Annex 1: Answer to question B61

RCMP Tobacco Seizures by Effective Time

		Seizure Quantity Count			
		2020	2021	2022	Total
Cigarettes	Individual Units	29,505,680	5,040,365	18,017,157	52,563,202
	KGs	254	1	9	263
Cigars	Individual Units	58,148	21,816	130,120	210,084
	KGs				
Chewing	KGs				
	No Unit	3,050	2,850	13,104	19,004
Fine cut	KGs	7,158	6,399	774	14,331
	No Unit	478	775	218	1,471
Cut/ Ragwood	KGs	1	0	1,356	1,357
	No Unit	931	0	2	933
Raw leaf	KGs	43	0	22	65
	No Unit	0	2	0	2

Methodology:

Tobacco Seizures

Tobacco seizures are included only when the occurrence had a tobacco violation or charge associated to it or when the overall seizure for an occurrence was greater than 100 individual units (ie: cigarettes) or greater than 1 kilogram in weight. This threshold was set to eliminate seizures of small amounts of tobacco during the course of non-tobacco related investigations. As such, underreporting could occur in instances where tobacco-related UCR codes are not included or a charge is miscategorised.

Tobacco seizures are broken down into the following categories:

Tobacco Types Tobacco-Cigarette Tobacco-Cigar Tobacco-Chewing Tobacco-Cut/Ragwood Tobacco-Fine Tobacco-Raw leaf

Measurement Units

KGs – Tobacco entered by weight (ie : 4kg of raw leaf tobacco) Individual Units – Tobacco entered as individual counts (ie: number of cigarettes) No Unit – Tobacco entered with no identifiable measurement unit (In most cases this is likely a data quality issue)

- Date parameter: 'Effective Time' of the tobacco seizure includes January 01, 2020 to December 31, 2022.

- Data current as of February 09, 2023.

- Data Source: PROS, SPROS and Historical.

- BC PRIME Tobacco Seizures - The BC PRIME Data Warehouse does not contain tobacco seizures and, as such, they are not included.

- Data excludes other police partner agencies (PPA)s, cancelled occurrences, tobacco lost or stolen and samples.

Data Limitations

Known data integrity issues within the Records Management Systems (RMS) include incomplete records, outdated or lapsed reporting, lack of data validation upon entry, and omission of valuable information and entities.

QUERY RESULTS ARE EFFECTIVE ON THE DATE COMPLETED AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

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Due to the above noted concerns, any analysis conducted on tobacco seizure data should be done with caution and should reference these caveats.

Prepared by the Situational Awareness Support Unit (SASU), Federal Policing, RCMP

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PEI –

April 2020: 50 cartons unstamped tobacco products seized

March : 500,000 illegal cigarettes seized

May 2022: 17,000 illegal cigarettes seized