grad in counselling psych
> > >> and asked about one of the points in the initial slides about PEACE
> > >> reducing chances of PTSD. What can you tell me about that?
> > >
Hey Shaun
That point pertained to some excruciating interrogations that occurred in the UK in the 70s (some reports of PTSD from these interrogations) and maybe even some that suffer from the interrogations that occur in the US - long 10+ hours, sleep and food deprivation, etc. I always tell people that this one is the very extreme of what can happen when interrogations are highly stressful, coercive, and manipulative. Gisli Gudjohnsson in the UK raised these concerns in this seminal text on police interrogations and false confessions in 2003.

Hope this helps,
Brent
let me know if you need anything as you progress...

On 2011-10-18, at 7:25 PM, DEANS, Shaun wrote:

> Hey Brent,
> I'm running a PEACE course right now for our Professional Standards Section. One of our members is a recent MA grad in counselling psych and asked about one of the points in the initial slides about PEACE reducing chances of PTSD. What can you tell me about that?
Hey Shaun,
This email is to introduce you to John Tedeschini from Edmonton Police Service. John has a colleague coming from Australia to Vancouver soon and was hoping you might be able to meet up with him to discuss the state of interviewing in Canada. Well, he can tell you more about it..

Are you running the PEACE course at the moment?

Cheers,
Brent
Hey Shaun,

I can give you some guidance on what to do with the interviews. You may have different interests than me, but the key should be to code the videos by variables that you think are very central to interviewing. I will send you a copy of Sarah's coding sheet and content dictionary to see what you can do with the victims - you'll need a different coding guide for the suspects...depending on what you are looking for.

Across each though, you'll probably want to look for things like:

- Type of Questions Asked - Number of each type asked -open -probing -closed -leading -forced -multiple -offers opinion
- Engage and Explain (rate on 7 point scale, for example)
- Attempts to build rapport
- Requests free narrative
- Number of Interruptions
- Percentage of time talking by interviewer
- Time between end of answer and next question asked (rapid fire test)

These are just a few important ones. Keep in mind that it has taken Sarah around 3 months to code up around 30 of these interviews -- but that is using a very detailed coding guide. To show that the training is working, you may just wish to choose a few key practices and code them up...

After you get a chance to look at Sarah's materials (I hope to get that to you later today/tomorrow), we can talk about what you might do.

Cheers,
Brent

> Hi Brent,
> Thanks for those articles. I was particularly interested in the the SCAN one. Have you ever heard of the Reality Monitoring that Vrij refers to?
> Anyway, Laurence and I are going to train a group of 8 starting March 28th. I've collected two pre-training "victim" interviews and two suspect interviews from each participant and I am ready to review and code them. Would you be willing to give me some guidance on how to do that?
> Hope all is well. Has your baby arrived yet?
> Shaun Deans
> Polygraph Unit
> Vancouver Police Department
> 604.717.2211
> This transmission may contain confidential or privileged communications, and the sender does not waive any related rights and obligations. If you are not the intended recipient and have received this in error, you must immediately destroy it. Unauthorized copying or distribution of any information herein is strictly prohibited and may constitute a criminal offence, a breach of provincial or Federal privacy laws, or may otherwise result in legal sanctions. We ask that you notify the Vancouver Police Department immediately of any
Looks good. I think forwarding an outline to Rothwell would be appropriate. Rothwell will forward it to Lemcke

Laurence Rankin
Sgt, Laurence Rankin
Major Crime Section
Homicide Squad/Team 1
(Direct) 604 717-2011
(Fax) 604 606-2728

"This transmission may contain confidential or privileged communications, and the sender does not waive any related rights and obligations. If you are not the intended recipient and have received this in error, you must immediately destroy it. Unauthorized copying or distribution of any information herein is strictly prohibited and may constitute a criminal offence, a breach of provincial or Federal privacy laws, or may otherwise result in legal sanctions. We ask that you notify the Vancouver Police Department immediately of any transmission received in error, by reply E-mail to the sender"
DEANS, Shaun

From: Rankin, Laurence
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2011 2:38 PM
To: BOYLE, Joanne
Cc: DEANS, Shaun
Subject: RE: PEACE Interview Training Course

Joanne,

Shaun and I were just discussing this course and would like to open it up to the forensic composite artists. We would have them audit the first two days of enhanced cognitive interview techniques. We believe this would assist them in obtaining more accurate descriptions from their subjects.

