



Customs and Immigration Union
Syndicat des Douanes et de l'Immigration

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

**RCMP ANNOUNCES CBSA TO JOIN
BORDER INTERDICTION PATROL UNIT**

OTTAWA, SEPTEMBER 10, 2010 - The Royal Canadian Mounted Police has confirmed that Border Services Officers (BSO) from the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) would be participating in the 'Phase 3' interdiction component of the recently announced Border Patrol Pilot Project now being launched in the southern Quebec region.

Speaking on behalf of the RCMP, whom have lead the project long advocated by the Customs and Immigration Union and the Front-Line Customs & Immigration Officers it represents, RCMP Corporal Luc Thibault advised the national media last week that nine(9) RCMP vehicles will begin patrolling in the region this month, with each car staffed with an RCMP Officer partnered either with an Officer from the CBSA or the Sûreté du Québec.

CIU National President Ron Moran offered his support for the initiative and the decision to include CBSA in all aspects of the pilot project including the joint force, intelligence-led patrol which will carry out its duties along the border between the designated ports of entry.

From his Ottawa office, Ron Moran declared: "We are very pleased with this important strategic development which will take advantage of the specialized expertise and authority of the Officers we represent, a key asset promoted by the Conservative government when engaging the arming initiative, as well as contribute to increased cost effectiveness for this fundamentally important project. An intelligence-led, mobile, joint-force interdiction capacity is a critical element for effective border security strategy which targets the illegal smuggling of drugs, guns and people into Canada and we salute the Government for their continuing commitment and decisive action in these areas."

Moran also noted the approval of CBSA participation in this project as being consistent with a welcome recognition from CBSA management in recent months of an expanded role for the Agency beyond a presence at designated ports of entry.

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Moran further stated that: *“This important step is fully consistent with the recent public acknowledgement by CBSA senior management that BSOs are lawfully empowered to perform their mandated duties away from points-of-entry which is what this project involves. This is an excellent example of how joint force co-operation can lead to a cost effective enhancement in border and national security which benefits all law abiding Canadians who want to see their communities kept safe.”*

The pilot project which is set to begin this month has been a CIU objective for years and was a commitment from the Government in its 2008 election platform.

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The **Customs and Immigration Union (CIU)** is a component of the **Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC)**, which represents Canada’s Front-Line Customs and Immigration Officers. CIU also represents Investigation, Intelligence and Trade Customs Officers, Immigration Inland Enforcement and Hearings Officers, as well as all support staff – all of whom work at the **Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)**.

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