



January, 2018

RE: Ministry Response to the Ombudsman's Report: Evidence Based Approach to Critical Decision Making

The University of Toronto team, led by Dr. Judith Andersen, is pleased to enter into a collaboration with the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services to address recommendation #3 in the 2016 Ombudsman's report regarding the current Ontario Use of Force Model.

Our University of Toronto team will contribute research expertise in the following ways: first, to provide the MCSCS with a representative summary of the scientific literature on critical decision making, as it pertains to policing and use of force; and second, to survey and interview police experts and police officers from services in Ontario to inform the development of a new, evidence-based critical decision making model for Ontario.

All data collected by the University of Toronto team is for the sole purpose of informing MCSCS in their effort to answer the 2016 Ombudsman's report. Data will be gathered in aggregate form, meaning no individual will be identified personally. Data will be kept confidential and protected at the University of Toronto and shared only with MCSCS. All research procedures have been reviewed by the Research Ethics Review Board of the University of Toronto and comply with all federal ethical standards for data collection and protection.

We ask for your assistance with the following:

In order to facilitate the research goals for the MCSCS report, Dr. Andersen or members of her research team will request interviews, conduct surveys, organize focus groups, conduct site visits around Ontario police services to gather expert police guidance and review critical decision making research and model development. We will be sending a survey to your service via the All Chiefs'/Chairs' email to provide you the opportunity to nominate representatives from your service who are experts in training, critical decision making and use of force to be a part of this important effort. Your assistance in providing any relevant information supporting this research is appreciated.

Sincerely,

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