Regards

Sgt. Laurence Rankin
Major Crime Section
Homicide Squad/Team 1
(Direct) 604 717-2241
(Fax) 604 606-2728

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From: BOYLE, Joanne
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 7:11 AM
To: Rankin, Laurence
Subject: Re: PEACE Interview Training Course

Laurence, given the specific qualifications you are looking for, please approach the Sgts directly and determine who should take part. Is there any jeopardy to the investigation in using this technique? Jo

From: Rankin, Laurence
Sent: Wednesday, February 02, 2011 06:55 AM
To: BOYLE, Joanne
Cc: DEANS, Shaun
Subject: PEACE Interview Training Course

Shaun Deans and I recently took a 2 week PEACE Investigative Interviewing course at Memorial University. We are putting together a training course for 5 members from MCS and 5 members from SIS, which has been approved (via Polygraph) by the Supt and DCC. The course is tentatively scheduled for the second or third week in March and will run four full days. I am asking you to nominate members from your units to take part in this training. Once the training is complete, the members will be required to conduct interviews exclusively using the PEACE model until they have completed a full set of victim, witness and suspect interviews. These interviews will then be evaluated by us and may also be reviewed by Crown, and an outside police agency currently using
PEACE, for their input. Upon conclusion of the project, the chosen members will then be required to participate in a brief round table discussion. This project will help be considered to help with the creation of a standard interview training programme for this department.

I would like authorization to have RAAS and Homicide NCO's provide me a list of members to be considered for this training opportunity. The members must have already have significant interviewing experience and routinely conduct interviews of witnesses, victims and suspects using the Cognitive Interview Technique and structured persuasive interrogation techniques. This is not an introductory interviewing course and members with little or no interviewing experience will not be considered.

Regards,

*Sgt. Laurence Rankin*
*Major Crime Section*
*Homicide Squad/Team 1*
*(Direct) 604 717-62(1)*
*(Fax) 604 606-2728*

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Laurence Rankin and I recently took a 2 week PEACE Investigative Interviewing course at Memorial University. We are putting together a training course for 5 members from MCS and 5 members from SIS, which has been approved by the Supt and DCC. The course is tentatively scheduled for the second or third week in March and will run four full days. I am asking you to nominate members from your units to take part in this training. Once the training is complete, the members will be required to conduct interviews exclusively using the PEACE model until they have completed a full set of victim, witness and suspect interviews. These interviews will then be evaluated by Laurence and me and may also be reviewed by Crown, and an outside police agency currently using PEACE, for their input. Upon conclusion of the project, the chosen members will then be required to participate in a brief round table discussion. This project will help be considered to help with the creation of a standard interview training programme for this department.

Please send me a list of members to be considered for this training opportunity. The members must have already have significant interviewing experience and routinely conduct interviews of witnesses, victims and suspects using the Cognitive Interview Technique and structured persuasive interrogation techniques. This is not an introductory interviewing course and members with little or no interviewing experience will not be considered.

Your input is appreciated. Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information.

Shaun Deans
Polygraph Unit
Vancouver Police Department
604.717.22(1)
Hi Shaun,

This sounds like meaningful training and I'm totally on-board with us attending to evaluate it, and if it's warranted, bringing the instructors out to Vancouver for the larger group.

Thank you,

Rob Rothwell
Superintendent 980
Investigative Services
Vancouver Police Department
604 717-8233

-----Original Message-----
From: Deans, Shaun
Sent: Wednesday, May 05, 2010 15:15
To: Lemcke, Warren; Rothwell, Rob
Subject: FW: N.L. police revise interviewing style

Sorry, sirs. I unintentionally did not include you in the response.

-----Original Message-----
From: Deans, Shaun
Sent: May 5, 2010 15:13
To: LePard, Doug
Cc: Usui, Bob; Gabriel, Geoff; Rankin, Laurence
Subject: RE: N.L. police revise interviewing style

Thanks, Sir. I had breakfast a few weeks ago with Dr. Snook, from Memorial University, who has worked closely with Insp. House and the RNC. We discussed the "Canadianized" PEACE model that the RNC has adopted. We also discussed the evaluation model being used and the success that the RNC is reporting.

