

Policing: A BC Practitioners' Toolkit

Lesson 1: Crime Reduction



Overview of Lesson 1

- Crime reduction as a concept, and its relationship to problem-oriented policing
- The reasons for using a crime reduction approach
- The key principles of crime reduction
- What the key features really mean for general duty officers
- Overview of lessons in training series

Evolution of Policing

- Traditional policing
- Community policing
- Problem-oriented policing
- Intelligence-led policing



Crime reduction is an umbrella approach – *a way of responding to crime*

The Need for a Crime Reduction Approach

- Losing the ability to respond effectively to crime today
 - more steps required
 - more costly
 - more complicated
- Being asked to do more with less
- Police can only do so much!

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Developing a Canadian Approach

Need to work together in an integrated fashion:

- criminal justice system
- all levels of government
- the community
- other stakeholders



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Key Principles of Crime Reduction

- Operating in a strategic intelligence/information-led way:
 - being attentive to intelligence-gathering opportunities
 - patrolling in a purposeful manner
 - sharing information with other officers



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Applying Key Features on the Job (1)

- A primary focus on offenders, not offences
 - identifying, targeting and being attentive to prolific and priority offenders
- Hotspots
 - finding out what makes them hotspots
 - finding out how to turn them around



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Applying Key Features on the Job (2)

- Convicting prolific offenders
 - making arrests
 - making thorough and complete reports to Crown Counsel
 - developing strong rapport with Crown Counsel
- Operating in a strategic way
 - intelligence gathering
 - being thorough and purposeful in all aspects of work
 - sharing information with other officers



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Applying Key Features on the Job (3)

- Being accountable:
 - measurement and evaluation
 - choosing initiatives that have been shown to work (evidence-informed)
- Forming Partnerships
 - stakeholders play an important role
 - being attentive to the kinds of things the community can do to support those at risk



Applying Key Features on the Job (4)

- Collaborative problem solving
 - recognizing important role that many stakeholders contribute to crime reduction
 - being attentive to the role of community members in supporting youth and adults at risk
 - recognizing that collaboration requires deliberate coordination and organization



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A BC Practitioners' Toolkit Training Series

- Lesson 1 Crime Reduction
- Lesson 2 Problem-Oriented Policing
- Lesson 3 Problem Solving Model
 - » 3A SARA Problem Solving Model
 - » 3B CAPRA Problem Solving Model
- Lesson 4 Crime Prevention through Social Development
- Lesson 5 Situational Crime Prevention I (Crime Triangle, Broken Windows Theory)
- Lesson 6 Situational Crime Prevention II (C.P.T.E.D.)
- Lesson 7 Supervisors' Lesson: Characteristics of an Effective Problem Solving Supervisor

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Next Lesson

Lesson 2: Introduction to Problem-Oriented Policing

- Historical review
- Definition and introduction to underlying concepts
- Summary of strengths and benefits

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