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Edmonton Police Service and the Correctional Service of Canada Jointly Accept the 2008 Microsoft Technology Innovation Award for Work on the Parolee Map Project

(Montréal) — During the Gala Awards Night to close the annual Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP) Conference, representatives from the Edmonton Police Service and the Correctional Service of Canada were on hand to accept the 2008 Microsoft Technology Innovation Award for the Police Parole Intelligence Partnership's work on the Parolee Map Project, an innovative tool that provides frontline law enforcement and parole officers with quick visual knowledge of the displacement of federal parolees that reside within the City of Edmonton.

"We are honoured to receive this prestigious award for work on the Parolee Map initiative," stated Jan Fox, District Director, Alberta/NWT Parole, and Correctional Service of Canada. "The Correctional Service of Canada is very proud of the relationship we have with the Edmonton Police Service. This trusting relationship has been built over the years because of the strong personal commitment on the part of frontline staff at both agencies and the support of the leadership. It is wonderful to be recognized together for the work we do. Thank you Microsoft and CACP for celebrating our partnership!"

"The Edmonton Police Service is very fortunate to enjoy a strong and progressive relationship with our partners at the Correctional Service of Canada" remarked Superintendent Brad Ward, CIO Informatics Division, and Edmonton Police Service. "We are proud of our many successes and proud of the innovative and dedicated staff whose work makes this a reality. Our shared commitment to public safety has resulted in the exchange of officers now embedded within each other's agency. In this partnership, the fusing of intelligence once separate has resulted in many products that assist front-line personnel to more effectively perform their duties. Our Parolee Map initiative exemplifies this unified intelligence and the resultant benefit of greater public safety."

Members of the Police Parole Intelligence Partnership project team were on hand to accept the Award that was co-presented by Saskatoon Police Service Chief Clive Weighill, Co-Chair of the CACP Informatics Committee, along with Mr. Claude Fortin, Director of Quebec Public Sector, and Microsoft Canada.

"Congratulations to the Edmonton Police Service and the Correctional Service of Canada on receiving the 2008 Microsoft Technology Innovation Award," said Chief Weighill. "As part of the Police Parole Intelligence Partnership, the two organizations devised an innovative solution that has made a significant impact on public safety in the city of Edmonton. The award-winning Parolee Map project and the six additional initiatives bestowed with an honourable mention are representative of innovative work across the country. The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police salutes the individuals and teams recognized tonight for encouraging, promoting and incorporating new ideas demonstrating creativity and innovation in using technology to advance public safety."

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In total, six organizations were recognized by the national award program. In addition to the Edmonton Police Service and the Correctional Service of Canada accepting the top award, the following initiatives (in alphabetical order) received an Honourable Mention:

- **CopLogic Internet Reporting**, York Regional Police
- **CRIME (Consolidated Records and Intelligence Mining Environment)**, Vancouver Police Department
- **DRPS Project Indicators**, Durham Regional Police Service
- **Handheld Mobile Data Terminal**, London Police Service
- **Project Système d'Émission de Constats Informatisés (SÉCI)**, Service de Police de la Ville de Montréal (SPVM) and Ville de Montréal
- **Wireless Parking System (WiPS)**, Toronto Police Service

“Microsoft Canada is proud to be a part of this effort to recognize and celebrate the efforts of the Police Parole Intelligence Partnership,” said Mr. Fortin. “Correctional Service of Canada and the Edmonton Police Service join an elite list of past recipients that have made an impact on Canadian public safety. Since the inception of the Microsoft Technology Innovation Award, Microsoft Canada has played an integral role in promoting technology solutions and the exchange of best practices among the Canadian public safety sector. The volume and quality of submissions this year and those of previous years is illustrative of the quality and depth of public safety in Canada.”

The Microsoft Technology Innovation Award was designed to promote information technology best practices and to recognize the grassroots efforts of Canadian police and public safety agencies. Jointly launched by the CACP and Microsoft Canada in 2005, the award recognizes individuals and teams that incorporate new ideas demonstrating creativity and innovation in using technology to advance frontline policing. It is open to all Canadian police service employees and public sector employees of Canadian public safety sector agencies.

For more information on the Microsoft Technology Innovation Award, visit www.cacp.ca/innovation or send an e-mail to innovation@cacp.ca.

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Detailed background documents are attached.

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BACKGROUND

Police and Parole Intelligence Partnership Parolee Map The 2008 Microsoft Technology Innovation Award Recipient

The ability to share information or intelligence is difficult at best, even within the boundaries of a single law enforcement agency. However, this task becomes particularly complicated when the information is to be shared between organizations. Not only did the Edmonton Police Service and Correctional Service of Canada find away to overcome the information-sharing barrier, the resulting Parolee Map project is helping to produce a safer community. The clever initiative has also garnered the organizations the coveted 2008 Microsoft Technology Innovation Award.

