P-633

Public Inquiry Commission on relations between Indigenous Peoples and certain public services in Québec: listening, reconciliation and progress

Eeyou-Eenou Police Force

David Bergeron, Director

Mistissini, June 11, 2018

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Grand Conseil des Cris (Eeyou Istchee)

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Cree Nation Government
Gouvernement de la Nation Crie

Outline

History
Mission & Values
Partnerships
Organization
Services
Enforcement
Cree Nation Government Police Commission
Inspection
Discipline
Challenges and Looking Ahead

History of EEPF

- The **Eeyou-Eenou Police Force (EEPF)** is established by virtue of Section 19 of ***James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement*** **(JBNQA)**
- Originally, each Cree community had its own local police force
- **2008 – Complementary Agreement No. 19** amends Section 19 JBNQA
  - Provides for creation of single, **regional** Cree police force – **Eeyou-Eenou Police Force –** under the administration of the Cree Nation Government
  - ***Police Act*** was amended accordingly (Title II, Chapter 1, Division V.1, ss. 102.1 – 102.10)
- **2010 –** Adoption of Cree Nation Government **By-Law concerning Policing**
- **2011 – Amalgamation** of local police forces into regional Eeyou-Eenou Police Force
- Funded by **Canada** (52%) and **Québec** (48%)

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Mission & Values

- The mission of the EEPF is to **maintain peace, order and public security, to prevent and repress crime and offences** under the law and Cree communities by-laws **throughout Eeyou Istchee**
- In pursuing our mission, the EEPF and its members ensure the **safety of persons and property**, **safeguard rights and freedoms**, as well as **respect** and remain attentive to the needs of victims
- The EEPF is committed to providing professional policing services throughout Eeyou Istchee in **partnership** with the **Cree communities** we serve
- The following **core values** shape the work of the EEPF:
  - **Professionalism**
  - **Integrity**
  - **Respect**
  - **Accountability**

Partnerships

- The **EEPF partners** strategically with **key stakeholders** to uphold the highest level of public security and social wellness for our people throughout the territory.
- Our partners include:
  - **Cree First Nations**
  - **Cree Nation Government**
    - Department of Justice and Correctional Services
    - Department of Human Resources
    - Cree Human Resources Development
  - **Cree Board of Health and Social Services of James Bay**
  - **Cree School Board**
  - **Sûreté du Québec** and other police agencies

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Organization

- **9 Detachments**:
  - Headquarters in Chisasibi
  - Police stations in Chisasibi, Eastmain, Mistissini, Nemaska, Ouje-Bougoumou, Waskaganish, Waswanipi, Wemindji and Whapmagoostui

- **Director**, appointed by Council of Cree Nation Government

- **Deputy Director,** two **Inspectors** and two **Captains**

- Three departments: **Investigation Department**, **Operational Department (Territory Surveillance)** and **Administration Department**

