# ANCON ENHANCED IDENTIFICATION Geographic Information System BC Coroners Service

November 2014

# Overview

- Mandate
- Case Load
- Identification and Disaster Response Unit
- Enhanced Identification GIS Model
- Case Examples
- Results
- References



# **BCCS Mandate**

- Authority to investigate the circumstances surrounding all sudden and unexpected deaths in BC
- The coroner's service is responsible for identification of all human remains regardless of the cause of death
- Fact finding, not fault finding



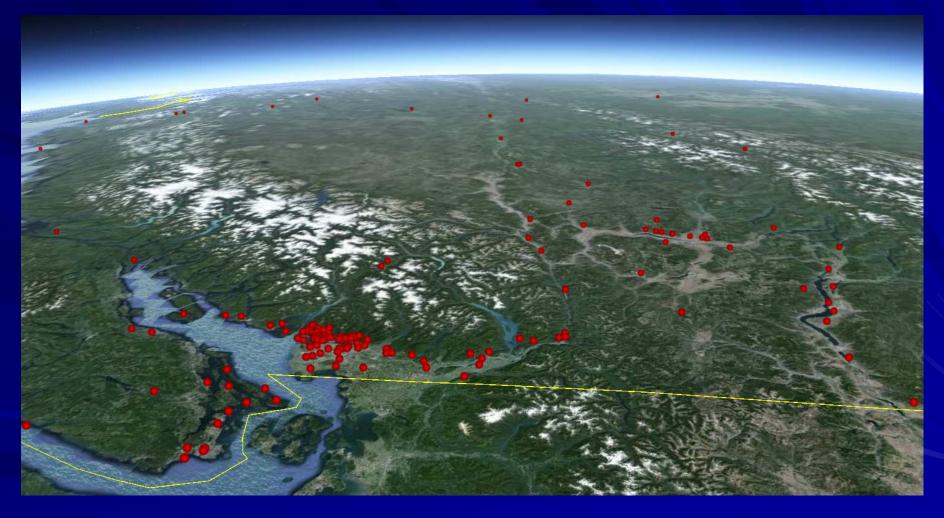


# **Case Load**

- ~ 7000 deaths are reported to BCCS every year
- ~ 200 unidentified human remains are open in BC



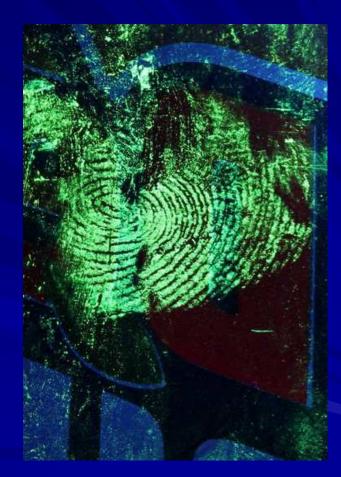
# **BCCS Case Load**





# **Identification Methods**

- Visual identification
- Fingerprints
- Medical history
- Odontology
- Radiography
- DNA analysis
- Spatial analysis
- Circumstantial evidence





## Identification and Disaster Response Unit (IDRU)

- Established in March 2006
- Responsible for:
  - assisting all frontline coroners toward a timely identification
  - investigating all unidentified "cold cases"

