

The verdict received today is yet another tragic example of why RCMP Senior Management require independent, mandatory oversight. The time has come for those who looked the other way, either by claiming budget constraints or simply towing management lines must be held accountable. The job of the Commissioner, Senior Management and their former Staff Relations Representatives (SRR's) was to ensure that our members were as safe as they could be. Part of the job of keeping our members safe was to make sure they had the best equipment (including firearms) and training possible.

Now is the time for transparency and accountability. Senior Management, their former SRR's and the Commissioner need to be held accountable for their actions and/or inaction. It is time for these individuals to answer to the members, the Canadian public and most importantly the families and friends of our fallen colleagues. This was not an oversight nor a simple mistake, this was a conscious decision to ignore the repeated calls for essential emergency safety equipment. We demand change.

MPPAC stands firm in our belief that not only do we need to support the certification of an RCMP collective voice but that our voice be free of any management influence. As we move forward towards independent oversight and accountability, we need to remember that we are the men and women putting ourselves at risk to keep Canadians safe. We have a right to demand safe and equitable treatment.

It should be the mandate of every police service to plan and prepare for worst case scenarios and emerging threats. We cannot base our emergency response capabilities solely on past events. Our members deserve better as do the Canadian public.

*Additional information on research supporting the need for improved equipment and training was provided to Senior Management at RCMP HQ Ottawa (including Bob Paulson) in January of 2011. This member was disciplined at the time. The complete report can be found [HERE](#).

LET US BE YOUR ADVOCATE

MPPAC will continue to support members, as it has done since its inception in 1994.

To learn more, visit www.mppac.ca.

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