- **At present: 9 Lieutenants, 3 Investigators and 79 officers**

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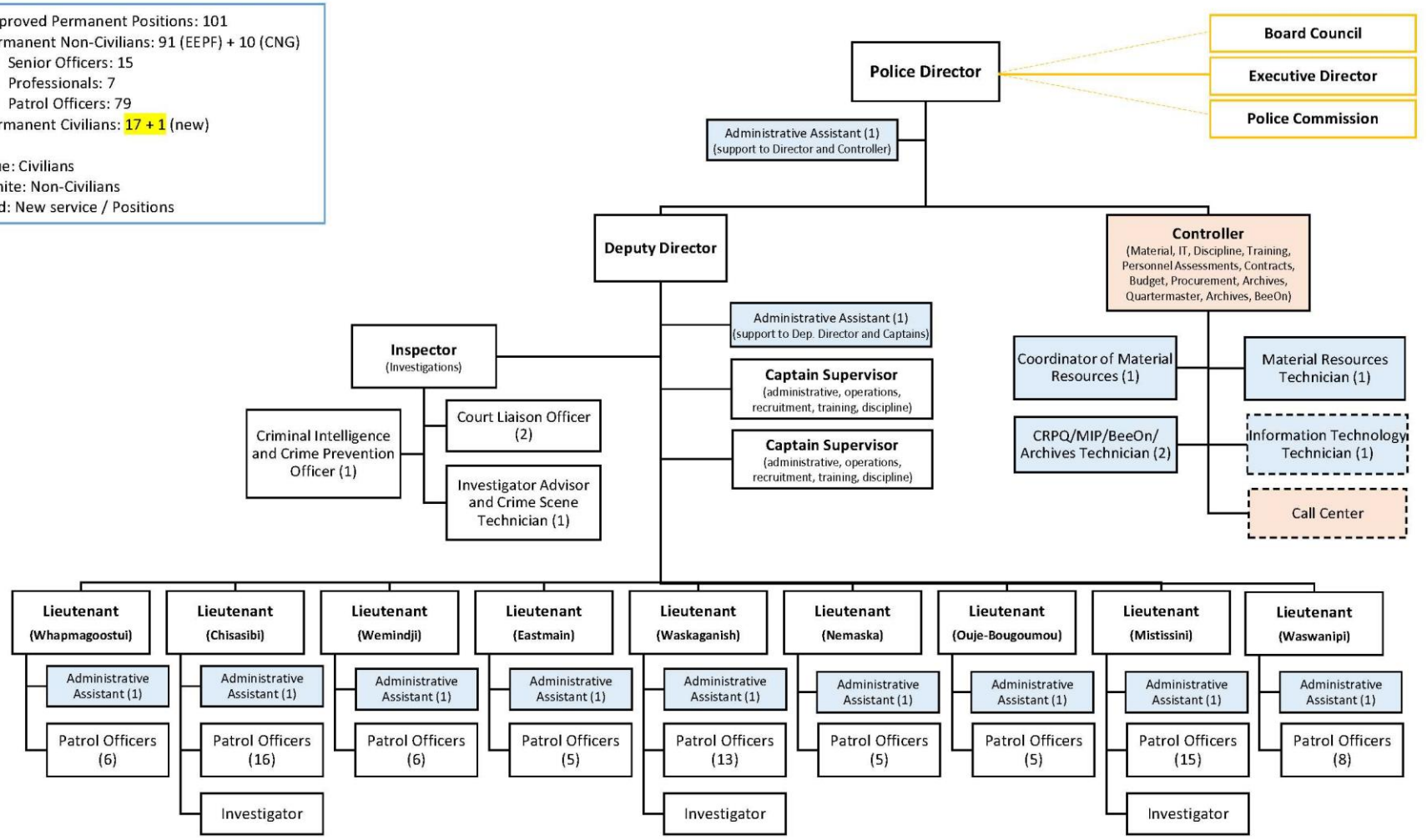
Organization

Approved Permanent Positions: 101
Permanent Non-Civilians: 91 (EEPF) + 10 (CNG)
- Senior Officers: 15
- Professionals: 7
- Patrol Officers: 79

Permanent Civilians: 17 + 1 (new)

Blue: Civilians
White: Non-Civilians
Red: New service / Positions



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Services

- The services provided by the EEPF include those in Schedule G of the *Police Act*, subject to a modalities agreement

- EEPF services include the following:
  - Round-the-clock patrol
  - Road patrolling
  - Reckless or impaired driving
  - Assault and Sexual Assault
  - Breaking and Entering
  - Robbery, Theft, Possession of Stolen Goods and Auto Theft
  - Property-related offences
  - Mischief
  - Investigations related to human deaths, disappearances and runaways
  - Transportation of accused persons

Enforcement

- Overall, the reported criminality rate continues its downward trend on most types of offences*
- Throughout 2016, EEPF members increased their focus on drug use and trafficking
- EEPF's approach remains a balanced one of both prevention and repression
- EEPF continues to work closely with members of the communities

** 2016-2017 Annual Report of Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government*, p. 139

FIGURE 3. Selected Criminal Code Offences
Reported or known to the EEPF
From January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016

Type of Offence	2015	2016
Assaults	709	613
Sexual offences	15	39
Homicide	0	2
Robbery	4	2
Break-in and enter	145	160
Theft - Motor Vehicle	37	49
Theft - Over $5,000	13	9
Theft - 5,000$ and under	22	18
Frauds	4	21
Offensive Weapons	19	25
Other Criminal Code Offences	785	720
Mischief (Property Damage) Over $5,000	163	182
Mischief (Property Damage) $5,000 and under	119	164
Heroin	0	0
Cocaine	12	15
Cannabis	17	12
Other drugs	6	12
Municipal By-laws	377	432

