

Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service Vehicle Stop leads to Seizure of 480,000 Contraband Cigarettes by the Central St. Lawrence Valley RCMP Detachment

[News Release](#)

Cornwall, Ontario - On January 9th, 2008, just after midnight, an officer from the Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service stopped a 2000 Chevrolet Suburban on Seventh Street in Cornwall, Ontario after following it from Cornwall Island in Akwesasne, Ontario. When the officer approached the vehicle he could smell a strong odour of tobacco and could observe a black piece of cloth covering a square object on the passenger area floor. When the officer asked the driver what was in the rear passenger area of the vehicle the driver admitted there were cigarettes. Officers from the Central St. Lawrence Valley RCMP detachment were contacted and attended the scene. The RCMP officers seized 1,750 re-sealable bags of contraband cigarettes, 300 cartons of DK brand cigarettes and 350 cartons of Putter's Light brand cigarettes that were all manufactured in the United States. This represents 480,000 contraband cigarettes worth \$52,800 that were not properly packaged or stamped and were destined to be sold illegally.

The driver, a 24 year old male resident of Marlborough Street North in Cornwall, Ontario was arrested and will be charged by the RCMP under Section 32(1) of the *Excise Act 2001* for possession of a tobacco product not properly stamped according to the *Excise Act 2001*. He was released and will appear in the Cornwall court on 2008-02-21. The truck, registered to a male resident of Alepin Road in Lasalle, Quebec and who has also been charged for similar offences in past contraband tobacco seizures, is valued at \$7,700 and was also seized by the RCMP.

The Akwesasne Mohawk Police Service and the RCMP share intelligence and resources to ensure that our communities remain safe.

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