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WIKI-BASED ORGANIZED CRIME INTELLIGENCE PILOT

Overview

In an effort to improve the managing and sharing of intelligence, RCMP 'E' Division Criminal Analysis Section has undertaken to pilot the development of a web-based intelligence application using the widely recognized MediaWiki software (as employed by Wikipedia).

MediaWiki is a server-based application that allows for multiple users to collect, collate, search, and reference information on various web-pages under a secure environment. Its intended use is to facilitate the construction by multiple analysts of intelligence on known criminal organizations and individuals who are of interest to law enforcement agencies. Using a web-based server application may help facilitate the continual collecting and editing of information, providing up-to-date information, as well as providing provisions for monitoring quality and accuracy.

This initiative complements the RCMP's operational priority of taking an intelligence-based approach to organized crime. The goal is to reduce the threat and impact of organized crime in our communities. Under the Strategic Priority of Organized Crime, the Force seeks to accomplish this by:

- improving the quality of the intelligence/information process
- ensuring the quality and integrity of operational data in terms of timeliness and reliability
- sharing intelligence with partners, and cooperate with enforcement units at the municipal, national and international levels
- formulating an up-to-date picture of the threat of organized crime and prioritize investigations
- enhancing investigative abilities by providing scientific and technical support, and utilizing new technologies

Strategic Objectives

The strategic focus of this project is to improve the quality, accessibility, reliability, and timeliness of the intelligence gathering process. This application is intended to replace a number of currently time consuming, manually intensive aspects of the preparation of the Provincial Threat Assessment. It is anticipated the use of MediaWiki software as an intelligence application will improve information sharing within the policing community and the timeliness of the intelligence gathering process.

This application also provides the RCMP with a new instrument that will enhance investigations and the intelligence gathering process. It enables the creation of a "real-time" electronic platform that contains up-to-date intelligence on criminal organizations and people. In turn, information sharing between agencies and departments will be improved.

Project Goals

This project has multiple goals but the first and foremost objective is to create a continuous opportunity to shape intelligence whereby key material is amended in a timely manner and stored in a manner that facilitates improved inter-agency sharing of information. In the broadest sense, the intention is to create a web-based platform for organized crime intelligence that is easy to use and navigate for all users.

The second objective is to improve communication between analysts within the Division and with the RCMP's partner agencies. In turn, analysts will be better equipped with operationally and strategically rich intelligence. Furthermore, this project will specifically improve the accuracy of intelligence by utilizing discussion boards contained within the application for discussing conflicting information. The application will also allow for audit and review of contributions to intelligence documents.

The final objective is to free up valuable analytical resources so they can dedicate more time and effort towards other significant policing tasks. This initiative should reduce the amount of time it takes to access and share information between analysts and agencies. It is expected that workload, stress and seasonal overload will be mitigated amongst intelligence analysts who have repeatedly indicated their concerns regarding the status quo.



Royal Canadian Mounted Police / Gendarmerie royale du Canada

**BRIEFING NOTE
NOTE D'INFORMATION**

Security Classification/Designation
Classification/désignation sécuritaire
Protected A

ISSUE

Wiki Intelligence Project (Delayed to 2009-10)

BACKGROUND

In an effort to improve the managing and sharing of intelligence, RCMP 'E' Division Criminal Analysis Section has undertaken to pilot the development of a web-based intelligence application using the widely recognized MEDIAWIKI software (as employed by Wikipedia).

MEDIAWIKI is a server-based application that allows for multiple users to collect, collate, search, and reference information on various web-pages under a secure environment. Its intended use is to facilitate the construction by multiple analysts of intelligence on known criminal organizations and individuals who are of interest to law enforcement agencies. At project outset in September 2007, MEDIAWIKI was identified by the project team as the preferred software vehicle for construction of the Wiki. CISC provided an in-kind human resource between June and September 2008 to assist in local construction and roll-out of the application in Vancouver.



