RCMP CBRNE Operations, National CBRNE Response Team and the Whole-of-Government Approach to CBRNE Response

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The Canadian National CBRNE Response Team

PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY OF CANADA

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE
The Mandate of the National CBRNE Response Team

- to conduct high risk searches; (pro-active measures)
- to stabilize a CBRNE event for the purpose of forensic exploitation and subsequent transfer to consequence management assets
- to provide advanced CBRNE defense and forensic support to Canadian police agencies
Roles of the National CBRNE Response Team

- RCMP is the lead agency
  - Explosives
  - Forensics
- Supported by Canadian Joint Incident Response Unit (CJIRU) via MOU
  - Provides specialized, timely and agile CBRN response to GoC
- Supported by Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) – via MOU
- Additional C, B, and R/N scientific support provided on an as-needed basis
Canadian National CBRNE Response Team Response Model, Post 9/11
National CBRNE Response Team (for Major Events)

“The Science Town Concept”
The diagram outlines the structure and responsibilities of various entities involved in CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive) coordination and response.

**CBRNE Coordination Cell**

**RCMP Technical Operations**

**OIC Nat CBRNE RT**

**EDU Techs FIS Specialists**

**CJIRU**

**Bio Support Scientific Advisor**

**Chem Support Scientific Advisor**

**R/N Support Scientific Advisor**

**Science Town**

**Public Health Agency of Canada**

**DRDC Suffield & Environment Canada**

**FRAT: HC RPB, DRDC-O, DGNS, NRCan**

**Direct Support to National Security Investigations at home and abroad**

**Consequence Management**

**Support to other Federal CBRNE Agencies within the National Team Family**

**Training-National and International**

**Support to Regional CBRNE Responders in Provinces and Municipalities**
Contributors to the National CBRNE Response Team
RCMP’s Contribution to the National CBRNE Response Team

- CBRNE Operations
- National Forensic Identification Support Services - CBRNE
RCMP CBRN and Explosives Technicians

- Conduct high risk searches; (pro-active measures)

- Work to stabilize a CBRNE event for the purpose of forensic exploitation. Leverage existing local capabilities where possible in an effort to minimize or eliminate risk to public health.

- Provide advanced CBRNE defense and support to Canadian police agencies upon request.
Integrated Forensic Identification

Initiates sample/evidence tracking process in investigation. CBRNE capacity permits rapid sharing of information to investigators during an incident.

• Triage samples via additional presumptive testing for additional threats.
• Separates samples from evidence
• Provides on site forensic evidence attribution
CJIRU’s Contribution to the National CBRNE Response Team
CJIRU

- Liaison Teams
- Sampling and identification of materials
- Surveillance
- Decontamination of [Nat CBRN RT] including extraction and medical care
- Not responsible for “MASS” decon or medical care of non-Nat CBRN Personnel
CJIRU and RCMP – Joint Training
Biological
PHAC’s Contribution to the National CBRNE Response Team

Winnipeg
(under direction of the National Microbiological Laboratory)
Biological Support: PHAC Microbiological Emergency Response Team

• Internationally recognized expertise; provide support to World Health Organization and other nations
• Provide on-site rapid identification of biological agents
• Able to deploy 2 Mobile Laboratories certified to BSL III (BSL IV capable)
• High volume air sampling and analysis
• MERT able to deploy on short notice and are self supporting. Well established working relationship within the National Team.
Chemical
Chemical Support: Environment Canada, DRDC-Suffield
Chemical Support (EC & DRDC Suffield)

- On-site subject matter expertise
- Field deployable assets
- Fully self-sufficient analytical support via mobile chemical laboratory for presumptive and legal sample analysis
- Reach-back through DRDC Suffield and to the EC’s Canadian Met Centre
- Hazardous Goods Movement updates
Radiological/Nuclear
Radiological Support
Federal Radiation Assessment Team

• Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission
• DRDC-Ottawa
• DND, Director Nuclear Safety
• Health Canada, Radiation Protection Bureau
• Natural Resources Canada
Radiological Support (FRAT)

- On-site subject matter expertise
- Able to deploy 5 Mobile Nuclear Labs
  - Provide on-site rapid sample analysis and presumptive ID of R/N materials
  - Interpretation of spectra and alarms
- Provision of Fixed Point Monitoring equipment
- Conduct discreet radiation surveillance
  - Air / Vehicle-borne, hand-held, fixed & backpack detectors
Deployment of the National CBRNE Response Team
Deployment of the National CBRNE Response Team: Whole-of-Government Approach to V2010 and G8/G20