Source: Reported or known Criminal Code Offences based on Crime Statistics generated by the Department of the Eeyou Eenou Police Force

FIGURE 4. Traffic Related Offences

Offence	Actual Number
Impaired operation of motor vehicle or over 80 mg	123
Dangerous operation of motor vehicle	7
Failure or refusal to provide breath sample	16
Provincial status	35
Municipal By-Laws	88

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EEYOU EENOU POLICE
PROUD TO SERVE

Enforcement

CRIMINEL CRIMINAL

BAIE JAMES	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
CHISASIBI	111	276	351	351	443	259	209	131	168	207	139
WEMINDJI	9	21	32	36	49	39	27	51	34	52	37
EASTMAIN	27	20	20	29	34	39	26	26	29	25	31
WASKAGANISH	146	45	139	176	104	95	85	74	130	114	56
SOUS-TOTAL	**293**	**362**	**542**	**592**	**630**	**432**	**347**	**282**	**361**	**398**	**263**

INTÉRIEURE	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
NÉMASKA	43	16	47	56	45	47	61	59	49	39	28
MISTISSINI	210	166	187	212	272	168	139	104	115	126	96
WASWANIPI	138	136	107	186	156	120	89	97	94	82	47
OUJÉ-BOUGOUMOU	39	30	29	48	33	22	48	39	50	40	29
SOUS-TOTAL	**430**	**348**	**370**	**502**	**506**	**357**	**337**	**299**	**308**	**287**	**200**

WHAPMAGOOSTUI	88	72	67	103	151	128	71	67	48	67	62

TOTAL	**811**	**782**	**979**	**1197**	**1287**	**917**	**755**	**648**	**717**	**752**	**525**

** Report 2006-2016 Cour itinérante*

Cree Nation Government Police Commission

- Created by the Cree Nation Government ***By-Law concerning Policing*** in 2010
- **Mandate: to enhance peace, harmony and justice throughout Eeyou Istchee** by ensuring the highest standards of police and police conduct for the EEPF
- **Composition**: **12 members**
  - Nine members appointed by the Cree Nation Government upon recommendation from each of the nine Cree communities
  - Chair appointed by the Cree Nation Government
  - Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Cree Nation Government
- Not involved in the day-to-day operations of the EEPF
- Identifies regional and local **priorities**, defines **objectives** of the EEPF and the attainment thereof

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Inspection

- Cree Nation Government ***By-Law concerning Policing*** provides for the **inspection of the EEPF**

- Inspections are **authorized by the Council of the Cree Nation Government**

- **First inspection of the EEPF conducted in the spring of 2016**

  - Five years after the creation of the EEPF as a regional police force
  - Similar to the inspections set out in section 269 of the *Police Act*

- Inspection conducted by qualified inspectors who have conducted inspections with other police forces

- **EEPF Management is in the process of reviewing and implementing recommendations** following the inspection

Discipline

- The EEPF is fully committed to improving policing services and abiding by professional standards
- The EEPF looks into all allegations of possible wrongdoing on the part of its members
- In each case, an investigation is made
- If an officer is at fault, action is taken without delay through the disciplinary process including reprimand, suspension or termination of employment

Challenges and Looking Ahead

- The EEPF is in process of completing **review and follow-up on recommendations** set out in EEPF Inspection Report
- EEPF responsible for patrolling and **policing over a large territory, remote geographically**
- **Increased pressure** on EEPF services **due to housing shortage in Cree communities**
  - Increases need for police interventions (family, conjugal violence, etc.)
- Increased Focus on
  - **Community-Based Policing**
  - **Implementation of Best Practices**

Questions?

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Contact

David Bergeron
Director, Eeyou-Eenou Police Force

david.bergeron@eepf.ca

418-770-4255

For more information:

https://www.cngov.ca/governance-structure/departments/eeyou-eenou-police-force/

https://www.cngov.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/gcc-cng-annual-report-2016-2017.pdf

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