

A police information centre at RCMP headquarters is staffed and operated by the force. Law enforcement agencies throughout Canada have access via remote terminals to information on stolen vehicles, licences, wanted persons and stolen property.

The RCMP operates the Canadian Police College at which force members and selected representatives of other Canadian and foreign forces may study crime prevention and detection.

As of November 30, 1978 the force had a total authorized strength of 19,155 including regular members, special constables, civilian members and public service employees.

Ontario Provincial Police. The Ontario Provincial Police, a Crown force, is the third largest deployed force in North America with an authorized strength of more than 5,000 (1979) uniformed and civilian personnel.

The OPP is administered from general headquarters at Toronto by the commissioner, under the solicitor general's ministry. Other senior executive officers include two deputy commissioners and six assistant commissioners. The force has two principal sides — operations and services — each administered by a deputy commissioner. In turn, six divisions at the next level — field, traffic, management, staff services, special services and staff development — are administered by assistant commissioners.

Under provisions of the Ontario Police Act, the force is responsible for: enforcing federal and provincial statutes in those areas that are not required to maintain their own police departments; maintaining a traffic patrol on the more than 21 000 km (kilometres) of highways and 104 607 km of secondary county and township roads; enforcing the Liquor Licence Act for Ontario and maintaining a criminal investigation branch and other specialized branches to assist all other forces in investigating major crimes. A central records and communications branch offers continuous service to all police departments in Ontario on such matters as criminal records.

The OPP operates one of the largest frequency-modulation radio networks in the world, with 107 fixed radio stations and more than 1,532 radio-equipped mobile units including motorcycles, boats and aircraft. It also operates a telecommunications network connecting all 16 districts as well as other police departments on a local, national and international basis.

Quebec Police Force. Under the authority of the attorney general, the Quebec Police Force is responsible for maintaining peace, order and public safety throughout the province, and for prevention and investigation of criminal offences and violations of provincial law. The force is under the command of a director general assisted by five assistant directors general and a director of personnel and communications.

For police purposes, the province is divided into nine districts each under the command of a chief inspector or an inspector and named as follows: Bas St-Laurent, Saguenay-Lac St-Jean, Quebec, Mauricie, Estrie, Montreal, Outaouais, Nord-Ouest and Côte-Nord. Strength of the force at the end of March 1979 was 4,394 members and 1,032 civilian employees.

Municipal police forces. Provincial legislation makes it mandatory for cities and towns to furnish adequate municipal policing for the maintenance of law and order in their communities. Also, all villages and townships or parts of townships having a population density and a real property assessment sufficient to warrant maintenance of a police force, and having been so designated by order-in-council, are responsible for policing their municipalities.

2.7.2 Uniform crime reporting

The present method of reporting police statistics, known as the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, was started on January 1, 1962.

Police personnel in Canada numbered 65,037 at the end of 1977, including 52,303 sworn-in police officers, 12,190 other full-time employees serving as clerks, technicians, artisans, commissionaires, guards, special constables and 544 cadets. The ratio of police personnel per 1,000 population was 2.8 and the ratio of police was 2.3. Provincial and