

NCPE FAQ for Media and Public Audiences

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR POLICE EXCELLENCE

Policing is complex and high-stakes. Like other professions, it needs a strong, consistent educational foundation. The NCPE aims to provide that—so officers are better prepared, and communities feel safer and more respected. This proposal is based on evidence. See our references in the white paper.

1

What is the NCPE?

A proposed national organization to standardize police education across Canada—similar to how law or nursing have consistent education standards. Learn more at: [NCPE](#)

2

Why Does Canada Need This?

Police education varies widely across provinces, leaving officers with uneven preparation. Public trust in policing has also declined, especially in Indigenous and racialized communities.

3

Will It Replace Academies?

No. Training academies still teach practical skills. The NCPE focuses on **education**—ethics, cultural understanding, and decision-making—before officers begin training.

What Changes for Future Officers?

- A more consistent, university-level education
- Stronger grounding in ethics and human rights
- Understanding of cultural safety and trauma-informed policing
- Better preparation for real-world community interactions

How Does This Help Communities?

It aims to create officers who are:

- Better prepared to handle complex situations
- More culturally aware and respectful
- Better able to build trust and reduce harm

Reconciliation

Curriculum includes Indigenous history, treaties, and rights—co-developed with Indigenous leaders and communities, plus cultural safety and anti-racism education.

Cost to Taxpayers

Upfront investment, but long-term savings through reduced complaints and legal costs, improved efficiency, and better use of existing funding.

International Models

The UK, Finland, and New Zealand use standardized, education-based policing models and have seen measurable improvements in professionalism and public trust.

Who Is Behind This?

The [Coalition for Canadian Police Excellence](#)—a non-partisan group of policing professionals, academics, and community leaders working together toward a shared vision.

How Will the Public Be Involved?

- Community input in curriculum design
- Inclusion in NCPE governance
- Public reporting on outcomes
- Ongoing evaluation to ensure accountability

The big idea in simple terms: Policing is complex and high-stakes. Like other professions, it needs a strong, consistent educational foundation. The NCPE aims to provide that—so officers are better prepared, and communities feel safer and more respected.