

# Canadian Police Knowledge Network

## Course Training Standard

**CANADIAN  
POLICE  
KNOWLEDGE  
NETWORK**



**RÉSEAU  
CANADIEN DU  
SAVOIR  
POLICIER**

## Forensic DNA Evidence

# Canadian Police Knowledge Network Course Training Standard

## Revision History

**Course Title:** Forensic DNA Evidence  
**Date of Course Design:** December 12, 2008  
**Date of Course Launch:** February 11, 2010

**Date of Revision:**  
**Name of Person  
Responsible for  
Change(s):** As Above  
**Summary of Change(s):**

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Change(s):**  
**Summary of Change(s):**

# Canadian Police Knowledge Network

## Course Training Standard

### Course Outline/Calendar Description

**Course Title:** Forensic DNA Evidence

**Delivery Method:** Online

**Course Description:**

The use of forensic DNA evidence has had a profound impact on criminal investigations. The ability to differentiate between individuals on the basis of their “DNA profile” has resulted in more reliable identification of criminals, the establishment of innocence of convicted persons, and the linking of crimes not previously believed to be associated. As with any form of evidence, police officers, conservation officers, and other law enforcement personnel must collect, handle, and store DNA evidence according to accepted methods to ensure its validity at trial.

This course provides police officers involved in the investigation of criminal offences including serious violent crimes, sexual crimes, and other major crimes in which Forensic DNA evidence may be utilized with a comprehensive understanding of the DNA warrant provisions of the Criminal Code, Case law, and evidence collection issues.

This course is an effective training resource for new personnel as well as a useful reference for experienced officers actively involved in investigations in which DNA may be evidence.

**Course Objective(s):**

- Recall the basics of DNA science and its uses in law enforcement investigations
- Identify biological substances and other unusual exhibits that may be used for DNA analysis
- Recall DNA evidence collection issues
- Recall the definition of “accountable contamination”
- Recall the ways that DNA evidence results may be reported and interpreted
- Recall the procedure for obtaining and executing a DNA warrant
- Recall legal issues related to forensic DNA evidence
- Recall the federal DNA database legislation and how it affects forensic DNA evidence

**Evaluation Standard:**

Students will complete a final assessment consisting of 35 questions. Students will have unlimited attempts to successfully pass the evaluation. Pass criteria is 80%.

**Target Audience:** Police Officers

**Duration:** 3.5 hours

**Price:** \$25.00

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**Language(s):** English

**Special Notes:** None

# Canadian Police Knowledge Network

## Course Training Standard

### Content Provider/Subject Matter Expert(s)

**Content Provider(s):** Justice Institute of British Columbia

**Subject Matter Expert:** Stu Wyatt

**Sergeant S.K. (Stu) Wyatt**, BA, MA, ASC is an instructor in the Police Recruit Training and Advanced Programs Divisions at the Justice Institute of British Columbia's Police Academy. As a police officer with 21 years of service, Sgt. Wyatt is a former member of the Forensic Identification team and the former coordinator of the 'Forensic DNA Project' at the New Westminster City Police. In addition to teaching the DNA Evidence course at JIBC, he is a sessional instructor at Ontario's Seneca College (Police Studies Program) and lectures extensively throughout Canada and abroad. Sgt. Wyatt is the author of *Forensic DNA Evidence: Investigative Procedures for Law Enforcement* and is a member of both the BC Provincial DNA Advisory Committee and the National DNA Advisory Committee.

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## Course Training Standard

### Course Evaluation Strategy

#### Evaluation Strategy

This course contains two forms of evaluation—practice activities and a final assessment.

Each practice activity provides the means for the learner to self assess, without scoring or tracking, in order to provide an environment to discover from mistakes and perfect their performance.

The final assessment provides a scorable/trackable function that assesses the learner on their overall knowledge gain. The final assessment serves two functions: it provides the learner with a pragmatic utilization of the knowledge; and provides data to the learner's organization so that it can provide the learner with additional remediation, or identify areas in the content that require critical attention and improvement.