Todd Barron, who is mentioned in the article, is a classmate of mine from Polygraph School. Both Snook and Barron have made offers to include us in their training programme. I recently spoke with S/Sgt Rob Angco, from the Ediv Interview Team, and they are considering sending a few members to evaluate the training, in Sept. The VPD has been invited to participate in their 2 week training programme to be conducted sometime in Sept. Snook and I discussed the possibility of bringing them out to Vancouver in order to train a larger group of members here. I expect to submit a report to Insp. Usui within a few weeks.

-----Original Message-----
From: LePard, Doug
Sent: May 5, 2010 13:54
The change aims to address problem identified by provincial justice inquiry.

The PEACE interviewing technique:
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* E - Engage and explain
* A - Account
* C - Closure
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"I guess the main differences would be that PEACE is designed to be an inquisitorial, or information gathering approach. Rather than an accusatory system of interviewing," said Cst. Todd Barron, who has headed up the training for the RNC.

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"I have great expectations that this will improve the system and anything that improves the system is certainly of benefit to all the citizens of Newfoundland and indeed Canada," he said Monday.

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He blamed sloppy interviewing by the RNC for the charges being laid in the first place.

Stephen Bindman
Special Advisor on Wrongful Convictions | Conseiller spécial, erreurs judiciaires
Department of Justice Canada | Ministère de la Justice Canada
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H8
sbindman@justice.gc.ca
Telephone | Téléphone 613-957-4930
Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada
DEANS, Shaun

From: RANKIN, Laurence
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2011 1:51 PM
To: DEANS, Shaun
Subject: Fw: Interview Training

From: David Airey [mailto:DAirey@opcc.bc.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2011 08:06 AM
To: RANKIN, Laurence
Subject: FW: Interview Training

Harmen’s perspective on your lecture

From: Hermanjeet Kahlon
Sent: November-14-11 4:50 PM
To: David Airey
Subject: Interview Training

Hi Dave

I forgot to say thank you for the training on Thursday. I think its awesome that we are getting grounded overviews of processes and police department’s approaches because it helps us to understand what they are thinking.

I really appreciated the presentation and thought that it was really well done. I worked at a cognitive memory lab during my undergrad and took counselling psychology (which advocate for cognitive approach as a means to gaining information) and was really really really happy to see that the cognitive approach is being applied at VPD.

If you speak with Rankin or Deans can you tell them it was a great presentation. Forgot to say that in my rush out on Thursday.

Harmen

Hermanjeet Kaur Kahlon
Investigative Analyst
Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner
PO Box 9895, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9T8
Telephone: (250) 356-7458
Toll Free: 1-877-999-8707
Fax: (250) 356-6503

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Hey Shaun,

We'll try to arrange something for October/November — it would be great to get you guys out here. We'll give you an update on other things we are doing soon as well.

Cheers,
Brent

Thanks Brent. Yes, we will certainly be able to come out at some point this year. I'm hoping that there might be something in Oct or Nov?

----- Original Message ----- 
From: bsnook@play.psych.mun.ca <bsnook@play.psych.mun.ca>
To: DEANS, Shaun
Cc: bsnook@play.psych.mun.ca <bsnook@play.psych.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: PEACE

Hey Shaun,

I was wondering if you have had any discussions with Doug LePard or others about you coming here to learn about PEACE? The last time we spoke, you indicated that Doug was very keen on sending people out to learn about the method. We just finished up a 2 week course about 2 weeks ago (Bill and Steve were on the course). We hope to run another one in the Fall, and perhaps go to Ontario to help Bill run a two week course as well — There seems to a growing interest in Ontario by some organizations.

In any case, I thought I would drop you a line to see how things were progressing and to keep in touch.

Here is a link to an interviewing research group (1/2 academics and 1/2 police officers) that you might wish to join. I just got back from a conference in Norway on interviewing — great conference. There will likely be a conference on interviewing in Scotland in 2011 (should see if you can go) and Toronto or Newfoundland in 2012 — we are currently working on negotiating the location for 2012:

http://www.tees.ac.uk/schools/sssl/iirg/

You'll see the link for "join iIRG" in the middle of the page. You can also scan the bulletin to see the sort of issues being discussed among these people. There is currently 400 members on this society - all of the top academics on interviewing and loads of highly skilled police interviewers. I think you would really enjoy this sort of conference...

