

Internet Child Exploitation Unit and Computer Forensics Unit Overview



Presented by: Detective Sergeant Blair Ramsay



Agenda



International Trends / Provincial and Local Perspective



Unit Overview



Statistics / Outstanding Investigations



Strategic Direction – Protect Child Victims



What is Cybercrime?

- Crimes where technology is the target – Hacking, Denial of service, Ransomware
- Crimes facilitated by technology – Fraud, Human Trafficking, Internet Crimes Against Children
- Global cost of Cybercrimes expected to hit 6 trillion dollars by 2021 surpassing Annual Natural Disasters and Drug Trade



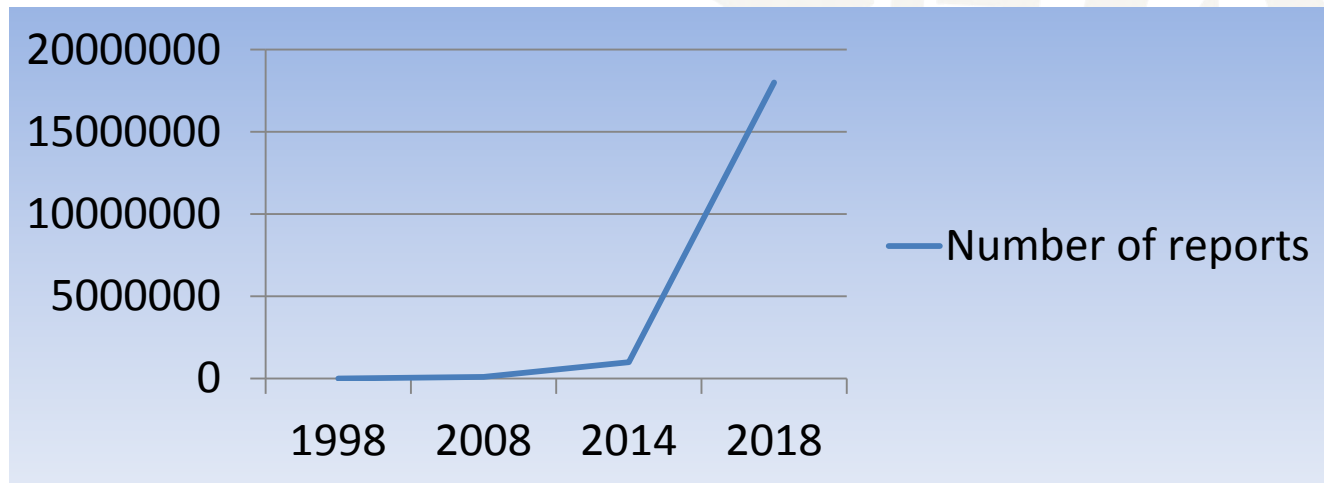
International Trends

- In 2008 – just under 1 million Child Abuse Images/Videos known to police globally
- In 2018 – 45 Million Child Abuse Images/Videos
- Darknet – 1 Million visits a day to Child Exploitation Forums
- Live Streaming abuse
- Luring online video game sites



International Investigations

- Virtual Global Taskforce (VGT)
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)
 - 1998: 3,000 reports
 - 2008: over 100,000 reports
 - 2014: first time, over 1 million reports
 - 2018: 18.4 million reports



Provincial Perspective

- **“The Strategy”**
- **Provincial Strategy to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation on the Internet**
- **28 Ontario Police Services working together to combat Internet Child Exploitation**
- **Provides \$407,470 in annual funding relief to GSPS**



ICE Unit Investigations

- **Proactive: Monitor Peer to Peer Networks, Luring/Make Arrangement – monitor and post ads on known areas of concern**
- **Reactive: Investigations from Uniform or other GSPS Units, International investigations from National Child Exploitation Crime Center (RCMP)**
- **Risk Management – Triage Investigations**
- **Consult with GSPS Units providing advice for technical portions of the investigation**



Statistics

Internet Child Exploitation Unit

- 2017 – 15 Arrests 109 charges
- 2018 – 27 Arrests 149 Charges
- 2019 – 24 Arrests 149 Charges (to date)



Statistics

Internet Child Exploitation Unit Outstanding Workload

- 62 Production Orders, 9 Search Warrants
- 17 cases to categorize – 10 Million Files
- 28 cases being managed currently before the courts



Statistics

Computer Forensic Unit

- **2017: 105 Investigations 235 devices examined**
- **2018: 86 Investigations 350 devices examined**
- **2019: 81 Investigations 298 devices examined as of October 2019**



Statistics

Computer Forensic Unit Outstanding Workload

- As of October 2019, 26 forensic cases with 62 device examinations to be completed
- 4-5 month turn around time
- Devices are getting larger, encryption issues with mobile devices



Community Partners

- Children's Aid Society
- Sudbury and Area Victim Services (Boost)
- Crisis Intervention Services at HSN
- Canadian Center for Child Protection (Internet Safety) – National Partner
- Internet Service Providers (Vianet, Eastlink, Bell, Sunwire)



Moving Forward

- **Victim Centric Investigations**
- **Enhance the Child Exploitation Units capacity to identify victims**
- **Enhance the capacity of the Computer Forensic Unit to minimize device examination timeframe subsequently reducing backlog**
- **Continue to partner with outside agencies and businesses**



What Can You Do?

- www.Cybertip.ca
- Teach children from a young age ‘body safety’ rules
- Teach children what a ‘friend’ means
- Keep devices out of private areas
- Never stop learning – the internet is the new playground



Questions