Criteria	Practice Activities	Final Assessment
<b>Question Creation</b>	CPKN/Content Provider	CPKN/Content Provider
<b>Question Types</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple Choice</li> <li>• True/False</li> <li>• Drag and Drop</li> <li>• Scenario</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple Choice</li> <li>• True/False</li> </ul>
<b>Question Numbers</b>	Varies by lesson	35 questions asked on final assessment
<b>Feedback</b>	Correct/Incorrect	Correct/Incorrect
<b>Remediation</b>	None	Completion of final assessment will list areas that require review
<b>Tracking and Scoring</b>	None	Tracked and scored
<b>Number of Attempts</b>	Unlimited	Unlimited
<b>Passing Criteria</b>	N/A	80%
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	None	Completion and scores

# Canadian Police Knowledge Network

## Course Training Standard

### Lesson Outline

**Course Title:** Forensic DNA Evidence

**Lesson Title:** Forensic DNA Science

**Duration:** 35 minutes

**Lesson Objective(s):**

- Recall the basics of DNA science and its uses in law enforcement investigations

**Lesson Topic(s):**

- Scientifically Accepted Principles of Genetic Science
- Types of DNA
- History of Forensic DNA Evidence
- Evidentiary Value of DNA
- Forensic DNA Profiling
- Overview of Canadian DNA Legislation

**Evaluation Standard:**

- Practice Activities

**Resources Required:**

- None

**Special Notes:**

# Canadian Police Knowledge Network

## Course Training Standard

### Lesson Outline

**Course Title:** Forensic DNA Evidence

**Lesson Title:** DNA Evidence

**Duration:** 30 minutes

**Lesson Objective(s):**

- Identify biological substances and other unusual exhibits that may be used for DNA analysis

**Lesson Topic(s):**

- The Purpose of Evidence
- The Locard Exchange Theory
- Biological Substances
- Other Unusual Exhibit Material
- Kinship Analysis

**Evaluation Standard:**

- Practice Activities

**Resources Required:**

- None

**Special Notes:**

# Canadian Police Knowledge Network

## Course Training Standard

### Lesson Outline

**Course Title:** Forensic DNA Evidence

**Lesson Title:** DNA Evidence Collection Issues

**Duration:** 20 minutes

**Lesson Objective(s):**

- Recall DNA evidence collection issues
- Recall the definition of “accountable contamination”

**Lesson Topic(s):**

- Sample Collection
- Sample Contamination
- Sample Degradation
- Communicable Disease Exposure

**Evaluation Standard:**

- Practice Activities

**Resources Required:**

- None

**Special Notes:**

# Canadian Police Knowledge Network

## Course Training Standard

### Lesson Outline

**Course Title:** Forensic DNA Evidence

**Lesson Title:** Results and Interpretation of DNA Evidence

**Duration:** 15 minutes

**Lesson Objective(s):**

- Recall the ways that DNA evidence results may be reported and interpreted

**Lesson Topic(s):**

- Inclusion
- Exclusion
- Inconclusive
- Statistical Interpretation

**Evaluation Standard:**

- Practice Activities

**Resources Required:**

- None

**Special Notes:**

# Canadian Police Knowledge Network

## Course Training Standard

### Lesson Outline

**Course Title:** Forensic DNA Evidence

**Lesson Title:** Forensic DNA Warrants

**Duration:** 30 minutes

**Lesson Objective(s):**

- Recall the procedure for obtaining and executing a DNA warrant

**Lesson Topic(s):**

- DNA Legislation
- Forensic DNA Warrants
- Designated Offences
- Information to Obtain (ITO)
- Issuing Warrants
- Executing Warrants
- Right to Counsel
- Obtaining Samples
- Young Persons

**Evaluation Standard:**

- Practice Activities

**Resources Required:**

- None

**Special Notes:**

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## Course Training Standard

### Lesson Outline

**Course Title:** Forensic DNA Evidence

**Lesson Title:** Legal Issues

**Duration:** 30 minutes

**Lesson Objective(s):**

- Recall legal issues related to forensic DNA evidence

**Lesson Topic(s):**

- Warrant Provisions of the *Criminal Code*
- *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*
- Search Incidental to Arrest
- Consent: The Seizure of Biological Substances
- Discarded/Abandoned Samples
- Gathered/Collected Samples

**Evaluation Standard:**

- Practice Activities

**Resources Required:**

- None

**Special Notes:**

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## Course Training Standard

### Lesson Outline

**Course Title:** Forensic DNA Evidence

**Lesson Title:** DNA Database Legislation

**Duration:** 20 minutes

**Lesson Objective(s):**

- Recall the federal DNA database legislation and how it affects forensic DNA evidence

**Lesson Topic(s):**

- The National DNA Databank
- CODIS
- Classifying Designated Offences
- Accessing DNA Databank Information
- Retention of Samples

**Evaluation Standard:**

- Practice Activities

**Resources Required:**

- None

**Special Notes:**

# Canadian Police Knowledge Network

## Course Training Standard

### Lesson Outline

**Course Title:** Forensic DNA Evidence

**Lesson Title:** Final Assessment

**Duration:** Varies by learner

**Lesson Objective(s):**

- None

**Lesson Topic(s):**

- None

**Evaluation Standard:**

- Final assessment – 35 questions
- Pass criteria: 80%
- Attempts: Unlimited

**Resources Required:**

- None

**Special Notes:**