



DID YOU KNOW?

August 2017

Filing a Complaint Against the RCMP

In BC, the RCMP provides police services to many communities. In a community which has its own municipal power, you would not use the following procedures. Instead, your complaint should be filed with your local police force. Contact the office of the Police Complaint Commissioner.

Procedure

1. Contact your local RCMP office or complain to the Civilian Review and Complaints Commission for the RCMP. You can do this online: www.crcc-ccetp.gc.ca/en/make-complaint.
2. It is important that you do this as soon as you can while the events are still fresh in your memory. The deadline to complain is one year from the date of the conduct. The commission can extend the deadline if there's good reason to.
3. The RCMP may contact you to discuss the complaint if you are agreeable. You may reach an informal resolution to your complaint.
4. If the informal resolution is not possible, the RCMP will have an investigation
5. The results of the investigation will be given to you in writing.

If You Are Still Not Satisfied

1. Request a **review** online, by telephone, fax, or by mail:
Civilian Review and Complaints Commission
P.O. Box 1722 Station B
Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 0B3
Tel: 1-800-665-6878
Fax: 1-613-952-8045
www.crcc-ccetp.gc.ca/en/contact-us-0

The Commission is independent of the RCMP. This means it is not part of the RCMP and will treat both you and the RCMP in the same fair manner.

2. The commissioner will review your complaint and the RCMP's investigation and results.
3. The commission feels that the RCMP investigated and responded fairly to your complaint, all parties will be told that. Otherwise, the Chair of the Commission may decide to:
 - Review the complaint and all relevant material without further investigation;
 - Ask the RCMP to investigate further;
 - Initiate a commission-led investigation; or
 - Hold a public hearing.
4. You may want to contact a lawyer to determine if the RCMP officer has committed a civil wrong against you. If so, it is possible that you could sue the officer for damages in civil court.
5. If you say that the RCMP officer committed a crime or broke the law, the RCMP will investigate. The result of the investigation may go to the Regional Crown Counsel—the senior prosecutor for the area—to decide whether to charge the officer with a crime. If the police don't send a report to the prosecutor, or the prosecutor decides not to charge the officer, you can still go to the Justice of the Peace and ask that the officer be charged.
See: www.cbabc.org/For-the-public/Dial-A-Law/Scripts/Criminal-Law/215.

For More Information

BC Civil Liberties Association:
604-687-2919 or 1-866-731-7507
www.bccla.org
Pivot:
604-255-9700
www.pivotlegal.org

This fact sheet contains legal information, not advice and is accurate as of the above date. For legal advice, please contact a lawyer.