Cheers,
Brent

p.s., please hit "reply all" to this message as I am on an antiquated
email system

Fellas,

This article appeared in the Vancouver Sun yesterday. I'm not sure if it appeared in all of the newspapers. So, here you go.

From: Muir, Suzanne
Sent: April 1, 2010 08:50
To: MCS Robbery Assault - DL
Cc: Deans, Shaun; Gabriel, Geoff; Rankin, Laurence; AIRTH, Cita; Porteous, Mike; Isaksson, Ike
Subject: PEACE vs REID Method of Interrogating Suspects

Interesting article attached below from the Wednesday, March 31, 2010 edition of the Vancouver Sun by Douglas Quan, that compares the PEACE and REID technique for interviewing suspects.

Suzanne

Sergeant Suzanne Muir
Major Crime Section
Robbery/Assault and Arson Unit
Phone: (604) 717-22(1)
Fax: (604) 665-2174
VPD URL: http://www.vpd.ca

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From: Thompson, Denice
Sent: Thursday, April 01, 2010 07:15
To: Muir, Suzanne
Subject: Scanned article

Attached and also saved in your member's file. <<Vancouver Sun Article re Questioning.pdf>>

Denice Thompson
Project Assistant
Robbery/Assault/Arson Unit
denice.thompson@vpd.ca
(604) 717-22(1)
(604) 665-2174 (fax)
Thanks, Sir. I had breakfast a few weeks ago with Dr. Snook, from Memorial University, who has worked closely with Insp. House and the RNC. We discussed the "Canadianized" PEACE model that the RNC has adopted. We also discussed the evaluation model being used and the success that the RNC is reporting.

Todd Barron, who is mentioned in the article, is a classmate of mine from Polygraph School. Both Snook and Barron have made offers to include us in their training programme. I recently spoke with S/Sgt Rob Angco, from the Ediv Interview Team, and they are considering sending a few members to evaluate the training, in Sept. The VPD has been invited to participate in their 2 week training programme to be conducted sometime in Sept. Snook and I discussed the possibility of bringing them out to Vancouver in order to train a larger group of members here. I expect to submit a report to Insp. Usui within a few weeks.

-----Original Message-----
From: LePard, Doug
Sent: May 5, 2010 13:54
To: Rothwell, Rob; Rankin, Laurence; Deans, Shaun
Cc: Lemcke, Warren
Subject: FW: N.L. police revise interviewing style

FYI

Doug LePard
Deputy Chief Constable
Operations Division
Vancouver Police Department
604-717-22(1)

-----Original Message-----
From: Bindman, Stephen [mailto:SBINDMAN@JUSTICE.GC.CA]
Sent: Wednesday, May 05, 2010 8:34 AM
To: Ava Arbuck; Daryl Rayner; Don Slough; LePard, Doug; Francis Brabant; Jean-Pierre Proulx; juli.drolet@justice.gouv.qc.ca; Kathy Hartwig; Laura Eplett; Mary Nethery; maryellen.hurman@ontario.ca; Oleh Kuzma; Pamela Goulding; Paul Saint-Denis; Richard Taylor; Rosella Cornaviera; Sherri Davis-Barron; steve dawson; Suzanne Crawford; Tom Trueman; Zane Tessler
Subject: N.L. police revise interviewing style

The change aims to address problem identified by provincial justice inquiry.
Last Updated: Tuesday, April 20, 2010 | 12:30 PM NT Comments17
The RNC says the new approach, called the PEACE interviewing method, encourages a more open-minded approach. "I guess the main differences would be that PEACE is designed to be an inquisitorial, or information gathering approach. Rather than an accusatory system of interviewing," said Cst. Todd Barron, who has headed up the training for the RNC. The method has been used in the U.K. for a decade. The RNC is the first to adapt the system for use in North America. Barron says the new interviewing approach is very different from the one popularized by television police shows. Nearly all the force's plain clothes detectives have completed the two-week training program. The rest will be trained in the coming months. One RNC critic is commending the move. Lawyer Bob Simmonds represented Greg Parsons, who was wrongly convicted of murdering his mother. Simmonds says this is another example of how the force is working to address the shortcomings pointed out by Justice Lamer. "I have great expectations that this will improve the system and anything that improves the system is certainly of benefit to all the citizens of Newfoundland and indeed Canada," he said Monday. Simmonds said he wishes the change had been made earlier because serious charges against two other clients were dropped by prosecutors in the past few months. He blamed sloppy interviewing by the RNC for the charges being laid in the first place.