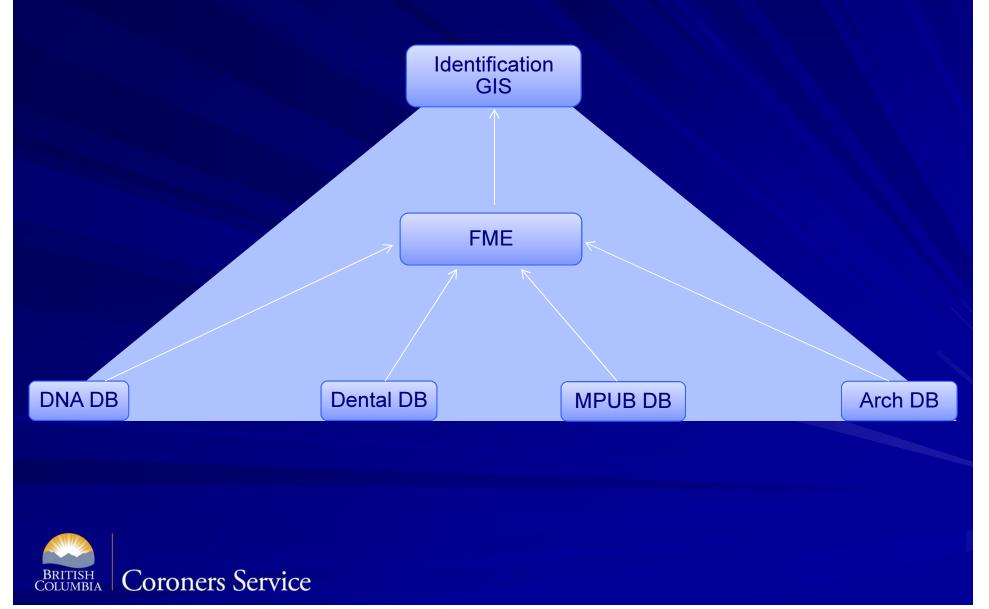


### **Enhanced Identification GIS Model**

- Uses data transformation software (FME) to extract forensic descriptors from 4 different provincial data banks into a centralized database
- 2. FME generates two master outputs:
  - ESRI Geodatabase
  - Google Earth KML
- 3. Enables spatial queries for case comparisons



## **Enhanced Identification GIS Model**



# **Case Types**



#### **Unidentified Human Remains**

#### **Presumed Deaths**

#### **Identified Partial Remains**

#### **Unidentified Human Remains**



# Establishing Relationships Identifiers Relationships Visuals 1 to 1

X-Rays

- Fingerprints (FIS)
- Descriptors (MPUB db) -
- Dental (Plass db)
- DNA (DNA db)
- Spatial (IDRU db)

to Many
 to Many
 to Many
 to Many
 to Many
 to Many

1 to 1



# Missing Persons Unidentified Bodies (MPUB) Database

- Designed to perform global searches on missing person's using case descriptors
- Comparisons conducted by Data Analyst

| Detail Coroner Location Clothing Effects Investigation Additional Photos Docs                          |  |                                 |                 |
|--|--|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Unidentified Missing Persons - Unidentified B  | odies/Remains - Person Detail  |                                 |                 |
| MPUB/R ID # 20050001 Date Entered 14-Nov-05  | Date Type: Found   | • Date: 08-0ct-05               | 1 100000        |
| Sex: Male Age From: 20 To: 50 Possible Fou   | i Play. 🦵  |                                 | Add New Case    |
| Height (Metric) Range Height (Imperial) Range  |  |                                 | Find By MPUB    |
| From: 170 cm From: it Eyes (Colour):   | Hair Colour: Fi<br>Hair Length:  | acial Hair: F Beard F Sideburns |                 |
|  | and the second | acial Hair Description:         | Case Report     |
| weight (menic) nange weight (impenal) nange  | Hair Description: F  | acial Hair Description:         | Publication Rep |
| From kg From: Ib   |  |                                 | View/Add Cal    |
| To: kg To: b   | - I  |                                 | - VIEW/Add Cal  |
| Build:   | Facial Features:   |                                 | Case Compar     |
| Dentition: Mature upper teeth in good condition with several fillings                                  | Facial Shape<br>Complexion   | <u> </u>                        | Close           |
|  | Fingerprints;  |                                 |                 |
| Dental Chart 🔽 Dental Records To: R. Wood  | Collected  | Beward Offered                  | AddX-Ref        |
|  | Taken By.  | Amount                          | Delete Recor    |
| Ethnicity (As Reported) Caucasian Ethnicity (Anthropological)  | Submitted To:  |                                 |                 |
| Ethnicity (Standard): Caucasian *  |  |                                 |                 |
|  | Administration:  |                                 |                 |
| Probable/Possible Cause<br>Undetermined, estimated date and time of death more than 1 year less than 4 | VICLAS Book Submitted/Requeste   | d 🗖 🔽 Submitted To CPIC         |                 |
| years from time of discovery based on vest information.  | VICLAS No:   | Submitted To NCIC               |                 |
|  | Identified   | Case Entry Complete             |                 |
|  |  | ase of Information              |                 |
|  | DO NOT PUBLISH   | Submit For Translation 🔽        |                 |
|  | Approvals  | Submitted On: 13-Apr-2006       |                 |
|  | Release To Public Website: 🔽   | Translation Received 🔽          |                 |
|  | Released On 12-May-06  | Received On: 21-Apr-2006        |                 |
|  |  |                                 |                 |



