14. Issues of Policing

14.1 Training

a. Use of Force Continuum

The Inquiry is satisfied that R.N.C. officers, including the incident officers, have been adequately trained in use of force. The present model, "National Use of Force Model", was adopted by the R.N.C. in 2001 with the input of academics and leading police trainers, including Inspector James Carroll.

The training programme of the R.N.C. in this subject area is consistent with Ontario, British Columbia, R.C.M.P., etc. It also adheres to the principles set out by the United Nations in its Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials and Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials.

The expert from the Ontario Police College, Chris Lawrence, did not fault the three incident officers in their response to Darryl Power's threat.

b. Mental Illness

Please refer to the commentary in the report into the sudden death of Norman Reid.

Everyone recognizes that more training for police, judges, social workers, nurses, ambulance attendants, doctors, etc. in this subject area would be beneficial.

Constables Roche, Earles and Haskell readily admitted to not having had formal training in "dealing with people suffering from major mental disorders". These officers were generally aware of some of the services available to mentally ill persons and they generally relied on their experience and common sense in handling a situation of this nature.