



# Abbotsford Police Department

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*Bob Rich*  
Chief Constable

*"Protecting with Pride"*

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### APD NEWS RELEASE:

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### **Incident: Abbotsford Police Investigation Results in Significant Child Pornography Sentence**

**Abbotsford – May 27, 2010.**

An Abbotsford Police Investigation involving child sexual abuse material which began in December 2007 was concluded in Abbotsford Provincial Court Wednesday when Lon BATCHELOR was sentenced to two years in custody for Possession of Child Pornography. BATCHELOR, who had been in custody prior to the trial, will face another year in custody, followed by two and a half years of probation. He will be listed as a sex offender for twenty years under the national Sex Offender Information Registry Act (SOIRA) which includes twenty year conditions such as a ban on accessing the Internet and using computers and attending parks and places where children are likely to be. Additionally, he will be subject to numerous other probation conditions designed to monitor him once his sentence is served.

BATCHELOR came to the attention of the Abbotsford Police as a result of an international investigation initiated by the Queensland Police in 2006 (dubbed Operation Koala). A video of child sexual abuse was located and tracked to Belgium and led to the arrest of the father of two girls abused in the videos. The producer of the video was subsequently identified and arrested in Italy. An audit of his computer located some 50,000 emails and other information from customers, one of whom was subsequently identified as Lon BATCHELOR of Abbotsford, B.C.

Many crimes are committed via the use of computers and the Internet. This case draws attention to the fact that borders are not a hindrance to offenders and highlights the necessity for local, National and International Police co-operation in holding offenders responsible for their crimes and bringing about successful conclusions such as this one.

*Our Mission:*  
*To make Abbotsford the safest city in B.C.*

The Abbotsford Police Department would like to thank the members of the Queensland Police - Taskforce Argos, Europol, Interpol, the Belgian Police, the Canadian National Child Exploitation Coordination Centre (NCECC) and the B.C. Integrated Child Exploitation Unit whose tireless efforts in this case have identified and brought to justice this particular offender, in the end protecting the children of our community. Additionally, the toll on those involved in these investigations is widely known and special mention must also go to Crown Counsel Prosecutor Sylvia Domaradzki who prosecuted the case on behalf of the citizens of B.C.

The Abbotsford Police Department is dedicated to ensuring the safety and security of the citizens of Abbotsford and is aggressively pursuing those that prey on the most vulnerable of those citizens, our children.

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