



ALERT

ALBERTA LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TEAMS

News release



November 22, 2011

ALERT busts Grande Prairie organized crime group, seizes two kilos of cocaine

Grande Prairie... In one of the largest cocaine seizures in Grande Prairie history, Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams' Grande Prairie Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit (CFSEU) seized two kilograms of cocaine, with a street value of roughly half a million dollars.

Working closely with ALERT's Edmonton Integrated Intelligence Unit, Alberta Fish & Wildlife, and Grande Prairie RCMP, teams arrested three males and then executed a search warrant at a rural acreage near Laglace, Alberta. Beyond the large cocaine seizure, ALERT dismantled a small, but sophisticated, marihuana grow operation, and seized a half pound of marihuana, an unregistered handgun, a loaded rifle, and a taser.

As a result of this investigation, two people believed to be at the head of a local drug trafficking network known as the 'Baseball Team' and another person have been charged with a number of drug and weapon offences. These arrests are connected to last month's arrest of Ralph MCGUIGAN who was found in possession of a half kilogram of cocaine. He was known to police as a member of the Demon Soldiers motorcycle gang in Grande Prairie and was in possession of his Demon Soldier's colors when the arrest occurred.

"ALERT works to keep Albertans safe by disrupting serious and organized crime," said Cst. John Lamming with CFSEU – Grande Prairie. "We are extremely pleased with the results of this investigation, knowing that these arrests and the significant cocaine seizure will have an immediate and positive impact in the Grande Prairie area."



The following individuals are charged:

- Clayton Kelly BUHLER, a 44-year-old resident of Laglace, Alberta, is charged with possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking, conspiracy to traffic cocaine, production of a controlled substance, possession of marijuana for the purpose of trafficking, possession of an unregistered restricted firearm, and two counts of careless storage of a firearm.
- Shaun Christopher THEXTON, a 40-year-old Grande Prairie resident, is charged with possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking, conspiracy to traffic cocaine and possession of a prohibited weapon.
- Bradley Joseph DEMONT, a 25-year-old Grande Prairie resident, is charged with possession of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking, conspiracy to traffic cocaine and possession of a prohibited weapon.

[ALERT](#) is an umbrella organization established by the Government of Alberta to bring together the province's most sophisticated law enforcement resources to tackle serious and organized crime. Close to 400 municipal police, RCMP and sheriffs work for ALERT.

***NOTE: A media availability will be held today at 1:30 p.m. with Cst. John Lamming, an investigator with ALERT's Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit - Grande Prairie, in the Grande Prairie RCMP detachment lobby (10202 - 99 Street, Grande Prairie, AB.).**

Media inquiries may be directed to:

Cst. John Lamming
CFSEU – Grande Prairie
Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT)
Phone: 780-402-6125

Jill Baird
Communications
Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT)
Phone: 780-509-3028