



Date: Tuesday October 7, 2008 at 1 p.m.

Event: Saanich Police Department
Introduction of mobile shooting unit
“Road Range”

Check Against Delivery

- Thank you John.
- I am pleased to join Saanich police and council in marking the arrival of an important new training unit – the first in Canada.
- The “Road Range” will be a valuable asset to officers to help maintain their firearm skills.
- Since 2004 when we began to give local governments 100 per cent of traffic fine revenue, we’ve seen how this money has been used in innovative and effective ways to help make our communities safer, better places to live.
- We see today how it supports police officers in the essential work they do.
- For many, the image of policing is rooted in the historic image of the constable on patrol.
- But modern policing is so much more than that.
- Police are innovative and willing to try new methods and technologies to deal with the ever-changing challenges that confront them.
- Police officers are, by nature, curious and courageous.
- They try new tools and techniques as willingly as they investigate criminals and accidents.
- In fact, with all due respect to Generation Y, police are, in fact, the prototype “early adopters.”
- While some people are still figuring out how to use the camera in their cell phone, in just a couple of years police have taken to:

- bait cars, boats and bikes
 - crime-mapping
 - automatic licence plate readers
 - real-time information sharing through PRIME and
 - intelligence-led policing.
- Their use of computer capabilities, scientific research and psychological insight is impressive.
 - Acquisition of this Road Range is an excellent example of the willingness to innovate, and is also in keeping with the government's commitment to greener choices.
 - Not only does it reduce travelling time for officers to keep up their skills, the Road Range is a state-of-the-art, self-contained unit that captures spent rounds without compromising safety and allows for environmentally-sound disposal.
 - And, speaking of sound... it is quieter than outdoor ranges.
 - Innovation benefits police, and ultimately we all benefit from the willingness of police departments – and their municipalities – to embrace it.
 - Thank you.