



## National Crime Prevention Centre and the Prevention of Recidivism

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### Outline

- National Crime Prevention Centre (NCPC)
- Repositioning of the NCPC
- Directions, priorities, principles
- Operational issues
- Prevention of recidivism

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### National Crime Prevention Centre

- Established in 1998 (Department of Justice)
- Currently within the Community Safety and Partnerships Branch, Public Safety Canada
- NHQ in Ottawa and 6 Regional Offices (Staff: 85; Budget: \$63M)
- Policy analysis and advice; program management; research, evaluation and knowledge dissemination
- Administers the National Crime Prevention Strategy, managed jointly with the Provinces and Territories

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## Repositioning of the NCPC

Drivers:

- Government priorities for crime prevention (youth at risk, gangs, drug-related crime, gun violence)
- Enhanced pressure to focus on measurable results and provide better return on investment of crime prevention dollars
- Need to better collaborate and integrate crime prevention with enforcement, corrections, and other relevant interventions
- Need to ensure a balanced and focused approach in response to specific crime issues affecting the most vulnerable groups and places
- Opportunity to use the substantial and growing knowledge base on effective crime prevention practices to make funding decisions for projects at the community level

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## NCPC Directions

Mission statement:

***to provide national leadership on effective and cost-efficient ways to both prevent and reduce crime by addressing known risk factors in high risk populations and places***

Core activities:

- supporting targeted interventions in local communities
- building and sharing practical knowledge with policy makers and practitioners

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## Guiding Principles

- Evidence-led practice
- Integration
- Partnerships
- Responsive to local communities
- Measurable results

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### Priorities

- Children and youth at risk
- Crime prevention in Aboriginal communities
- Prevent recidivism among high-risk groups
- Priority crime issues (youth gang, drug-related crimes)

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### Operational Issues

- Funding for time-limited projects (up to 5 years)
- Jointly managed with the Provinces and Territories
- Move toward larger, more comprehensive projects that address multiple risk factors in at-risk populations
- Greater use of contribution agreements (rather than grants)
- Increased emphasis on evaluation (build in evaluation logic during project development)
- Enhanced efforts to gather and disseminate evidence on effective practices in crime prevention

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### Operational Issues (Cont'd)

- Identifying model programs/promising practices (OJJDP; Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration; Center for the Prevention of Violence)
- Two stage application process beginning with Requests for Letters of Interest (LOI) posted on Web site
- Incorporating model programs in the Request for LOI
- Implementation of model programs/innovation

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### Prevention of Recidivism

- Reintegration of offenders – UN Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime – 6 (d)
- Role of NCPC vis-à-vis corrections
- Model projects
  - Circles of Support and Accountability
  - Other models for interventions that address risk factors (e.g., substance abuse, mental disorder) to support reintegration for a target group (with criminal histories)
- Collaboration with corrections, police, community-based organizations/service providers

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