# NOVA SCOTIA Justice

### Conducted Energy Weapons (CEW) Fact Sheet

#### By The Numbers:

• Number of CEW with police: 240

Number of Nova Scotia forces with CEW: 9 (including RCMP)

Number of CEW with Sheriff's Office: 2

Number of CEW with Corrections: 15

Total conducted energy weapons: 257

#### Usage:

Use of CEW has decreased from 2007-2010.

CEW use (contact stun): decreased 53 percent

• CEW use (probe): decreased 70 per cent

#### Timeline of CEWs in Nova Scotia:

- 2002 Halifax Regional Police are the first police service in Nova Scotia to have conducted energy weapons.
- 2003 Nova Scotia correctional service develops policy and procedures for CEW (Nova Scotia is the first jurisdiction in Canada to authorize the use of CEW in correctional institutions).
- 2004 Sheriff's officers are authorized to use CEWs in the cells at Halifax Provincial Court and the Sydney Justice Centre.
- December 2006 First provincewide governance standard for conducted energy weapons, by the Department of Justice
- November 22, 2007 Death of Howard Hyde.
- March 2008 Ministerial review on CEW released.
- March 2008 Advisory Panel to the Minister of Justice on the use of CEW formed.
- June 2008 Advisory panel presents the Report of the Advisory Panel on the Use of the Conducted Energy Device by Law Enforcement Agencies in Nova Scotia, which contains 16 recommendations.
- July 2008 Guidelines on the use of CEW are revised to reflect the recommendations of the panel.
- September 2008 Government calls for a fatality inquiry into Mr. Hyde's death with Judge Anne Derrick to preside.
- November 2008 A panel of mental health and medical experts is formed to review excited delirium.
- June 2009 Department of Justice hires a use of force manager.
- June 2009 The panel of mental health and medical experts presents its report, which has nine recommendations.
- July 2009 All police in the province begin submitting reports on use-of-force incidents (including CEW) to Department of Justice.
- June 2010 Public proceedings of Hyde fatality inquiry end.



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- December 2010 Hyde fatality inquiry report released, with a number of recommendations on CEW use.
- May 2011 Government releases Building Bridges: Improving Care in Custody for People Living with Mental Illness, which outlines about 90 actions to address inquiry recommendations.
- June 9, 2011 Revised guidelines on CEW use come into force.