

510,000 Contraband Cigarettes Seized by the Central St. Lawrence Valley RCMP Detachment

[News Release](#)

South Glengarry, Ontario - On January 15th, 2008, at 7:20 p.m., an officer from Central St. Lawrence Valley RCMP Detachment- Cornwall Office stopped at an unoccupied parked 1999 GMC Sierra pick-up truck located at a Summerstown Road gas station in South Glengarry, Ontario. When the driver observed the officer from within the gas station store he fled on foot into the nearby forest. The officer approached the abandoned truck and could smell a strong odour of tobacco. Subsequently the RCMP seized 2,550 re-sealable bags of contraband cigarettes that were manufactured in the United States and smuggled into Canada. This represents 510,000 contraband cigarettes worth \$56,100 that were not properly packaged or stamped and were destined to be sold illegally.

The truck valued at \$5,500 and registered to a 22 year old male resident of Kahnawake, Quebec was also seized by the RCMP. The driver was not located and the investigation continues.

There are many layers of criminality involved in the illegal tobacco trade. While the RCMP interdicts contraband at various levels, our focus is on targeting the heads of criminal organizations.

- 30 -

Sgt. Michael Harvey

Central St. Lawrence Valley RCMP Detachment

613-937-2831

