

## **International Council of Police Representative Associations**

## **E-Newsletter** Issue No. 2 June 2015

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Police Federation of Australia Conference 15 – 17 November 2015 Hobart, Tasmania

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#### ICPRA Chairman's Welcome

### Greg O'Connor

Welcome to this month's ICPRA e News.

It is published at a very important time for ICPRA, as we have just held an Executive meeting in London, having coincided the meeting with the Police Federation of England and Wales Annual conference in Bournemouth.

The PFEW conference provided an excellent backdrop and context for the Executive meeting as many of the issues that face police representative bodies advocating for Police Officers around the world formed part of that conference.

There appears to be a new attitude by politicians to publicly criticise and marginalise Police Associations and Unions who attempt to stand against funding cuts to police. Politicians feel emboldened to launch such cuts and attacks, secure in the knowledge that there has been a change in the public debate around crime. For several decades, the political theme around crime has been to be seen to be tougher than the opposition. That theme has changed, and recent commentary coming out of the United States in particular, has been to

focus on police over-response and to look for alternative approaches to crime beyond the traditional tough approach.

The effect of this has been to reduce the leverage of Police Unions who have continued to use public fear of crime as their principle bargaining tool. That change was very much on display at the PFEW conference. What emerged at the ICPRA Executive was that there is a strong need for an international body like ICPRA to serve as a conduit for new ideas and strategies to be shared so we can adapt to the new environment. The Executive meeting Communique is enclosed.

The executive meeting was very important in ensuring the momentum built from the biannual conference in Cape Town last year is maintained, and that was certainly achieved.

A report is also attached outlining what was achieved from a visit to the ILO in Geneva by Secretary Calum Steele and myself.

The building of such relationships with relevant international bodies will be essential, as ICPRA establishes itself as a credible international voice for police officers.

Please enjoy this edition of ICPRA e News. Knowing what is occurring in other policing jurisdictions around the globe is an essential element of ensuring Police Unions and Associations remain an important part of ensuring all our publics and communities receive the service and safety they deserve.

Greg O'Connor

Chairman

#### **International Labour Organisation - Report**

Calum Steele, General Secretary, Scottish Police Federation

ICPRA Chairman, Greg O'Connor and General Secretary, Calum Steele recently undertook a fact-finding and information sharing visit to the International Labour Organisation in Geneva.

The meetings covered a whole range of issues in respect of police unions, freedom of association and collective bargaining and have reinforced that ICPRA is filling a "gap in the market." The meetings also laid bare the unique position of police unions on the question of collective bargaining. This position was noted time and again and is a regular provision of many of the ILO conventions

Click here to view the report

## The ICPRA Executive Communique

Greg O'Connor

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#### **EuroCOP Newsletter Issue 7**

Anna Nellberg Dennis, President, European Confederation of Police

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Northern Territory Police Association Media Release: New President takes the reins at Police Association

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Click here to view Media Release

# The Interim Report of the Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing: FOP Final Analysis and Conclusions

Chuck Canterbury, President, National Fraternal Order of Police

Click here to view the FOP Final Analysis and Conclusions

Click here to view the Interim Report of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing

### Wage Negotiations 2015 SAPU

After a long protracted negotiations process over the past seven months SAPU concluded an agreement on a salary increment of 7% on 19 May 2015. This is a multi-term agreement which will run over the next 3 years. The 2015 increment will be 7% which is calculated as the CPI which is then defined as 4.8% plus 2.2% which the makes up the 7%.

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# **Aspects for Consideration in Fighting Crime in South Africa** POPCRU

In just over a week's time, the Police, Prisons and Civil Rights Union (POPCRU) will be going to its 8<sup>th</sup> National Congress in Durban from the 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> June 2015 under the theme '*Transforming the Criminal Justice Cluster in defence of the working Class struggle for the advancement of the National Democratic Revolution.*"

The Congress will allow delegates from the different sectors POPCRU members are organised to intensely make assessments on the mandate they had established in their last Congress which was held in 2011.

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# United States Supreme Court Rules Police Shooting of Mentally ill Woman not Unreasonable Chuck Canterbury, President, National Fraternal Order of Police

With a spate of high profile shootings recently in the news, the U.S. Supreme Court weighed in on a case that has not garnered a great deal of national attention.

The attached analysis regarding training and qualified immunity may be one of the most significant sentences the Court has ever written regarding police officers' use of force and the intersection of policy, training, and the reality of police-citizen confrontations. How this statement will impact the perception, investigation, and litigation of future use of force cases is something the lower courts will undoubtedly wrestle with in years to come.

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### Officer Safety Must be Priority in Cash-strapped Service

Mark Lindsay, Chairman, Police Federation for Northern Ireland (PFNI)

Policing is changing, and not everything that is being done in the name of cost-efficiency will be to the benefit of the job we do.

We'll have fewer Officers doing the job. Calls will be prioritised. Some will go unanswered or take days to address. Neighbourhood policing may become a thing of the past.

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#### **Home-grown Terrorism**

Tom Stamatakis, President, Canadian Police Association

On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 the horrific spectre of home-grown terrorism cast its shadow over our country when a Canadian Forces Corporal, Nathan Cirillo was killed while standing as a ceremonial sentry at the Canadian National War Memorial. The perpetrator sought even more victims when he entered our country's Parliament buildings, and threatened the lives of our elected representatives, including the country's Prime Minister.

This tragic event occurred only two days after another incident claimed the life of Warrant Officer Patrice Vincent, when he was struck by an assailant's vehicle in Saint Jean sur Richelieu, Quebec.

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# Numbers of Authorised Officers in New Zealand on the Rise – Vigilance Needed Greg O'Connor, President, New Zealand Police Association

Over the past three years an additional 70 Authorised Officers (AOs) have been employed in New Zealand, bringing the total to 235.

This expansion of AO numbers comes at the same time as Police Budgets have been frozen or in some cases decreased. Accordingly the New Zealand Police Association is paying close attention to the roles and responsibilities of the AOs, to ensure our sworn officers are not undermined by role creep.

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## **Nanny Trials for Police Families**

Mark Burgess, CEO, Police Federation of Australia

The Police Federation of Australia (PFA) welcomes the announcement by Minister for Social Services, the Hon. Scott Morrison, on the Abbott Government's plan to fund a \$246 million two year interim Home Based Carer Subsidy Programme.

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