

SPEAKING NOTES

ABORIGINAL OVERSIGHT

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ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY

Each Community is a Nation onto its self

Chief and Council oversee the Community

Housing

Employment

Committees

Education Funding

Elections every two years

Difficult to maintain momentum with a project

Only one area where we have total cooperation

Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations FSIN

Alberta is three Treaty Areas

Manitoba has local Bands who do not belong to Regional Groups.

Where have we been

Most Communities in Southern parts of the Provinces were policed from afar

Very few Aboriginal Members with Full Policing Responsibility

Lack of knowledge of the Cultural and Customs

**Any oversight was usually by Non-Aboriginal Review Panels or the RCMP
Public Complaints Commission**

**Late 80's RCMP did a Review of they method they were policing Aboriginal
Communities**

Late 80's only two Aboriginal Police Forces in Canada

Early 90's the Federal Gov't established the First Nations Policing Policy.

Service Delivery from the RCMP

Civilian Advisory Groups to the Commanding Officers of the Divisions (Provinces)

**Policing Units (Detachments) developed Community Advisory Groups
Aboriginal Members were given a full policing role in the Aboriginal Community**

Aboriginal policing Units were established.

First time that the Aboriginal Community had input into the way their Community was policed and Members of the Advisory Groups allowed to be a conduit for the Community in the way the Police was delivering the Service

First Nations Policing Policy

Stand alone Police Forces developed in Several Provinces

Establishment of Police Management Boards for those Police Forces

Police were still accountable to Chief and Council.

Boards were appointed by Chief and Council

No appeal process for Community to an outside Aboriginal Group

Keekaskinow example

Saskatchewan

Established 28 Community Tripartite Agreements

Must have Community Boards in Place

Must be in the Community.

Presently within the system we have identified a couple of areas of concern within the present system that being no separation between the Politician and Committees. No appeal process out of the Community with those Police Forces who have Provincial Policing Authority.(Alberta)

DEVELOPM ENTS IN THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS

Recognizing the Authority of Chief and Council and the need to work with them.

Assumption Process

Yukon Process Review of File

FSIN Model

**Working with Police and participating in the Review of Files
(Someone who understands Policing)**

Present Aboriginal Policing Review in Alberta, which looks to separate Politics from the Police Commissions and put in place either a Treaty Appeal Process or Provincial Aboriginal Review Board

WHERE DO WE HAVE TO GO

Entrench the present Partnerships, which have been developed between the Police and the Aboriginal Community. Police Forces must open their doors to the Community and continue to all for review of contentious Investigations and Observer Status on those files of which there is a concern in the Community.

Aboriginal Community Policing Boards should be established in all Aboriginal Communities. Should this not be done then we must have fair of representation on present Police Boards and Review panels.

Ensure Oversight remains separate from the political process

Some will say that this does not give good oversight for the Community. I would suggest to you that the Aboriginal Community is unique in its Structure and Customs and in fact with Partnerships to meet the needs of the Politicians and Police Boards to meet the needs of the Community I believe we have a recipe for an excellent oversight process. I also believe this process can work for all Polices Forces within Canada including the RCMP, we only have to have the will to make it happen.

Last year the Minister of Public Safety for the Province of Quebec the Honourable Serge Menard stated” We must Collectively recognize the many complex challenges that the Police face however we must denounce the police culture of secrecy. Canadian Police work must be within the framework of democracy the police must work for its citizens”

The Aboriginal Community has many complex challenges along with the Police. We will see an oversight review process developed within the Community, which will have several levels of oversight from the Community to Aboriginal Government Review and the Federal Courts. This will take time but I believe the wait will give true oversight by the community.