



**NATIONAL
POLICE
FEDERATION**

**FÉDÉRATION
DE LA POLICE
NATIONALE** TM

Who's Who at Canada's Borders

Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)

As Canada's national police service, the RCMP protects our borders in the air, on land, at sea, and in the Arctic. This includes patrolling areas between official ports of entry, maritime ports, and airports.

Role: The RCMP works closely with all law enforcement partners, domestic and international, to handle law enforcement at the border.

The RCMP focuses on **law enforcement** and **criminal investigations**, **remote border patrols**, and **national security threats** between official border crossing areas (ports of entry).

Responsibilities:

- Investigating cross-border criminal activity, including smuggling, human trafficking, and organized crime.
- Patrolling the Canada US border between official ports of entry.
- Responding to threats like smuggling, terrorism, or illegal crossings between official ports of entry.
- Responding to calls from CBSA for a police response to conduct criminal investigations

Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) facilitates the flow of legitimate travellers, goods and trade across international boundaries.

Role: The CBSA is the primary agency responsible for managing Canada's borders at the official points of entry. CBSA officers are stationed at **ports of entry** (airports, land crossings, ports, etc.), focusing on customs, immigration, and screening people and goods.

Responsibilities:

- Screening and processing people and goods entering and leaving Canada.
- Ensuring compliance with customs, immigration, and trade laws.
- Collecting duties and taxes on imported goods.

Local and Provincial Law Enforcement

Provincial or local police services and other law enforcement groups provide additional support in regions close to the border.

Role: They are primarily responsible for enforcing provincial laws and statutes, however, can also support CBSA and RCMP officers by detaining individuals suspected of contravening federal offenses, including border-related offenses like drug or human smuggling. This broad category of law enforcement partners includes services like the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), Alberta Sheriffs, British Columbia Sheriffs, and other local municipal and provincial law enforcement agencies.

Responsibilities:

- Supporting the RCMP and CBSA during incidents near or at border crossings.
- Managing regional issues that may intersect with border security, such as illicit trade, organized crime – such as auto theft.
- Collaborating on joint task forces aimed at detecting illegal border activity.

Canadian Intelligence Agencies

Canada's intelligence agencies play an important role in monitoring and collecting information that enable the RCMP, CBSA, and other law enforcement partners, to better detect and deter border threats.

Key Players: Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) and Communications Security Establishment (CSE).

- CSIS is at the forefront of Canada's national security activity investigating activity suspected of constituting a threat to the security of Canada.
- CSE, as the national cryptologic agency, provides the Government with information related to technology security and foreign signals intelligence.

Role: Monitoring and mitigating national security threats, including those linked to cross-border activities.

Responsibilities:

- Sharing intelligence with CBSA, RCMP, and international partners.
- Identifying risks and threats such as terrorism or espionage.
- Collecting information that relates to the integrity of Canada's border

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)

The IRCC has the overall responsibility for immigration and refugee matters.

Role: The IRCC oversees immigration and citizenship policies and collaborates with CBSA at the border. The IRCC works with CBSA to verify if individuals arriving at the border meet the necessary criteria to enter Canada.

Responsibilities:

- Establishing guidelines for visas, permits, and refugee applications.
- Supporting CBSA in making decisions about admissibility.
- Managing the processing of refugee claims made at the border.

Public Safety Canada (PSC)

PSC ensures coordination across all federal departments and agencies responsible for national security and the safety of Canadians.

Role: PSC is responsible for managing Canada's borders to ensure the overall safety of Canadians. They work with other agencies to develop and implement policies and strategies to secure the border while allowing legitimate trade and travel.

Responsibilities:

- Setting overarching policies for border management and emergency responses.
- Supporting collaboration between CBSA, RCMP, and other agencies.
- Oversee the activities of CBSA and the RCMP.
- Provide funding and support for border related activity.