# **Dental Database**

- Designed to compare antemortem dental charts against postmortem dental charts
- Police responsible for populating the missing persons index
- Maintained by the Bureau of Legal Dentistry



antemortem



postmortem



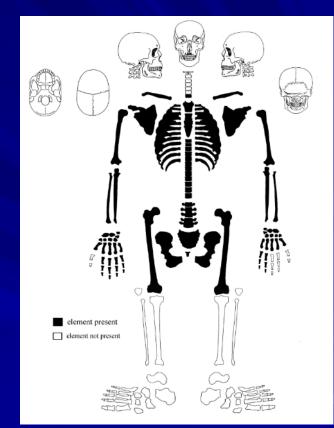
# **Anthropology Exam**

Determines whether remains are:

- 1. Human vs non-human
- 2. Archaeological vs modern
- 3. Antemortem, perimortem and postmortem skeletal trauma

# Provides enhanced descriptor profile, such as:

- 1. Age estimates,
- 2. Racial affinity,
- 3. Height estimates, etc.





# **DNA Database**

## The DNA database is populated with the following:

- 1. missing persons' profiles
- 2. missing persons' biological relatives' profiles
- 3. unidentified human remains' profiles
- 4. identified partial human remains' profiles
- 5. the missing, presumed dead profiles

Tentative ID made through databank then confirmed through analysis of lab reports by analyst

| 📰 Exhibit I   | Details            |        |          |
|---------------|--------------------|--------|----------|
| ID            | BCIT 2006-D23-K1-1 |        |          |
| Source        |                    |        |          |
| Status        | Known              |        |          |
| Kit Used      | Real Kit 2         |        |          |
| Lab           | Foobar Labs        |        |          |
| Additional Ir | nformation         |        |          |
|               | test data load     |        |          |
|               |                    |        |          |
|               | ]                  |        |          |
| Categories f  | for Exhibit        |        |          |
|               | Category           | Values | <b>^</b> |
|               | AMEL               | ××     |          |
|               | D13S317            | 14,13  |          |
|               | D18551             | 17,16  |          |
|               | D21511             | 32,28  |          |
|               | D3S1358            | 17,15  |          |
|               | D5S818             | 12,12  |          |
|               | D7S820             | 11,10  |          |
|               | D8S1179            | 14,14  |          |
|               | FGA                | 23,22  | <u>~</u> |

| 💀 Analysis |   |    |   |         |       |      |         |         |        |        |         |        |       |
|------------|---|----|---|---------|-------|------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|--------|-------|
| Exhibit    | S | D  | М | D3S1358 | FGA   | AMEL | D8S1179 | D21S11  | D18S51 | D5S818 | D13S317 | D7S820 | VWA   |
| BCIT 20    | 0 | 10 | 0 | 15,17   | 22,23 | XX   | 14,14   | 28,32   | 16,17  | 12,12  | 13,14   | 10,11  | 15,17 |
| BCIT 20    | 7 | 2  | 0 | 15,15   | 22,23 | X,Y  | 14,14   | 27,31.2 | 16,16  | 12,13  | 11,13   | 10,12  | 17,19 |
| BCIT 20    | 5 | 5  | 0 | 15,17   | 22,27 | XX   | 14,14   | 31.2,32 | 16,17  | 12,12  | 11,14   | 11,12  | 15,19 |
| BCIT 20    | 3 | 6  | 0 | 15,17   | 23,27 | XX   | 14,14   | 28,31.2 | 16,17  | 12,13  | 13,14   | 10,11  | 16,19 |



