



Protective Services Unit
Quarterly Report
2013-04-01 to 2013-06-30

Joe Smyth
A.Sgt. Reg. #610



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OVERVIEW:

The second quarter of 2013 continued to be a demanding period for Protective Services. Full time personnel have remained stable since June 2012 providing continued operational consistency. There has been no need for special security details during this quarter which has limited the assignments of other members to sporadic. There has been a mix of significant external and internal travel, requiring a additional operational planning and time commitments from members assigned. Although a number of CID members were identified as being available and willing to augment Protective Service duties where required, it has been a challenge to actually reassign the members when needed. This has largely been due to their operational commitments and workloads within their respective units. Furthermore, the majority of times when additional members are required are evenings and weekends, which is outside CID's normal working schedule. This creates a challenge during the summer leave season.

Following the release of the 2013 Provincial Budget, that included substantial reductions in public funding and employment positions, the Protective Services Unit, in conjunction with the Criminal Intelligence Unit, were tasked with investigating a number of individuals and groups who were exhibiting threatening behavior and/or making non-criminal threatening comments. As a result, the PSU began operating under a heightened threat assessment which saw additional security measures put in place at the Premier's residence. Including 24hr presence by a uniformed member and cctv surveillance monitoring. An operation plan was completed and carried out from April to May. Significant investigative resources were also required by both the PSU and CIU during the same period.

During the first quarter of 2013 I finalized discussions with the California State Police Dignitary Protection section who offered two seats on their Protection of Public Officials Course slated for May 2013. The approval was provided for one member to attend this training. Cst Madden successfully completed the training in April of 2013. All full time PSU members now have specialized training in Dignitary Protection.

PERSONNEL

During the second quarter of 2012 the RNC PPD transitioned into a Joint Forces Operation with the RCMP. The RCMP B Division provided a member, governed by MOU, to the PPD. Additionally, the RCMP has provided assistance through use of their resources such as VIP Radios and a second vehicle.

Existing personnel as of June 30th, 2013:

A.Sgt Joe Smyth RNC #610
Cst Tammy Madden RNC #670



Cst Ed Benoit RNC #676
Cst Shannon Mcentagert RCMP JFO

During the second quarter of 2013 PSU members transitioned to a schedule with alternating start times. Members are now scheduled from 0600-1800 or 0900-2100hrs. This is sometimes altered depending on members leave.

During the 1st quarter of 2013 I was assigned as Acting NCO for Protective services; the assignment has provided necessary structure and a defined reporting and communications arrangement. A call for applications for the position took place during the 2nd quarter and I was the successful candidate.

PREMIER'S RESIDENCE

Due to the heightened threat assessment that followed the release of the 2013 Provincial Budget, the RNC Technical Investigation Unit upgraded [REDACTED] at the Premiers residence allowing for [REDACTED]. A uniformed RNC member was positioned at the residence for approximately one month.

PPD TRAVEL

The Premier's external travel during the 2nd quarter has included Ottawa, Toronto, Florida, Houston, Nova Scotia, China, France and Belgium. Local travel included various regions of the province of NL. Members assigned to travel has been in accordance with PPD past practice and continues to be based on threat assessment, budgeting and individual operational requirements.

Significant travel and events during the third quarter:

- Personal Visit – Florida (April 1-9)
- Energy Meetings – Toronto, ON (April 18-19)
- Council of Atlantic Premiers – White Point, NS (April 27- 30)
- Offshore Technology Conference – Houston, TX (May 4-10)
- Personal Visit – Nova Scotia (May 24-26)
- PC Fundraiser – Grand Falls, NL (May 30-31)
- YPC Forum – Clarenville, NL (June1-3)
- Mining meetings/ Labrador By-Election – (June 11-15)
- China Trade Mission – Beijing, Hangzhou, Shanghai (June 18-29)
- Beaumont Hamel Visit – France, Belgium, UK (June 29-July 6)

Operational and logistical planning for the majority of travel is essential for outlining personnel and resource needs; however, due to the Premier's fluid schedule and availability of PPD members, it is extremely difficult to completely minimize overtime expenditures based on PPD schedules. There are additional



challenges associated with balancing anticipated cost of overtime and the additional costs of having a second member travel; however, efforts are made during each visit to be as fiscally prudent as possible. The PSU will continue to prepare operational plans for significant events and travel. For more rudimentary matters, a PSU Travel Briefing will continue to be prepared and provided to the applicable police departments to ensure local law enforcement is properly briefed on our operations while outside RNC jurisdiction.

ADDITIONAL PROTECTIVE DUTIES

Additional members were assigned to PSU duties during April and May due to a heightened threat assessment following the 2013 Provincial Budget release.

OVERTIME, LEAVE AND ATTENDANCE

While I do not have the breakdown of exact overtime expenses, the majority of overtime expenses occur during travel. Security responsibilities usually start very early on travel days with hours extending late into the evenings for the majority of the time away. There was significant travel during this quarter compared to the first quarter and included multiple extended duration visits; although the PSU is now staffed with four full time members there is OT incurred during travel and periods of Annual Leave when a second member is required. Attendance is prepared on a weekly basis by me forwarded to S.Sgt Joe Gullage for review and submission. Attendance is also forwarded to RCMP S/Sgt Dave Hickey for his JFO records.

PPD VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT

PSU vehicles are up to date and adequate. The RCMP vehicle (GMC Terrain) is being replaced with a full size Chevrolet Suburban which has arrived and will be put into service at the beginning of the 3rd Quarter.

Consideration is still being given to transitioning PPD members to a firearm that is more conducive to concealment. Sgt Bill James has acquired Sig Sauer P229's and will transition PPD members once all equipment has been received and time permits. OC Spray designed for concealment continues to be researched by Sgt James.

TRAINING

All full time members of PSU have now received specialized training in Dignitary Protection Duties. Additional training opportunities will continue to be researched and considered based on needs and resources.



POLICY AND PROCEDURE:

Following consultation with the RNC Planning and Research Section, a draft policy and procedure chapter for the RNC Protective Services Unit was completed in the 3rd quarter of 2012. The policy was finalized and adopted by the RNC on June 5th 2013 under General Order #316.

During the 4th quarter of 2012 I further completed a draft policy relating to a process to have extra-jurisdictional police officers sworn as special constables with the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary. Such a process would apply to any visiting police officer requiring special constable status, however, would specifically provide a professionalized and efficient process to visiting protective details. The existing process, as permitted by the RNC Act, requires the Chief of Police or designates to physically meet an applicant on their arrival in the province and have them sworn in. The process is very cumbersome for not only the visiting member, but also the RNC Commissioned Officer who may have to meet the applicant at odd hours and outside locations. The standard practice elsewhere in the country requires officers complete an application and provide specific details and approvals to the respective agency prior to arrival. Such a process is professional, efficient, and captures vital details, information and indemnifications. Included in the draft I prepared is a brief policy related to a suggested process, an application, and an indemnification letter. The draft was submitted to Inspector Jason Sheppard for consideration during the 4th Quarter of 2012. On February 8th 2013, S.Sgt Gullage forwarded the draft to Ms Jean Bishop of Policy and Research Section for their consideration and analysis. The matter is still being reviewed by Policy and Research.

PRIORITIES:

- Finalize Special Constable Application policy and procedure for implementation into RNC Policy.
- Research and obtain concealment firearms and OC Spray for PPD members.

Submitted by

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