



Civilian Review and Complaints Commission for the RCMP

Access to Information Reporting for 2016–2017

1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the *Access to Information Act* (Act) is to provide Canadian citizens and residents with a right of access to information under the control of government institutions.

This Annual Report was prepared in accordance with section 72 of the Act, which stipulates that annual reports on access to information shall be tabled in Parliament.

2. ABOUT THE CIVILIAN REVIEW AND COMPLAINTS COMMISSION FOR THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

The Civilian Review and Complaints Commission for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (CRCC) operates pursuant to the *Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. R-10. The CRCC provides civilian review of RCMP members' conduct in performing their policing duties so as to hold the RCMP accountable to the public.

The CRCC's main role is to take public complaints about members of the RCMP. These complaints are then forwarded to the RCMP for initial investigation as mandated by the *Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act*; however, if the complainant is dissatisfied with the response that he or she receives from the RCMP, the CRCC will review the complaint with a view to determining the reasonableness of the RCMP's response. In appropriate cases, the CRCC will undertake its own investigation or hearing into a complaint. The Chairperson of the CRCC also has the power to file his or her own complaint if he or she feels that a matter is deserving of investigation.

Additionally, even in the absence of a public complaint, the CRCC is empowered to conduct a review of RCMP activities to evaluate compliance with legislation, regulations, ministerial directions, policy, procedures and/or guidelines.

3. ATIP RESPONSIBILITIES

At the CRCC, the Access to Information and Privacy (ATIP) Unit consists solely of the



Consistent with recent years, the CRCC processed a significant number of pages (9,962) in responding to Access to Information requests in the 2016-2017 reporting year.

As noted above, the number of Access to Information requests received in 2016-2017 was 11, which is comparable to the number it received the preceding year (12), but less than it received the year before that (16) and significantly less than it received in 2013-14 (23) and 2012-13 (26).

However, the number of pages processed has steadily risen over the last six (6) years:

2016-17	9,962
2015-16	7,570
2014-15	7,063
2013-14	2,972
2012-13	6,622
2011-12	2,552

The CRCC claimed exemptions under paragraph 13(1)(c) (Information obtained in confidence from a provincial government), 13(1)(d) (Information obtained in confidence from a municipal government), sub-paragraph 16(1)(a)(i) (Information obtained or prepared by an investigative body), sub-paragraph 16(1)(a)(ii) (Information obtained or prepared by an investigative body), paragraph 16(1)(c) (Information that could be injurious to the enforcement of any law of Canada or lawful investigations), subsection 16(2) (Information that could facilitate the commission of an offence), section 17 (Information that could threaten the safety of individuals), subsection 19(1) (Personal information), and paragraph 21(1)(a) (Advice or recommendations) of the Act. As the majority of the material requested originated with other departments and external consultation was required, extensions were taken in eleven (11) of the requests completed in the reporting period.

Five (5) requests were not completed within the statutory deadline. The principal reason was the need for external consultation in three (3) cases and CRCC workload in the other two (2).

Finally, in 2016-17, the CRCC received and processed twelve (12) consultations from other Government of Canada institutions. There were no consultations received from other organizations.

See **Annex B** for the Statistical Report.



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REPORT ON THE *ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT*
RAPPORT CONCERNANT LA *LOI SUR L'ACCÈS À L'INFORMATION*

ANNEX A

Delegation Order



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ANNEX B

Statistical Report