# **GPS Data Collection**

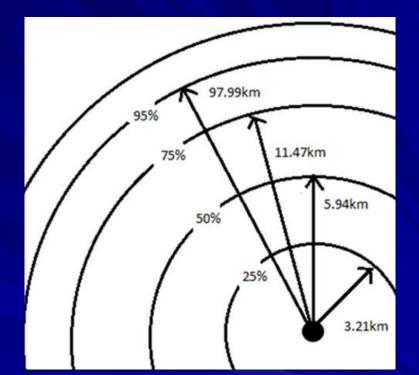
 GPS coordinates are recorded for all cases where a scene is visited





# Spatial Profile for Suicide Deaths

- In BC, there were 149 bridge related suicides that occurred in between 2006-2012<sup>3</sup>
- 75% of jumpers travelled 11.47 km from their home address to a nearby bridge to commit suicide





# **UHR Descriptor Profile**

- Unique features
- Personal effects
- Fingerprints record
- Full body radiographs
- Facial approximation
- Dental Profile
- Anthropological profile
- Skeletal inventory
- DNA profile
- Spatial profile



# **UHR Descriptor Profile**



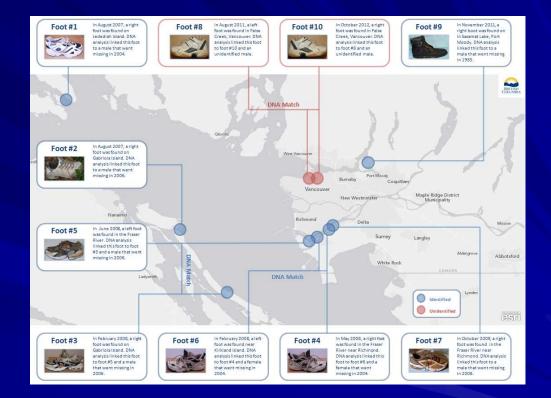
Biological: height, weight, age, etc.

Genetic: Y-STR, mtDNA, nDNA, etc.



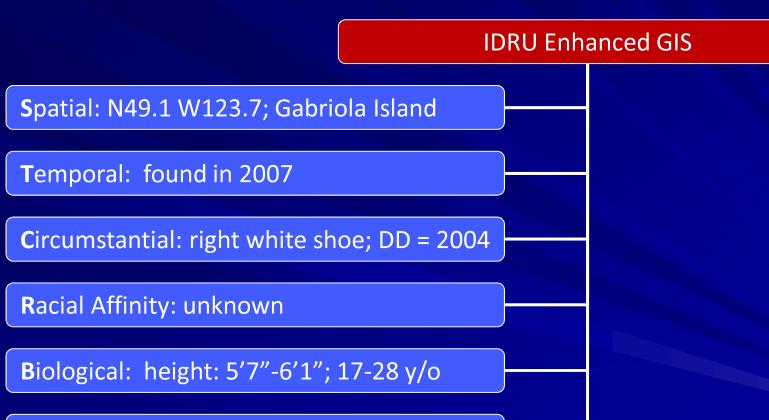
# **BC's Found Feet**

- Between 2007-2012, 9 feet washed up on BC's shores
- 7 of 9 have
   been positively
   identified





