

## "C" Division

Headquarters — Montréal, Quebec

### KAHNAWAKE, A UNIQUE DETACHMENT

Because of an ever-present need for policing the three major provincial highways that run through the Kahnawake Mohawk Reserve, Kahnawake Detachment was created in response to the Mohawk crisis of 1990. It had been unofficially in existence since the confrontation and until recently, its members were "borrowed" from within "C" Division. Since it has finally gained official status in "C" Division, the process of replacing temporarily assigned "C" Division members began almost three years after the crisis. By the summer of 1992, and without fanfare, Kahnawake Detachment had its permanent workforce.

Subsequently, 52 members from across Canada were transferred to Kahnawake, located on Montréal's south shore. In a spirit of cooperation between federal and provincial governments, RCMP members work closely with the Quebec Police Force, sharing offices and patrol routes and mandates. Police officers in Kahnawake enforce laws falling under the jurisdiction of the *Criminal Code of Canada* and various federal statutes, but they are also empowered to enforce provincial statutes, including the *Quebec Highway Act*.

Uniformed patrols are performed in regular marked police cars. Because of the Detachment's location and the high potential for crisis, policing requirements and community

expectations present a challenge to traditional policing methods; new approaches are constantly undertaken to best fulfil our objectives.

For the first time in this province, with the exception of several airports, members of the RCMP are clearly visible to the general public in the daily performance of their duties. In order to inform the public of our new role in and around Kahnawake, a Police Community Relations (PCR) Program was approved by the CO, "C" Division. The PCR Program was set up in cooperation with surrounding municipal forces to increase public awareness to the RCMP's role in Kahnawake as well as across Canada. The Program which included police talks in Châteauguay, a bicycle rodeo in Candiac and an information kiosk in Laprairie, was well received by the local communities.

*submitted by Cst. M.L.L. Forgues*



Cst. R. Fleury, Laprairie Municipal Police (L), and RCMP Cst. M. Lamontagne (R), tending the information kiosk at the Laprairie shopping mall during National Police Week.



TEAM K-2, KAHNAWAKE DETACHMENT (L-R): Csts S. Coulombe and R. Morin, Cpl. J. Morin, Csts S. Lanoue, B. Farrell, M. Lamontagne, P. Piché, J. Génier, R. Sabourin, A. Grenier, L. Forgues, M. Bérubé and D. Blanchard, and Mr. A. Pépin.

Photos by Cpl. J. Morin