



Future Events:

PFA Federal Council Meeting 22nd September 2021, Canberra, Australia (Video Conference)

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ICPRA President's Welcome

Tom Stamatakis

September 2021

Dear Colleagues,

One of the many challenges of a global organization is our collective membership spans both hemispheres, so while many of us here in North America and Europe are wrapping up summer, sending kids back to school, and getting ready for a (hopefully brief) winter, I know many of you are also spending this time looking forward to warmer months of summer, and maybe even a little bit more back to 'normal' given the ongoing global health pandemic.

Here in Canada, and North America in general, Covid continues to be a focus, particularly for our member associations. After months of advocating for advance access to vaccines for our members, we are now faced with questions of how to respond to employer-enforced mandates for vaccination, with a very small, but vocal minority of our membership still showing hesitancy for receiving their 'jab'.

We are also in the process of a general election. Somewhat surprisingly, after 18 months of increased attention to policing matters in the aftermath of a few high profile incidents, and even a Parliamentary Committee study into policing issues, there has been almost no mention of policing whatsoever during the campaign itself. I believe this underscores our (the CPA) messaging that our communities generally are supportive of their local police services, and while there's always room for evidence-based reform, there is little appetite for radical solutions, including calls to "defund the police".

From a more global perspective, I hope you all have had the opportunity to see our recent statement regarding the ongoing tragedy taking place in Afghanistan, particularly from the perspective of pushing the international community to make serious efforts to protect the brave women who joined the Afghan National Police from Taliban reprisals. While we all understand current circumstances have led to limited possibility of international action, I do hope that many of you will take the opportunity to raise this issue with your local governments, in hopes of avoiding any further humanitarian disaster.

Thanks to social media, I've also been able to follow many of your local issues, from the challenges our colleagues in the UK have been facing regarding pay and benefits, to the "defund" calls in the United States, and the Covid enforcement challenges in Australia. I'd also like to particularly recognize the South African Policing Union (SAPU) who have done great work over social media, highlighting their work locally, and their advocacy for their members across South Africa.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to congratulate US Fraternal Order of Police President Patrick Yoes for his recent re-election at their annual conference. I know many of you haven't yet had a

chance to meet Patrick in person, but both from an ICPRA and Canadian Police Association perspective, I know him to be a strong advocate for professional policing, and a good friend, and wish him all the best as he begins his new term.

As you can see, so many issues our associations are facing, and I sincerely hope that as vaccines continue to roll out around the world that we'll have the opportunity, very soon, to come together as an organization to meet in person and provide more detailed updates. As we've seen in the past, while our countries may be very different, the issues our members face are often quite similar, and the ability to share information and best practices is the hallmark of our international organization.

I hope you all have a wonderful and safe spring or autumn, and look forward to seeing you all again in the near future.

Regards,

Tom Stamatakis
President
ICPRA

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ICPRA Statement- Humanitarian Crisis Unfolding in Afghanistan - 26 August 2021

Tom Stamatakis, President, ICPRA

The following statement was issued by Tom Stamatakis, President of the International Council of Police Representative Associations (ICPRA), regarding the ongoing humanitarian crisis unfolding in Afghanistan.

[Click here](#) to read full statement

COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates in Public Sector Employment

Larry James, General Counsel for the National Fraternal Order of Police

A new wave of COVID-19 cases is sweeping across the United States, propelled by new variant forms. In response to this reality, employers are increasingly opting to require that their employees get vaccinated. With these mandates come a myriad of open legal questions, especially as it relates to public-sector employers, unionized workforces, and states with collective bargaining. This article will address several of the most common questions raised.

[Click here](#) to read full article

1919 Magazine June 2021- Burnout Major Study Exposes Mental Health Crisis Among Scotland's Officers

Calum Steele, President, European Confederation of Police

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Head Start for BlueHub

John Laird, President, The Police Association Victoria, Australia

BlueHub is a clinical network established specifically for police and protective services officers, to assess and treat mental health injury via clinicians trained specifically to deal with the type of mental trauma suffered by police.

[Click here](#) to read full article

Looking into the Future of Police Training

John Laird, President, The Police Association Victoria, Australia

For the past four months, the Operational Safety Tactics Training complex at the Victorian Police Academy has been trialing a Virtual Reality simulation system that takes participants through a range of critical incident scenarios, forcing them to react to situations they cannot anticipate or plan for.

[Click here](#) to read full article.

EuroCOP Positioning on the EU Police Cooperation Code – Law Enforcement Cooperation Across the EU-27

Calum Steele, President, European Confederation of Police

The unprecedented technological advancement of the 21st century has brought with it new criminal dimensions. As our societies become increasingly globalised, interconnected and digitalised, while such change is obviously beneficial for a whole host of reasons, it has clearly created new challenges and complications for law enforcement and policing.

Criminals now have new tools to preserve their anonymity, to avoid detection while they commit crime, to conceal evidence and – above all – to build criminal networks that have an increasingly transnational reach

[Click here](#) to read full article.

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Dealing in Facts and not the Nonsense of Keyboard Warriors

Mark Lindsay, Chair, Police Federation for Northern Ireland

Policing in Northern Ireland is seldom out of the headlines. If a mistake is made, it's covered extensively in our media. If officers do something over and above what's expected of them – and that's virtually a daily occurrence – the chances are it will go unreported.

In common with other parts of the world, there is a blame culture that thrives on social media platforms. This is a conveyor belt that does nothing for the profession or officer morale and instead gives a misleading impression that officers wilfully commit wrongdoing on a regular basis or that things are broken and need fixing.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.

Open Letter to the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer

John Apter, National Chair, Police Federation of England and Wales

[Click here](#) to read the 27th July 2021 letter.

Irish Policing Union President Calls for Mandatory Court Sentencing for Attacks on Gardai

Frank Thornton, President, The Garda Representative Association, Ireland

IT'S all become too familiar. "Investigation After Shots Fired At Patrol Car In Dublin"... "Two Gardai Bitten And Headbutted By Driver".

These are two of the most recent headlines in Irish newspapers that have become all too common and are a stark reminder of the treacherous job description that is modern day policing in Ireland.

There have been many incidents of serious assaults on members of our police force, An Garda Síochána in recent years, resulting in horrific injuries, and in the most serious occasions, death.

Stricter sentencing for those who assault members of An Garda Síochána has always been an option open for the legislators, but has never been enacted.

[Click here](#) to read the full article.

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“Comply Now, Complain Later” Campaign
National Police Association, U.S

[Click here](#) to read the full article including details of campaign.

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The End