# **Unidentified Foot Descriptor Profile**



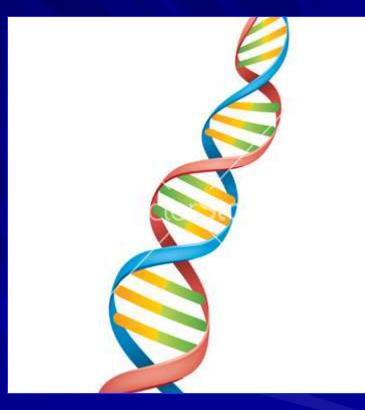
Genetic: full nuclear DNA profile



# **DNA Analysis**

#### DNA Analysis Types:

- Kinship Analysis
- Paternal Analysis
- Intelligence searches
- Direct DNA comparisons
- Sample types include:
  - FTA cards
  - Buccal swabs
  - Bone
  - Soft tissue
  - Personal effects
- Results:
  - Direct hits
  - Cold hits
  - Likelihood ratio





# **Missing Person Cases**





# **Missing Person Cases**

- Last year there were ~19,000 missing person cases opened in BC
- 30-50 cases remain unresolved by years end









Missing Adult

December 25, 2010 Missing From :

Qualicum Beach, BC



Missing Since: Octobe 7,1995 Missing From : Terrace





Missing Adult

Missing Since: September 14, 1995 Missing From : Squamish, BC



Missing From University of British Columbia, Vancouver FILLIPOFF, Emma Alexandra Born: 1986 Victoria, BC

**Missing Adult** 

Missing Since:

November 28, 2012

Missing From :



# www.canadasmissing.ca



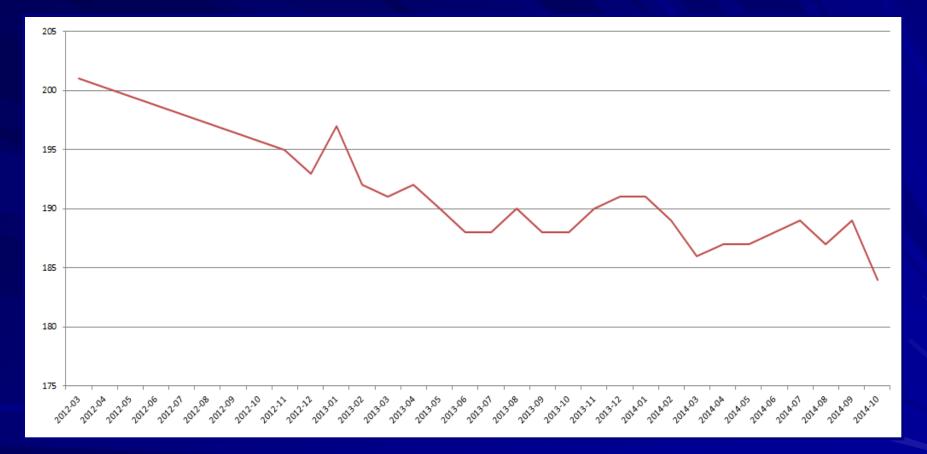


# Results

- The unidentified human remains inventory has decreased by 6% rate since 2012
- The model was recently featured on Global TV's 16x9 documentary series, Directions Magazine, and the Vancouver Sun



# **UHR Cases**





# IDRU

- The IDRU is currently the only Identification Unit in North America that has a:
  - Dental Database
  - DNA Database
  - GIS Database
  - Skeletal Inventory



# References

- 1. Canada's missing. (2014, October 16). Retrieved on November 13, 2014, from <u>http://www.canadasmissing.ca/</u>
- 2. Dead or alive. (2014, October 18). Retrieved on November 13, 2014, from <u>http://globalnews.ca/video/1620148/full-story-</u> <u>dead-or-alive/</u>
- 3. King, J. (2013). *Project Rescue:* Analyzing Suicide Deaths from Bridges in BC. BC Coroners Service.



# **Contact Information**

## **Randy Dalit**

Spatial Information Analyst Office of the Chief Coroner Email: <u>randy.dalit@gov.bc.ca</u> Web: <u>www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/coroners</u>

