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Presentation to the House of Commons' Standing Committee on the Status of Women

Study on Violence Against Young Girls and Women

Remarks By: Chief Supt Jeff Adam, Royal Canadian Mounted
Police, Co-Chair, CACP E-Crimes Committee

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300 Terry Fox Drive, Suite 100/ 300, promenade Terry Fox, suite 100, Kanata, Ontario K2K 0E3
Tel: (613) 595-1101 • Fax/Télécopieur: (613) 383-0372 • E-mail/Courriel: cacp@cacp.ca



- Distinguished members of this Committee, I am pleased to accept your invitation and am here today as a member of the E-crimes Committee of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP), speaking on behalf of the President, Directeur Mario Harel and CACP members.
- The mandate of the CACP is “safety & security for all Canadians through innovative police leadership”. This mandate is accomplished through the activities and special projects of a number of committees and through active liaison with various levels of government and departmental ministries having legislative and executive responsibility in law and policing.
- My role with the CACP is as co-chair of the E-Crimes Committee, overseeing the work done by three sub-committees; Digital Forensics, Lawful Access and Electronic Surveillance, and the new Cyber Council.
- It is with respect to the Cyber Council that I am appearing here today and in particular Cybercrime.
- The growth of social media and the evolving digital environment has changed both how people interact and, with whom they interact. This change has happened quickly, and Canadians are still figuring out this new environment.
- The digital environment has none of the sensory input people have evolved to pay attention to; there are none of the usual ‘threat cues’ that one can see, hear, smell

and feel when entering a dangerous neighborhood or area.

- People check their social media from the comfort of their own homes, feeling safe and comfortable in a physical sense. Web pages, marketing sites, email messages may not be suspected to be dangerous based on the physical environment the reader is located and the absence of any 'threat cues'.
- Offenders can have the same mindset, operating from the privacy and relative security of their homes to commit crimes anywhere in the world. In the offender's mind, where is the risk?
- The model of policing Sir Robert Peel started back in 1829 has reduced relevance in today's digital world. The historical triangle of offender – victim – police all being in the same geographic location is no longer true. Yet neither police nor the public has discussed what this means to public safety and law enforcement in this environment.
- Canadians also need to have a discussion about the differences between privacy and anonymity. The former is encouraged and a right to be free from unreasonable intrusion; the latter in an absolute application breeds anarchy and impunity from accountability.
- Cybercrime has evolved, fueled by many elements:
 - Low risk of apprehension
 - Anonymization through technology
 - Decreasing expense and increasing power of technology

- Marketization of cybercrime; a business modeled on low risk profits
- Cybercriminals have 24/7 support lines, helpdesks, marketing services and customization
- Lack of a security focus in businesses and citizens

- So the combination of some of the aforementioned points means that Canadians are increasingly vulnerable to cyber-attacks and criminal victimization.

- The 2016 CACP Annual General Meeting was focused on Cybercrime with a theme of “Real Victims Real Crimes’, and provided the membership with the groundwork to develop a Canadian Law Enforcement Strategy on Cybercrime.

- That strategy is based on 5 main steps, or themes:
 - The need to mainstream cyber investigative capabilities
 - Deter victimization through education and awareness (hygiene, DARE)
 - Increased collaboration between LE, industry, OGAs and NGOs
 - Enhanced skills and specialized investigative support, pushing evidence gathering to the first responder as much as possible, and
 - Advocate for the resources, tools and legislation to keep pace with technological changes.

- Thank you and I look forward to answering any questions you have.

