



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE

MEMO

TO: File Note

FROM: Commissioner

COPY TO: N/A

SUBJECT: Overseas Travel - Outcomes Report

DATE: August 2017

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Between the 10 and 14 June 2017 I attended the 11th annual Pearls in Policing conference in Toronto Canada with thirty law enforcement leaders and academics with the theme of this year's conference, 'Fragile States, Fragile Communities'. This topic represents the challenges to societies and global police forces from global upheaval including mass immigration and increasing radicalised terrorism and modern day cyber-crime.

Under my personal leadership, a senior SAPOL officer Assistant Commissioner Duval was delegated to be a member of the PEARLS International Action Learning Group; and as part of the conference, this group presented a number of assignments focussed on creating proactive and flexible future police organisations. These were highly relevant to South Australia, aimed at effectively managing evolving cyber and security issues. Part of my attendance involved being present for these presentations, to visibly support the active contribution of SAPOL to improve policing practices at home and abroad.

The conference included several working groups on those issues and others, including the media, and quantifying prevention outcomes in policing. These topics were presented by other Police Commissioners, developed in consultation with academics and senior police from the Danish Police, Netherlands National Police, Griffith University (Australia), Toronto Police Service, College of Policing (United Kingdom), New York Police Department, Norwegian Police Service, Berlin Police and the New Zealand Police Force.

My experience in sharing the knowledge and engagement with these working groups will directly benefit SAPOL in future policy and practise development. Of particular interest to me was the strategic approach and collaboration between the police and communities in respect to mental health and the impact that has on police services and the wider community. I expect to follow this up further in the near future.

In addition, I visited a Metropolitan Division in Toronto to personally observe the strategies and collaborative work of police and community based organisations on critical issues for policing in South Australia, such as poverty, homelessness, mental health, drug abuse, crime and other social issues that impact on social order and inclusion.

Following the Pearls in Policing Conference I visited Winnipeg, Manitoba in Canada, to meet with executive management from Niche Technology Incorporated. Niche is responsible for the development of a software package that incorporates SAPOL's intelligence, property, vehicle collision, custody management and crime reporting software. This is a significant investment for SAPOL in the order of



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\$43m over five years. This face to face meeting provided me with the opportunity to personally discuss and reinforce SAPOL's expectations around our strategic partnership with Niche and also to discuss some developments in the software that will be incorporated into future iterations of the Shield system.

Between the 15 June and the 17 June I visited Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Headquarters in Orillia which is located about 140 kilometres north of Toronto. The OPP is similar in size to SAPOL and has similar jurisdictional responsibilities for state-wide policing services. I took the opportunity to review their Emergency Operations Centre and meet with OPP representatives in the Communication and Technology Services Bureau to examine the technology used by front line police officers.

My OPP visit also included a focus on employee health and well-being programs, recruiting and gender equality in line with SAPOL's innovative programs introduced in these areas over the last two years since I became Commissioner. A highlight of this visit was the successful negotiation of a new exchange program for senior police officers between OPP and SAPOL, to support best practice initiatives in these important areas of organisational performance.

In terms of developing new strategies for the unique needs of policing Aboriginal communities, I met with key stakeholders from the Aboriginal Policing Bureau of the OPP. A wide-ranging discussion covered the specialised programs that they have in place for their First Nation communities, including youth initiatives and the role and function of their Provincial Liaison Team.



Grant Stevens
Commissioner