



**Canadian Police Association
Association canadienne des policiers**

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MEDIA RELEASE

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CPA APPLAUDS GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO 2500 NEW POLICE OFFICERS

OTTAWA, ON –The Canadian Police Association (CPA) is very pleased with yesterday's Federal Budget, more specifically with the Federal Government coming through with its commitment of over 2, 500 new front-line police officers in Canadian communities.

The CPA has been advocating for more front-line officers since the last election campaign. Since then, the Federal Government has recognized provincial and municipal police forces are severely underfunded and overstretched. In the 2007 Speech from the Throne, the Federal Government reaffirmed its commitment to provide resources to recruit 2, 500 more police officers.

“We are very happy that this commitment is now in the Budget. \$400 million over 5 years is a good start in getting this cost share program on its feet”, said CPA President Tony Cannavino. “As the Public Safety Minister has said, this sustainable program will put at least 2, 500 new police officers on the streets and address the much needed resources for tackling crime”.

Provinces and territories have until March 31, 2008 to opt into the cost share initiative and participate in a national effort to hire an additional 2, 500 police officers across the country.

“The deadline of March 31, 2008 is also a key issue. It means that there can be no more delays created by the negotiating process with the provinces”, said Mr. Cannavino. “The budget provisions are also clear that the funding which will be paid into a trust are meant for the hiring of new police officers, not for the provinces' grocery lists or replacing retired officers”, he added.

The CPA is the national voice for approximately 57,000 police personnel serving across Canada. Through our 170 member associations, CPA membership includes police personnel serving in police services from Canada's smallest towns and villages as well as those working in our largest municipal cities, provincial police services, members of the RCMP, railway police, and First Nations police associations.

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