The Parolee Map provides frontline law enforcement and parole officers with quick visual knowledge of the displacement of federal parolees that reside within the City of Edmonton. Using off-the-shelf geographic information system (GIS) software, members of the Edmonton Police Service and Correctional Service of Canada — part of the Police and Parole Intelligence Partnership (PPIP) — were able to fuse intelligence in a way that bridged the communications gap for police and parole officers.

The simple innovation had an immediate impact. Uses included:

- Crime maps that display crime offences could now be compared to the parolee map. The application assisted in generating possible suspects that reside within the geographical area of concern. For example, the parolee map can be layered against a map that shows locations arson activities to identifying potential parolees as suspects.
- Parole Officers could now investigate the spatial distribution of parolees in the community, and search for patterns or placements that could potential escalate the risk of re-offending by that offender. For example, a parolee with identified ties to Aboriginal Gangs would have a more difficult or less successful reintegration if that parolee resided in a community with other gang members. Furthermore, the proximity to other geographical influences such as casinos (for those parolees with gambling addictions) or schoolyards (for those parolees with child sex crimes background) can highlight immediate risks that may have not been previously considered.
- Police supervisors could now deploy resources more appropriately after reviewing the parolee map to see where potentially high-risk offenders are residing. If certain communities had a greater concentration of parolees versus other areas, management could dedicate additional resources.

The use of a GIS mapping system to plot the residences' of federal parolees in the community was a simple measure, but the return on this investment produced several strong and positive results. Not only did law enforcement and parole officers have immediate knowledge of offender placement, this knowledge could be expanded to assist in certain investigations or special applications. It also helped establish an intelligence partnership between the Edmonton Police Service and Correctional Service of Canada that is directly adding to the safety of that particular community.

Congratulations to the Edmonton Police Service and Correctional Service of Canada for encouraging, promoting and incorporating new ideas demonstrating creativity or innovation in using technology to advance public safety — important factors in being awarded the 2008 Microsoft Technology Innovation Award.

For more information about this document and the Microsoft Technology Innovation Award, visit www.cacp.ca/innovation or send your e-mail enquiry to innovation@cacp.ca.

BACKGROUNDER

2008 Microsoft Technology Innovation Award Honourable Mentions

The following six initiatives (in alphabetical order) were deemed worthy of an Honourable Mention. In one way or another, each project encourages, promotes or incorporates new ideas demonstrating creativity or innovation in using technology to advance policing. Job well done!

CopLogic Online Internet Reporting, York Regional Police

CopLogic is a user-friendly template-based application to effectively receive incident reports via the internet. The online internet reporting system accepts incident reports from citizens and agencies for submission to police for follow-up. The reporting can be facilitated in six different languages and is integrated with the organization's existing records management and e-mail systems.

CRIME (Consolidated Records and Intelligence Mining Environment), Vancouver Police Department

The CRIME system integrates various technologies to enhance the criminal analysis and intelligence capability of the Vancouver Police Department. Investigators and analysts now have access to police investigation information, dispatch information, and arrest and booking information all in a centralized location. Better yet, the CRIME system is accessible at any workstation in the department, as well as remotely in off-site locations through a Virtual Private Network (VPN).

Dashboard Indicators, Durham Regional Police Service

Known as Dashboard Indicators, the visual tools help give senior leaders and front line officers global information on crime and calls for service that spans both the divisional level and the region as a whole. This comprehensive package includes graphical trend information, comparative gauges and visual alerts on performance. An added benefit is that this centralized and effective display of data furthers the development of a sustainable problem-based policing strategy.

Handheld Mobile Data Terminal, London Police Service

The London Police Service wanted to provide network access for those officers who are highly mobile without patrol vehicles (e.g., foot, bicycle, motorcycle, boat and mounted patrols) — a challenge given the security requirements around accessing some systems. Nonetheless, the Handheld Mobile Data Terminal project enabled the most mobile front-line officers and investigators secure access to local, provincial and national police information systems, anywhere and at anytime.

SYSTÈME D'ÉMISSION DE CONSTATS INFORMATISÉS (SÉCI), Service de Police de la Ville de Montréal (SPVM)

Montréal Electronic Ticketing solution was built to handle the reports generated from the more than two million traffic violations annually. The use of portable devices, integration with the city's financial management system and the court system contribute to a home grown solution that increases efficiency and reduces errors. The system will soon be in use by over 4,000 police officers and 300 parking enforcement officers.

Wireless Parking System (WiPS), Toronto Police Service

The Toronto Police Service Wireless Parking System (referred to as WiPS) has the distinction of being the largest wireless electronic parking enforcement system in Canada, and is wireless in operation through the GPRS network. The project involves mobilizing some 300 hand-held computers (PDAs) and 300 mobile printers to all parking enforcement officers and supervisors.

For more information about this document and the Microsoft Technology Innovation Award, visit www.cacp.ca/innovation or send your e-mail enquiry to innovation@cacp.ca.