

# SiRT

SERIOUS INCIDENT  
RESPONSE TEAM

## Summary of Investigation

SiRT File # 2024-25

Referral from

RCMP “J” Division

New Brunswick

June 3, 2024

Erin E. Nauss  
Director  
July 9, 2024

## **MANDATE OF THE SiRT**

The Serious Incident Response Team (“SiRT”) has a mandate under the Nova Scotia *Police Act* and through agreement under the New Brunswick *Police Act* to investigate all matters that involve death, serious injury, sexual assault, and intimate partner violence or other matters of a public interest to be investigated that may have arisen from the actions of any police officer in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The SiRT may also assist or provide oversight of investigations led by another police agency.

## **INCIDENT SUMMARY**

On June 3, 2024, the RCMP “J” Division contacted the SiRT regarding information that suggested an active RCMP member was engaged in criminal offences. The member was based in New Brunswick but had been recently stationed out of province.

The SiRT assisted and provided oversight of the specialized operation, working with the RCMP “J” Division Integrated Child Exploitation Unit (ICE) and Digital Forensic Services (DFS).

Corporal Jeremy Bastarache was charged by the RCMP on June 10, 2024, under Part V of the *Criminal Code*. The charge sets out reasonable and probable grounds to believe that between April 24-29, 2024, he did by means of telecommunication, make arrangements with a person, for the purpose of facilitating, towards a person whom he believed to be under 16 years old, the commission of an offence set out in Section 151(a) contrary to subsection 172.2(1)(b) of the *Criminal Code*.

In cases where charges are laid, and since the matter is currently before the courts, this report will not discuss the facts of the matter in detail. To do otherwise might compromise the fair trial interests of the accused.

## **RELEVANT LEGISLATION**

### *Criminal Code*

#### Sexual interference

151 Every person who, for a sexual purpose, touches, directly or indirectly, with a part of the body or with an object, any part of the body of a person under the age of 16 years

(a) is guilty of an indictable offence and is liable to imprisonment for a term of not more than 14 years and to a minimum punishment of imprisonment for a term of one year; or

(b) is guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction and is liable to imprisonment for a term of not more than two years less a day and to a minimum punishment of imprisonment for a term of 90 days.

Agreement or arrangement — sexual offence against child

172.2 (1) Every person commits an offence who, by a means of telecommunication, agrees with a person, or makes an arrangement with a person, to commit an offence

(a) under subsection 153(1), section 155, 163.1, 170, 171 or 279.011 or subsection 279.02(2), 279.03(2), 286.1(2), 286.2(2) or 286.3(2) with respect to another person who is, or who the accused believes is, under the age of 18 years;

(b) under section 151 or 152, subsection 160(3) or 173(2) or section 271, 272, 273 or 280 with respect to another person who is, or who the accused believes is, under the age of 16 years; or

(c) under section 281 with respect to another person who is, or who the accused believes is, under the age of 14 years.