Royal
Canadian
Mounted
Police

Gendarmerie
royale
du
Canada

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STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS

Prepared by

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2008-08-11

cc: D/G Intelligence Requirements, CID; Director, CISC; "E" Division DIO; RIO Pacific Region; Chief ITS/DSB

[Wikis and police intelligence]

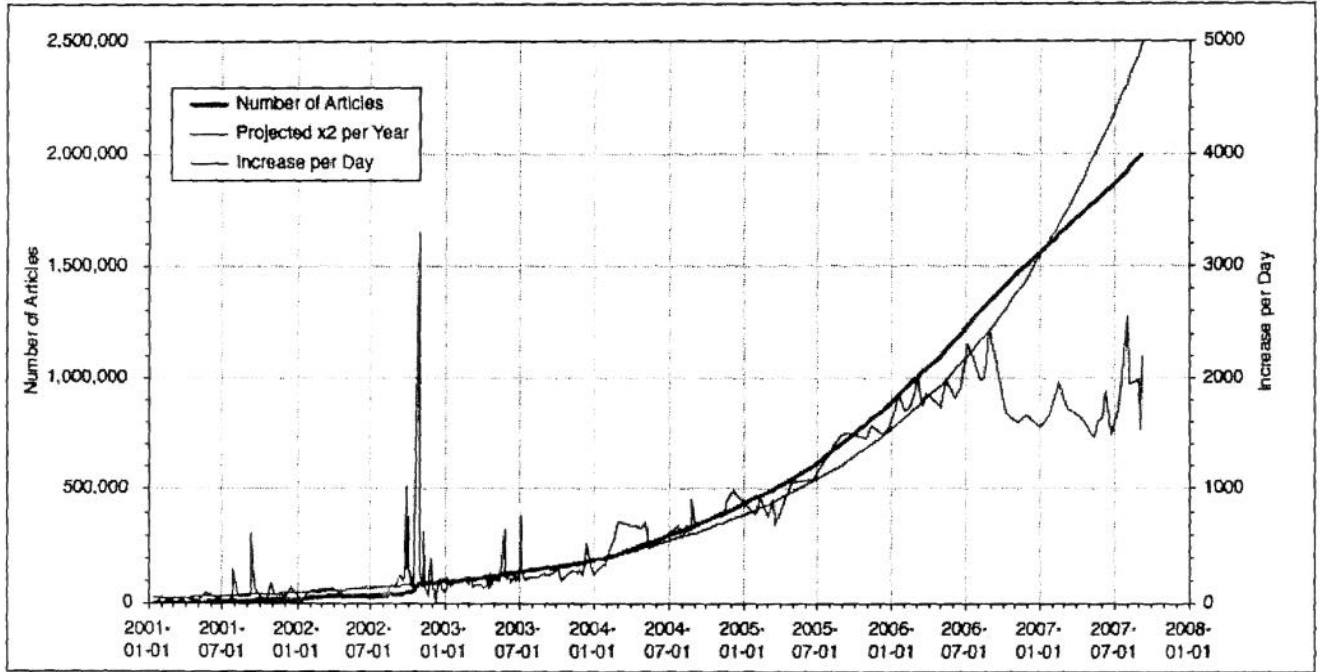


Allan Castle, C/M
OIC Criminal Analysis
RCMP Pacific Region
2008-02-07

[What is a wiki?]

- Collection of web pages that allows a user to find, create, and edit pages using their web browser
- Gives users the ability to create pages quickly without having to learn HTML
- Pages can be interlinked
- Best known example is *Wikipedia*

[Wikipedia growth]



[The Wikipedia revolution]

- From margins to the top-ranking hit site for information on the internet in three years
- 2008-02-05 Google queries
 - “emu”... Wikipedia is #1 hit
 - “quality assurance”... #1
 - “taser”... #2
 - “asphalt”... #1
 - “hells angels”... #1
 - “journalism ethics”... #1
 - “pete best”... #2
 - “balanced scorecard”... #1

[Where can we apply wikis?]

- Where documents are constantly built rather than “finished”
- Where many users or experts are in a position to contribute unique knowledge
- Where contributors are widely dispersed
- Where document changes need to be catalogued
- Where real-time sharing and updating is important

[Where can we apply wikis?]

- Project or section-specific work
- Training or professional development, dissemination of good practices
- Maintenance of organizational intranets
- A cultural challenge for organizations that respond well to and respect central control and hierarchical authority

[Why has this happened?]