Thanks, Shaun. I've heard John Yuille speak on PEACE and he was quite complimentary. I look forward to hearing more from you about this going forward.

Doug LePard
Deputy Chief Constable
Operations Division
Vancouver Police Department
604-717-2221

-----Original Message-----
From: Deans, Shaun
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2009 2:23 PM
To: LePard, Doug; Rankin, Laurence
Cc: Gabriel, Geoff; Rothwell, Rob; Usui, Bob
Subject: Re: Investigative Interviewing Project

I did do some research re PEACE. We were offered a place on the course that the RNC conducted at the beginning of the year; however, there were no funds available. A polygraph classmate of mine is teaching the course to the RNC and has been working closely with Insp House and Prof Snook at Memorial University. Coincidentally I am in Ottawa this week, with the RNC instructor, Todd Barron, and have spoken to him about receiving some training. He is more than willing to assist, if we decide to partake. What I will briefly say about PEACE is that it is a formulated approach to interviewing, not just interrogation. It doesn't really have anything to do with any country's legal system. In terms of interrogation, it is an evidence based approach as opposed to a confrontation based approach. Yuille et al at the Forensic Alliance have their own spin on it. I'll fill in more, later.

Shaun Deans
Sergeant
Polygraph Unit
Vancouver Police Department
604 717 2221

----- Original Message ----- 
From: LePard, Doug
To: Rankin, Laurence
Cc: Deans, Shaun; Gabriel, Geoff; Rothwell, Rob
Sent: Tue Aug 11 08:53:26 2009
Subject: RE: Investigative Interviewing Project

That's helpful - thanks Laurence. I look forward to Shaun's comments.

Doug LePard
Deputy Chief Constable
Operations Division
Vancouver Police Department
604-717-2221

-----Original Message-----
From: Rankin, Laurence
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2009 8:50 AM
To: LePard, Doug
Cc: Deans, Shaun; Gabriel, Geoff
Subject: RE: Investigative Interviewing Project

I had an opportunity to attend a presentation on the PEACE method when I attended a
Forensic Interviewing conference in Portsmouth, England in 2006. I believe that that PEACE technique mirrors what we have been attempting to do in structured interviews.

One significant difference lies in the UK mindset that interview tactics and veracity assessment tools endorsed by the REID technique are unethical and empirically unproven.

An argument can be made that the weight attributed to assessing subject veracity as claimed by REID technique advocates (and other like interview techniques) may be excessive; however, I would be loath to abandon interview tactics such as bait questions and moral inducements. These techniques have proven to be effective in attaining both truthful and comprehensive statements from subjects, and when utilized properly have been endorsed by the courts.

I understand that Sgt. Shaun Deans has been looking into the PEACE model and will defer to him as to implementing the model in the current interview practices that FIT employ.

Regards,

Sgt. Laurence Rankin
Major Crime Section
Homicide Squad/Team 1
(Direct) 604 717-22(1)
(Fax) 604 606-2728

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-----Original Message-----
From: LePard, Doug
Sent: Tuesday, August 04, 2009 5:05 PM
To: Rankin, Laurence
Cc: Usui, Bob; Rothwell, Rob; Yeo, Les; McQuiggin, Kevin; Porteous, Mike; Johnstone, Mark
Subject: FW: Investigative Interviewing Project

Laurence et al,

This article is well worth reading. I've been hearing about this "PEACE" model of investigative interviewing for a while, and heard a presentation on it at a Continuing Legal Education seminar on taking statements from suspects last year. If this is the way we should be going, we might as well be the leader in providing this training to our members, but I'm interested in thoughts from the Forensic Interview Team and others with expertise on this issue. Feel free to share the article.

Doug LePard
Deputy Chief Constable
Operations Division
Vancouver Police Department
604-717-22(1)

-----Original Message-----
From: John House [mailto:jhouse@rnc.gov.nl.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2009 8:55 AM
To: LePard, Doug
Subject: Investigative Interviewing Project

Hello Doug,

I hope that all is well. We have had a good response from the Vancouver Police Department on our survey and I wanted to thank you for your assistance in getting the survey out to your members. I am still working on distribution of the survey to other police agencies in
Canada - and will resume that in the fall.

