



## **PRESS RELEASE**

# **Supreme Court of Canada to rule today on RCMP members' rights to unionize**

**OTTAWA, January 16, 2015** -- The Supreme Court of Canada will rule today at 9:45 a.m. on whether members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police will have the right to unionize and engage in collective bargaining.

Since its creation, the RCMP has forbidden its members to negotiate their working conditions. This all could change today if the Court invalidates the current regulation that imposes a divisional representation system on its members, who have no other recourse. The current system is officially recognized by the RCMP and the Treasury Board of Canada.

According to André Girard of the Quebec Mounted Police Members' Association, which represents about 800 rank-and-file RCMP officers in the province, "the current consultation system is costing Canadian taxpayers millions of dollars. Is this normal, or should we not put into place a system that is more equitable and, more importantly, fair?"

The RCMP, which has 28,000 members, is the only police force in Canada that is not allowed to unionize or engage in collective bargaining.

The Quebec Mounted Police Members' Association will be available to speak with reporters as soon as it has time to read the judgment (around noon).

### **CONTACT :**

**André Girard**  
Quebec Mounted Police Members' Association  
450 275-0793

**Frédéric Serre**  
Media relations officer  
Quebec Mounted Police Members' Association  
438 875 4217  
[fsimedia@videotron.ca](mailto:fsimedia@videotron.ca)