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#### COMBATING CRIME IN CANADA

What is organized crime? Under the *Criminal Code* (Section 467.1), organized crime is defined as being composed of three or more persons, having as one of its main purposes a serious offence likely to result in a financial benefit. So, just about any type of illicit activity can be undertaken by organized crime groups, as long as there is money to be made. Identity theft, human trafficking, sex crimes against children, credit card fraud and counterfeit goods, just to name a few, can, and often do have links to organized crime.

Plans and Priorities. The RCMP is created to safe homes and safe communities for all Canadians, and to accomplish this we identified the fight against organized crime as a strategic priority in 2001. Using an intelligence-led, integrated approach, the RCMP is focusing its activities on reducing the threat and impact of organized crime. In fulfilling its mandate, the RCMP is working closely with domestic and international partners in a sustained effort to dismantle today's criminal groups. To contribute to a successful outcome, the RCMP will:

- reduce the total harmful effects caused by organized crime by disrupting illicit markets;
- improve the quality of the criminal intelligence/information process;
- share intelligence with partners and cooperate with enforcement units at the municipal, national and international levels;
- formulate an up-to-date picture of the threat of organized crime and prioritize investigations;
- provide scientific and technical support and new technologies to enhance investigative abilities;
- •enhance public awareness of the dangers and impacts of organized crime;
  - reduce demand for illicit products [1].

Actions against organized crime. Public Safety Canada's (PS) role in the fight against organized crime is one of policy development and coordination. Its work is guided by the National Agenda to Combat Organized Crime which was developed and approved by federal, provincial and territorial law enforcement partners. Organized criminal groups are becoming increasingly sophisticated and mobile. Their activities now extend beyond the illegal drug trade and prostitution to illegal migration, trafficking of human beings, money laundering, economic crimes, cross border smuggling of counterfeit goods and even environmental crimes such as the dumping of toxic wastes. To effectively disrupt and dismantle this broad range of activities, law enforcement officials must now work together and call upon new partners such as computer technicians, forensic accountants, tax investigators and intelligence analysts. Through its National Coordinating Committee on Organized Crime, PS brings together law enforcement agencies with federal, provincial and territorial partners to develop unified strategies and policies, ensuring a direct link between the law enforcement community and public policy makers. PS also ensures a high level of policy coordination with international partners [2].

**First Nations Organized Crime Initiative.** Through the First Nations Organized Crime Initiative (FNOCI), Public Safety Canada assists First Nations police services in addressing organized crime and cross-border criminality. The initiative provides funding to the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service (AMPS) and the Kahnawake Peacekeepers with the aim to:

- increase their capacity in intelligence gathering and information sharing through training and enhanced partnerships between them, the RCMP, and other Canadian and American law enforcement agencies;
- increase their knowledge of skills and techniques used in complex organized crime investigations;
- disrupt organized crime and related criminal activities in and around their communities and surrounding areas.

The FNOCI operates under and is aligned with the overall objectives of the Contribution Program to Combat Serious and Organized Crime. It also complements the First Nations Policing Program (FNPP) by providing funding for additional police members dedicated to organized crime-related cases and supports their participation in joint investigative forces [3].

So, there are a lot of cases of organized crime in Canada but law enforcement services are making all the efforts to prevent them. They are creating special forums, doing different researches, cooperating with international agencies and integrating market enforcement teams.

## Список використаних джерел

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## INVESTIGATION OF DRUG CRIMES

For many young people, using alcohol, drugs, or other substances like cigarettes is just part of growing up. Many of them try these substances only a few times and stop, while others may continue to use them on a more regular basis.

Young people use these substances for many of the same reasons that adults do – to relax or feel good. But they may also have other reasons for using substances. For example, they may want to know what it feels like to get high. Or they may want to rebel against their parents or fit in with their friends [1].

Drug investigators are law enforcement officers whose main duties are related to the investigation of criminal activities connected to the sale, use, and distribution of illegal drugs.

Narcotics investigators must possess a unique skillset, as they are required to initiate and obtain intelligence of suspected illegal drug dealers and users which, many times, involves covert operations and undercover drug stings. Their work involves understanding the drug chain, from the highest-level suppliers to street-level dealers, and developing and maintaining contacts, interviewing witnesses, and interviewing the victims of drug abuse.

This investigative work also includes obtaining search warrants or arrest warrants, and obtaining warrants from judges to utilize certain types of surveillance activities, such as electronic monitoring devices or wiretapping equipment. Narcotics investigators maintain close partnerships with other law enforcement agencies, thereby improving the exchange of information and increasing the effectiveness of their investigations.

Many times, drug investigators develop and coordinate a number of community-based and school-based drug education programs, which are designed to create awareness of the dangers of drugs [2].