

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

## E-Newsletter Issue No. 1 March 2022

### **Future Events:**

The Police Federation of England and Wales Annual Conference Fighting for Fairness 17-18 May 2022

ICPRA Conference 6-8 June 2022 Glasgow, Scotland

ILC Conference 30 May - 10 June 2022 Geneva, Switzerland

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### **ICPRA President's Message**

Tom Stamatakis

March 29, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

While the past few months of the New Year have certainly been busy for many of us domestically, the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine, and the accompanying devastation being suffered by the Ukrainian people, has had much of our attention internationally. As a Canadian, I know there are deep ties between my home country and Ukraine, both from a personal and a policing standpoint. Many of our members at the Canadian Police Association have had the privilege of serving as instructors for our policing colleagues in Ukraine, as part of United Nations-led missions abroad, and I know that situations are similar for many of you. I was extremely proud of the efforts led by our ICPRA General Secretary, Calum Steele, to push our respective governments to recognize the need to coordinate a response to war crimes being committed by Russian forces in Ukraine, and look forward to us pursuing this activity as an international association in the coming months.

On a much different note, I was reading over our last ICPRA newsletter, where I made mention of the ongoing challenges our respective members are facing with respect to policing political protests and demonstrations. I couldn't have possibly predicted how much of an impact that issue would have at the time, but as many of you may have noted, our national capital here (Ottawa) was recently the site of an almost three-week long occupation by protesters who were initially demonstrating against various public health measures (masking, mandatory Covid vaccines, etc.), and which eventually became a general protest against our federal government and their policies. I know many of your own jurisdictions had their own "freedom convoys" of various sizes, and aside from my apologies for us Canadians exporting these issues to you all, it has pushed our Canadian Police Association to begin to advocate for a clearer framework for law enforcement to use during periods of civil disturbance, to ensure that rights to assembly and speech are protected, while communities expectations of safety and security are also preserved. This is definitely one area I'm looking forward to being able to discuss further with you all in order to find common solutions and promote best practices across our sector.

One article that I would like to highlight in this edition of our newsletter is from our friend and colleague Mark Lindsay at the Police Federation of Northern Ireland. While his update certainly gives excellent insight into the budgetary challenges currently facing the Police Service of Northern Ireland, I was sad to note that Mark is also announcing his retirement as Chair of the PFNI. Mark has been a passionate and dedicated labour representative for his members across Northern Ireland, and I'd like to note that I've always appreciated his counsel and friendship over the years I've known him thru our work at ICPRA. Mark has done excellent work helping to educate all of us on the challenges his local colleagues face at home given the history of division and violence often directed at police personnel

themselves, and I know all of you will join me in wishing him a long, happy, and healthy retirement that is particularly well-deserved.

Once again, a sincere thank you to Kathleen Potts and Scott Weber at the Police Federation of Australia for all their hard work in putting together this edition of the newsletter, and my thanks to all of you for your continued efforts on behalf of your local members, and our international fraternity.

Regards,

Tom Stamatakis President, ICPRA

Press Release: ICPRA Calls for a Global Effort to Document War Crimes Currently Being Committed in Ukraine

Tom Stamatakis, President, ICPRA

The International Council of Police Representative Associations (ICPRA) has issued a rallying call for every police force in the world to assist with the documenting of evidence to assist with the prosecution of war crimes being committed in Ukraine.

To read the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022 Press Release in full <u>click here</u>

**Bravery Awards and Budget cuts as I sign off as Chair of the PFNI** Mark Lindsay, Chair, Police Federation for Northern Ireland

Sadly, this will be my last contribution to ICPRA as I am retiring both as Chair of the Police Federation for Northern Ireland and as a serving officer with 34 years under my belt. I leave with mixed emotions. We have just held the inaugural PFNI Bravery Awards and they were an outstanding success.

To read article click here

**European Commission News Roundup** Calum Steele, President, European Confederation of Police

For January 2022 News Roundup <u>click here</u> For February 2022 News Roundup <u>click here</u>

**EuroCOP Policy Grid** 

Calum Steele, President, European Confederation of Police

For January 2022 Policy Grid <u>click here</u> For February 2022 Policy Grid <u>click here</u>

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# A Career in the Police IS "National Service"- The Case for a Benefits Card for Australian Police Retirees

Alex Caruana, President, The Australian Federal Police Association

The AFPA's campaign, **Operation Recognition**, has the implementation of the Blue Card as one of its primary aims. Over the last year, and especially in the lead-up to the 2022 federal election, we have been engaging with both sides of government to recognise the service of AFP members and support our proposal. We believe that the Blue Card is a sensible, forward-thinking wellness proposal for Australia's police and expect the full support of whichever political party forms government.

To read article <u>click here</u>

### The NZ Police Response to the Whakaari/White Island Eruption Chris Cahill, President, Police Federation of New Zealand

The sudden eruption of Whakaari/White island in 2019 resulted in the death of 22 people and ongoing pain and suffering for their families and the injured survivors. It was a tragedy the likes of which had not been seen before by those who responded. It presented challenges that required dedication, dignity and innovative solutions. The local police, DVI specialists and coronial investigators who rose to those challenges share their experiences.

To read more about the response to the Whakaari/White island Eruption:

The Police Response <u>click here</u> The Recovery and DVI teams <u>click here</u> The Coronial Inquiry <u>click here</u>

### A Multi-Agency Response to Mental Health Incidents – The Power of 'Three Brains' Chris Cahill, President, Police Federation of New Zealand

The burden of mental health callouts on police nationwide could be significantly reduced if a proven multi-agency response model is approved and funded, for use in Police districts. The Co- Response Team (CRT) initiative, devised and piloted in Wellington over 2020/2021, has the potential to be a gamechanger for frontline police teams that continue to struggle with the rise in mental health-related calls for service over the past decade.

### To read more about the model click here

A supporting framework with clear rules for EU Social Partner Agreements and the protection of the right to collectively bargain at national level, are two sides of the same coin Joint Position of the European Trade Union Federations EAEA, EFBWW, EFFAT, EPSU, ETF, ETUCE, EUROCOP, IndustriAll and UNI Europa

To read the points made in full click here

## Lessons from the COVID-19 Pandemic: What Police Learned from One of the Most Challenging Periods of Our Lives

The Police Executive Research Forum (PERF)

To access the PERF December 2021 report click here

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The End