



Policy Name:	GANG INTELLIGENCE		
Policy #:	OP 4.26	Last Updated:	2022-05-12
Issued By:	INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES BUREAU	Approved By:	SURREY POLICE BOARD
		Review Frequency:	AS REQUIRED

RELATED POLICIES

OP 4.11 *Confidential Informants / Agents*

OP 4.11.1 *Crimestoppers*

OP 4.38 *Organized Crime - Gang Investigations*

1. PURPOSE

1.1. To ensure Surrey Police Service (SPS) Employees acquire, assess and distribute gang-related information effectively within SPS and share gang intelligence with other law enforcement agencies to identify, disrupt, interdict, and prosecute gang-related crime.

2. SCOPE

2.1. This policy applies to all Members and to designated civilian Employees who are responsible for the collection, recording, analysis, and distribution of gang-related intelligence.

3. POLICY

3.1. Pursuant to BC Provincial Policing Standards Addendum 1 - D4.2.1 "Operations" (Intelligence), SPS will maintain a formal liaison with appropriate federal, provincial, and local law enforcement agencies to provide for the sharing of gang-related information and intelligence and the co-ordination of enforcement efforts between SPS, its jurisdictional police partners, and other agencies having similar responsibilities.

3.2. Identifying an individual as being associated to a Gang/Criminal Organization can have lasting negative implications for that person (e.g., if that person requires a Police Information Check - Vulnerable Sector employment purposes). Therefore, before a Member creates an entry in a

police database (such as a PRIME-BC file), there must be documented evidence that the person in question is actively associated to a known Gang/Criminal Organization.

3.3. Gang-related information will be collected, recorded, analyzed, and distributed through the Investigative Services Bureau, Proactive Enforcement Section.

3.4. During their duties, SPS Members may acquire information and intelligence specific to gang members and their associates. As gang related conflicts are a high risk for public safety, credible intelligence relating to gang violence will be acted upon immediately.

4. PROCEDURE

4.1. To determine whether a person has association with or membership in a Gang/Criminal Organization, Members should consider, but not limited to, whether:

- i. there is evidence of involvement directly or indirectly in a gang-related crime or incident;
- ii. the person acknowledges their Gang/Criminal Organization membership or association;
- iii. the person is identified as a Gang/Criminal Organization member or associate by means of physical evidence;
- iv. the person is identified as a Gang/Criminal Organization member or associate by a reliable confidential informer;
- v. there is previous police information (e.g., PRIME-BC files) which document a directly observed association with other known Gang/Criminal Organization members or associates;
- vi. the person is in possession of common or symbolic Gang/Criminal Organization identifiers or paraphernalia; and
- vii. previous court findings including convictions related to Gang/Criminal Organization activity or sworn testimony that the person is a Gang/Criminal Organization member or Associate.

4.2. A Member who acquires gang-related information will:

- i. consider how the information was obtained and if policy OP 4.11 *Confidential Informants and Agents* is relevant;
- ii. determine if the information is time sensitive (e.g., imminent threat of a targeted hit);
- iii. notify their Supervisor in exigent circumstances;
- iv. consider the jurisdiction in which the information pertains to; and
- v. forward gang-related information to the appropriate Employees in the Proactive Enforcement Section.

4.3. SPS Target Enforcement Unit – Gang Enforcement Teams (GETs) are responsible for actioning gang-related intelligence. The GETs' mandate is to:

- i. engage in direct contact with gang members and associates to conduct targeted high visibility enforcement of the *Criminal Code*, the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*, and provincial laws;

- ii. conduct checks of gang members and associates to ensure compliance with court orders including bail conditions such as curfews, no contact orders, etc.;
- iii. enforce the Inadmissible Patrons Program to help prevent criminal activity and violence in and around licensed establishments;
- iv. provide investigational and tactical support to investigations focused on gang members and their associates; and
- v. promote programs aimed at deterring youth involvement in the gang lifestyle and assist individuals in exiting gang life.

4.4. Any sharing of intelligence information with foreign entities or agencies, other than Canadian law enforcement, will be done in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, and require explicit approval from the Chief Constable or their designate.

APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS

“Gang” means a group, however organized, that is composed of three or more persons in or outside Canada and has one of its main purposes or main activities the facilitation or commission of one or more serious offences that, if committed, would likely result in the direct or indirect receipt of a material benefit, including a financial benefit, by the group or by any of the persons who constitute the group. It does not include a group of persons that forms randomly for the immediate commission of a single offence. See the Criminal Code, section 467.1(1). Also known as a “street gang” or “criminal street gang”.

“GET” means SPS Gang Enforcement Team.

“Member” means a sworn Police Officer appointed by the Surrey Police Board.

“SPS” means Surrey Police Service.

“Supervisor” means a Sergeant, Staff Sergeant, Inspector, Superintendent, Deputy Chief Constable, Chief Constable, and any other person acting in a Supervisory capacity who is accountable for a particular area or shift on behalf of SPS.

APPENDIX B: REFERENCES

British Columbia Provincial Policing Standards, Addendum 1 - Interim Continuation of Policing Standards Established by the Former British Columbia Police Commission (BCPC), section D4.2.1 *Operations (Intelligence)*.

Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, S.C. 1996, c. 19

Criminal Code, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-46