- Participating departments & agencies (V2010, G8/G20)
  - **Core National Team**: RCMP & CJIRU
  - **Chemical Support**: DRDC Suffield, Environment Canada
  - **Biological Support**: Public Health Agency of Canada
  - **Radiological/Nuclear Support**: Federal Radiological Assessment Team (FRAT)
    - Health Canada (Radiation Protection Bureau)
    - DRDC Ottawa
    - Director General Nuclear Safety
    - Natural Resources Canada
  - **Explosives Support**: NRCan, Transport Canada, DRDC Suffield / Valcartier
Lab Sites: V2010

Vancouver

Whistler
Lab Sites: G8 / G20

G8 – Huntsville

G20 – Toronto Port
Additional resources provided through the DRDC CSS Canadian Safety & Security Program
Integrated Forensic Identification and Mobile Forensic Lab

- Forensic exploitation of scene including documentation, evidence collection and processing
- Forensic Lab acts as the front door to the Mobile Lab Network
- Initiates sample / evidence tracking process in investigation
- Triage samples via presumptive testing for additional threats
- Separates samples from evidence
- In consultation with OGD SME’s, decides which lab receives sample for further examination
Chemical Support Capabilities for V2010, G8 / G20 Security-Related Activities

Provided the following services for V2010 security-related activities:

- subject matter expertise (SME – Chemical) in direct support (embedded) with the Response Team; on site with the Response Team; available 24 hours a day, seven days a week (24/7) throughout the deployment
- analytical support to the Response Team using a deployed mobile laboratory for presumptive and legal sample analysis; located in close proximity; direct 24/7 availability throughout the deployment
- mutual support with Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC) Suffield
- reach-back capacity to the Canadian Meteorological Centre (CMC) and associated dispersion modeling services
- reach-back laboratory and modeling capacity: ESTS and the Pacific Environmental Science Centre (PESC)
- reach-back capacity to the CBRNE Research and Technology Initiative (CRTI) Chemical Cluster
Example: Reachback

Suspicious event

RCMP High-Risk Assessment Team

Nat CBRNE RT Ops Lead (Area Command Centre)

RN Science Advisor (& team)

* Follow up with HPGe, backpack, vehicle-borne systems as required
Example: Major Radiation Monitoring during V2010 Opening Ceremonies
RN Support for V2010, G8 / G20

• Equipment:
  • Mobile Nuclear Lab at ‘Science Town’
  • Personal Radiation Detectors
  • Hand-held spectrometers with blue-tooth
  • Portable (but not hand-held) NaI detectors (Sodium Iodide) for mobile survey and screening (detecting gamma)
Integration of RCMP and Ottawa Police Service CBRNE resources
Integration of RCMP and Ottawa Police CBRNE Operations Section
Intention of Integration

• The purpose of this presentation is to outline the challenges and lesson learned in establishing a joint RCMP OPS CBRNE Operations Section

• The RCMP and OPS provided separate CBRNE response capabilities in the City of Ottawa which created unnecessary duplication of services.

• The recommendation after a 2 year pilot project was the creation of a full-time joint OPS and RCMP CBRNE unit to address the key factors of response time and operational readiness. This joint team is the current iteration of “CBRNE Operations”.
Benefits of a Joint CBRNE Unit

- On-duty for day 16 hours per day (Day and Evening shifts). On call overnight. One hour response time standard.
- Centralization of personnel and equipment reduces response time.
- Better management of resources avoiding duplication of police CBRNE services at major events.
- Improved Ability to respond to multiple events from integration of resources among Ottawa Police and RCMP.
- Improved training opportunities, leading to improved operational readiness.
- Increased international exposure for Ottawa Police Service.
- Most cost effective option for fulltime Explosive / CBRNE unit for OPS.
Response Concept of Operations

OPS Communications Centre

RCMP Communications Centre

OPS Duty Inspector

Joint Unit

RCMP Oi/c
Future Activities
Future Activities

Continued participation with Regional CBRNE responders to exercise interoperability.

CBRNE Capacity building within Canada and other regions of the world in partnership with Canada’s Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada.
Whole-of-Government Future Development Opportunities

- Further Streamlining
- MOUs are required for ongoing support or inclusion in the team
- Dedicated funding is required
- Short notice deployments
- Common standards for PPE and procedures
- Clarification of mandates and obligations
- Clarification of potential operational conflicts
- Rethink which capabilities should exist in which department