We have been working through our Pilot Project here where we have trained a number of members (Major Crime, Child Abuse, and Sexual Assault investigators) on the PEACE model that was developed in the UK. We are now evaluating a sample of the video-recorded interviews and are impressed with the level of improvement that we are seeing with the members. Furthermore, the investigators are indicating a high level of professional satisfaction arising from the training and practice. We will be making recommendations that we move forward with an organization-wide implementation of a tiered PEACE training initiative commencing this fall.

Attached is a copy of a paper we submitted to, and has just been accepted by the Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice - Reforming Investigative Interviewing in Canada. I thought that you might be interested in it. It provides a bit of background into what we are up to with this project.

Regards,

John

John C. House
Inspector
OIC Crimes Against Persons
Royal Newfoundland Constabulary
1 Fort Townshend,
St. John’s, Newfoundland
Canada, A1C 2G2

Telephone: (709) 729-22(1)
Fax: (709) 729-8248
Email: jhouse@gov.nl.ca

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Thanks Shaun.

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To: LePard, Doug; Rankin, Laurence
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Shaun Deans
Sergeant
Polygraph Unit
Vancouver Police Department
604 717

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Operations Division
Vancouver Police Department
604-717

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Sgt. Laurence Rankin
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Regards,

John

John C. House
Inspector
OIC Crimes Against Persons
Royal Newfoundland Constabulary
1 Fort Townshend,
St. John's, Newfoundland
Canada, A1C 2G2

Telephone: (709) 729-22(1)
Fax: (709) 729-8248
Email: jhouse@gov.nl.ca
Hey Shaun
I agree with Todd, no credit needed for us. You have put in all of the effort on your end and it is great to see. Todd and I, as you know, are firm believers that officers really need to know about memory and how to ask questions that best facilitates memory retrieval -- that is the key part of interviewing for all officers.

Merry Christmas to you and your family as well!

Brent

On 2011-12-19, at 5:47 PM, Todd Barron wrote:

> Hey Shaun,
> 
> That is great news, thanks for the credit but you have put a great deal of time and hard work into it yourself. When I originally spoke to Brent about you I told him that you would be a great ambassador for the concept.
> > Good job
> >
> > Merry Christmas to you and your family and a prosperous New Year. Talk Soon
> >
> > Todd
> >
> Cst Todd Barron
> Reg# 573
> Polygraph Examiner
> Investigative Support Services
> Criminal Investigation Division
> Royal Newfoundland Constabulary
> (709) 729-0111
> 
> >>>> "DEANS, Shaun" <shaun.deans@vpd.ca> 12/19/2011 5:41:36 PM >>>
> Hi guys,
> 
> I thought that I'd let you know that I just finished 16-3 * hr sessions with our Patrol Section. I gave them a primer on memory, lots on questioning and modified cognitive interview. I started out with a bit on Note Taker, but dropped it because it was too rushed. It was very well received. The good news is that we are in the process of hiring a curriculum designer, full time, and revamping all of our in service training. This bodes very well for Investigative Interview Training.
> 
> Thank you for all of your help this past year. I really appreciate it and I am always passing the credit to you guys.
> 
> I hope that you both have a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2012.
> 
> Shaun Deans
> Polygraph Unit
> Vancouver Police Department
> 604.717.2211
> 
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Hi Shaun,

This sounds like meaningful training and I'm totally on-board with us attending to evaluate it, and if it's warranted, bringing the instructors out to Vancouver for the larger group.

Thank you,

Rob Rothwell
Superintendent 980
Investigative Services
Vancouver Police Department
604 717-7273

-----Original Message-----
From: Deans, Shaun
Sent: Wednesday, May 05, 2010 15:15
To: Lemcke, Warren; Rothwell, Rob
Subject: FW: N.L. police revise interviewing style

Sorry, sirs. I unintentionally did not include you in the response.

-----Original Message-----
From: Deans, Shaun
Sent: May 5, 2010 15:13
To: LePard, Doug
Cc: Usui, Bob; Gabriel, Geoff; Rankin, Laurence
Subject: RE: N.L. police revise interviewing style

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Stephen Bindman
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Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H8
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