- Each topic of interest (2m+ individual articles) attracts information from many sources and is self-regulated by the internet user population
- Over time, highly accurate and regularly updated information usually appears
- More useful and accessible than traditional reference sources

[Why has this happened?]

- Resistant to malicious activity... repels sabotage
- Rule-governed, preserves change history
- Problems occur with controversial topics e.g. *intelligent design*, *JFK murder* etc., but regulated
- Now the first stop to answer most basic factual questions
- Interlinked, searchable

[Problem: how to streamline the integrated threat assessment]

- Five years --- burnout of best personnel
- Excessive reliance on “face to face” analytical collaborations
- Unwieldy creation of 400 pp document annually, little ability to track changes systematically
- Only accurate sixty days prior to publication
- Not a “living document” but a snapshot
- Heavy toll on operational support

[Wiki as a platform for the ITA]

- A project-specific and role-based application
- Users limited to intelligence analysts and/or other personnel with TS clearance on case-by-case basis
- “Articles” edited/updated as information comes in
- Group-based/commodity-based articles, interlinked
- 20 minutes a day, not six weeks a year
- Product uploaded as at agreed date on or prior to FYE to satisfy database requirements
- Live updating continues in perpetuity

[Implications]

- Improve
 - information sharing between agencies
 - timeliness of the intelligence gathering
 - the quality, accessibility, and reliability of intelligence
- Provide
 - a medium to discuss conflicting information
 - up to date picture of the organized crime
- Free-up
 - valuable analytical resources

[Implications]

- It will give analysts the ability to:
 - “watch” pages to be informed up any changes
 - see who has made changes to a page
 - discuss conflicting information
 - search for information that is needed
 - share finished intelligence with others

[Implications]

- Allows all users to see which personnel have contributed to what degree
- Allows designation of key individuals to “govern” individual pages
- Allows linking to source materials on broader-access databases
- Allows easier, more intuitive incorporation of multi-media links, charts etc.
- Allows rapid creation of new topics and/or revision of existing topic handling

RCMP Wikitext Creator

Group

Type: Street Gangs

Strategic Overview

Specific information on how the group is organized and who the key players are.

Membership

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	DOB	PPS	Alias
DOE	John	Johnny	2008-01-28	123456A	

Address: [SMITH John Michael 2008-01-28]

Activities

- Economic Integrity
- Guns and Gangs
 - Violence/Threats
 - Firearms
 - Concealment Methods
- Border Integrity
 - Human Trafficking/Prostitution
 - Human Smuggling
 - Firearms Trafficking
 - Firearms Smuggling

Details

Specific details on the activities that the group is involved in.

Comments

Detailed summary of the group.

Steps

Activities: Corruption Violence Intimidation Espionage Support Subversion

Microsoft PowerPoint - [...]

RCMP Wikitext Creator

08:11

The screenshot shows the 'RCMP WikiText Creator' application window. The main window is titled 'Group' and contains several sections for defining a group's characteristics:

- Membership:** A table with columns for Last Name, First Name, Middle Name, DOB, and FPS. It contains one entry: John SMITH, DOB 2008-01-28, FPS 123456A. There are 'Add >>' and 'Delete' buttons.
- Activities:** A list of activity categories with checkboxes:
 - Economic Integrity
 - Guns and Gangs
 - Violence/Threats
 - Firearms
 - Concealment Methods
 - Border Integrity
 - Human Trafficking/Prostitution
 - Human Smuggling
 - Firearms Trafficking
 - Firearms Smuggling
- Details:** A text area for 'Specific details on the activities that the group is involved in.'
- Summary:** A text area for 'Detailed summary of the group.'
- Stepher:** A grid of checkboxes for various attributes:

Attribute	Corruption	Violence	Infiltration	Explosives	Explosive	Subversion
Strategy	Discipline	Insulation	Inst. Use	M.A. Cnt.	Mobility	Stability
Scope	Monopoly	Group Cohesion	Continuity	Links to DC	Links to E/Govern	Total

At the bottom of the form is a 'Make WikiText' button. The taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, several icons, and open applications: 'Marijuana Cultivation - R...', 'Microsoft PowerPoint - [...]', and 'RCMP WikiText Creator'. The system clock shows '06:12'.

Editing SMITH, John Johnny et al - RCMPWiki - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by RCMP-GRC

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Print Mail News RSS Feeds

Address http://142.72.117.19/mw/index.php?title=SMITH%2C_Johnny_et_al&action=edit

Create an account or log in

article discussion edit history

Editing SMITH, John Johnny et al

quick links

- Main Page
- Mission Statement
- Business Rules
- Wiki Resources
- Recent Changes
- Random Page
- FAQ

search

Go Search

toolbox

- What links here
- Related changes
- Upload file
- Special pages

Summary:

```
--Type of Organization--
:[[Street Gangs]]

--Strategic Overview--
The [[SMITH, John Johnny et al]] group is part of the larger organization [[Organized Actors]]. They are well established in British Columbia. They have a particularly strong presence in Vancouver and Prince George (sources). They are known to have been established since the 1970's. Their leader is SMITH. They are mostly involved in production and export of cocaine and marijuana (sources).

Note: SMITH is sufficient in text as his full information will appear in the Membership section.

--Membership--
:[[SMITH John Johnny 2008-01-22]]

--Activities--
*[[Economic Integrity]]
*[[Border Integrity]]
*[[Marijuana Cultivation]]
```

[Editing help \(opens in new window\)](#)

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About RCMPWiki Disclaimers

Local IP: 142.72.117.19

Start | WWW: 142.72.117.19 | Editing SMITH, John J. | Local IP: 142.72.117.19 | 09:20

SMITH, John Johnny et al - RCMP-Wiki - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by RCMP-GRC

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Address http://142.72.117.19/mwiki/index.php/SMITH%2C_John_Johnny_et_al#Activities 142.72.64.137 talk for this ip create an account or log in

article discussion edit history

SMITH, John Johnny et al

Contents [hide]

- 1 Type of Organization
- 2 Strategic Overview
- 3 Membership
- 4 Activities
- 5 Comments
- 6 Sleipner

quick links

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search

Go Search

toolbox

- What links here
- Related changes
- Upload file
- Special pages
- Printable version

Type of Organization [edit]

- Street Gangs [edit]

Strategic Overview [edit]

The **SMITH, John Johnny et al** group is part of the larger organization Organized Actors. They are well established in British Columbia. They have a particularly strong presence in Vancouver and Prince George (sources). They are known to have been established since the 1970's. Their leader is SMITH. They are mostly involved in production and export of cocaine and marijuana (sources).

Note: SMITH is sufficient in text as his full information will appear in the Membership section. [edit]

Membership [edit]

- SMITH John Johnny 2006-01-22

Activities [edit]

- Economic Integrity
- Border Integrity

This group is involved in issues relating to economic integrity and border integrity. [edit]

Comments [edit]

This group is a major priority in the Division. [edit]

Sleipner [edit]

Corruption	1
Violence	

Start SMITH, John Johnny ... Microsoft PowerPoint - ... Local Network 09:01

Marijuana Cultivation - RCMPWiki - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by RCMP-GRC

Address: http://142.72.117.19/mywiki/index.php/Special:Whatlinkshere/Marijuana_Cultivation

142.72.64.137 talk for this ip create an account or log in

Marijuana Cultivation


View (previous 50) (next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500).

- Organized Actors
- SMITH, John Johnny et al

View (previous 50) (next 50) (20 | 50 | 100 | 250 | 500).

About RCMPWiki Disclaimers

Special page



quick links

- Main Page
- Mission Statement
- Business Rules
- Wiki Resources
- Recent Changes
- Random Page
- FAQ

search

Go Search

toolbox

- Upload file
- Special pages

Start Marijuana Cultivation... Microsoft PowerPoint... Local intranet 08-06

Page(s) 000254 to\à 000256

**Is(Are) exempted pursuant to section(s)
est(sont) exemptée(s) en vertu de(s)(l')article(s)**

15(1)(f), 21(1)(d)

**of the Access to Information Act
de la Loi sur l'accès à l'information**

[Questions/comments?]^o

Thank you!

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