

# **Report to Committee**

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

February 3, 2020

From:

Will Ng

File:

09-5000-01/2020-Vol

Superintendent, Officer in Charge

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Re:

2019-2020 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan Third

Quarter Results (October 1 to December 31, 2019)

## Staff Recommendation

That the report titled "2019-2020 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan Third Quarter Results (October 1 to December 31, 2019)", dated February 3, 2020, from the Officer in Charge Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

Will Ng

Superintendent, Officer in Charge

(604-278-1212)

REPORT CONCURRENCE

CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER

SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW

APPROVED BY CAO

APPROVED BY CAO

## **Staff Report**

## Origin

On May 14, 2019, Richmond City Council adopted the policing priorities listed in the report "2019-2020 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan – Community Priorities", dated April 11, 2019.

The priorities identified were:

- 1. Property Crime;
- 2. Organized Crime;
- 3. Vulnerable Persons; and
- 4. Road Safety.

This report provides an update on the plan's progress.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #1 A Safe and Resilient City:

Enhance and protect the safety and well-being of Richmond.

1.1 Enhance safety services and strategies to meet community needs.

## **Analysis**

## Community Priority 1: Property Crime

#### Objective

A five per cent reduction in the number of residential break and enters, compared to the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

#### Actions

The Richmond RCMP Detachment (Richmond Detachment) continues to target property crime through a multi-faceted crime reduction strategy. This quarter, the Prolific Offender Suppression Team was expanded into two teams and is now referred to as the Richmond RCMP Strike Force. The Strike Force teams play a key investigative and enforcement role in the Richmond Detachment's offender management strategy. These teams apply evidence-led proactive policing strategies to target crime, which includes conducting targeted surveillance of known offenders. This quarter, five prolific and priority offenders were arrested.

The Richmond RCMP Property Crime Unit (PCU) successfully arrested two of their identified break and enter targets. Both arrests were the result of intelligence gathering and lengthy investigations. One offender is suspected in crimes crossing multiple jurisdictions where several charges are expected against the accused.

Volunteer engagement is an integral component of the Richmond Detachment's crime prevention strategy. This quarter, there were 12 volunteer bike deployments and 89 volunteer foot/van deployments, resulting in 822 volunteer patrol hours for suspicious activities. In a joint partnership with ICBC, volunteers were deployed to distribute Lock Out Auto Crime prevention notices. A total of 14,796 notices were issued this quarter. In addition, the Richmond RCMP Crime Prevention Unit (CPU) continued to conduct residential and commercial break and enter outreach in hotspot areas.

#### Results

The following table outlines the total residential break and enter files for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020:

Table 1: Residential Break and Enters

Quarter	Date Range	Residential Break and Enters 2018-2019	Residential Break and Enters 2019-2020	Percentage Decrease
1	Apr. 1 - Jun. 30	137	117	-15%
2	Jul. 1 – Sept. 30	222	110	-50%
3	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31	229	140	-38%
4	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31			
Total		588	367	-38%

Source: PRIME Statistics January 9, 2020

There were 140 reported residential break and enters in the third quarter of the 2019-2020 fiscal year, which represents a 38 per cent decrease from the same quarter of the previous fiscal year. Year to date, residential break and enters are down 38 per cent from the 2018-2019 fiscal year. The Richmond Detachment is on-track to meet the target objective.

## Community Priority 2: Organized Crime

## Objective

Establishing new programs to combat organized crime and money laundering.

#### Actions

The Richmond Detachment continues to actively support and promote the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program in Richmond schools. The DARE program works to help youth develop positive decision-making skills. This quarter, Grade 5 students in 20 classes across 14 schools participated in DARE and 560 students graduated from the program.

This quarter, there were dedicated uniform gang suppression patrols resulting in 129 commercial business checks. Uniformed RCMP officers visited the following locations: restaurants, bars, licensed body rub studios and the River Rock Casino. These patrols led to street checks of persons suspected of organized crime involvement. Four bylaw infractions were also noted and referred to Community Bylaws.

In addition, the Richmond RCMP Organized Crime Unit (OCU) investigated a drug supply operation and conducted targeted enforcement efforts, which led to the seizure of cash, weapons and drugs. Charges are expected against multiple individuals.

In response to community concerns regarding drug trafficking activity targeting a vulnerable segment of the community, the OCU initiated a Community Response Project. This multi-week initiative resulted in three arrests for drug trafficking, as well as the seizure of cash and drugs.

The OCU has also continued connecting with local Money Service Businesses (MSBs). The Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC) requires MSBs to register their businesses, identify clients, keep records, report to FINTRAC and have a compliance program. This quarter, Richmond RCMP uniformed officers attended 16 MSBs and Bitcoin vendors to conduct money laundering outreach and education. Two visits were conducted to a location where customers had been victimized by robbery after leaving the business. The regular police presence at these locations serves as a deterrent to criminal activity in and around these businesses.

#### Results

This quarter, significant progress was made in establishing new programs to combat organized crime and money laundering, including MSB patrols and outreach. An analysis on the feasibility of the Inadmissible Patrons Program has been conducted and recommendations are forthcoming.

## Community Priority 3: Vulnerable Persons

## Objective

Full implementation of a frontline Mental Health car.

## Actions

In October 2019, the Richmond Detachment launched the Richmond Mental Health Car, also referred to as Fox 80. The program has received daily calls since its inaugural deployment. This shared initiative with Vancouver Coastal Health facilitates a joint response to police calls in Richmond where mental health is a concern. The team is comprised of a mental health nurse and an RCMP officer. During this quarter, the Richmond Detachment's Vulnerable Persons Unit (VPU) worked with stakeholders to share information on the Mental Health Car program, which included a presentation to Richmond Public Library staff regarding the program's mandate and contact information.

The VPU continues to conduct weekly Homeless Outreach with staff from the Ministry of Social Services and Poverty Reduction. This initiative assists vulnerable clients in accessing and receiving referrals to different programs and support services in the community. The Richmond

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.fintrac-canafe.gc.ca/msb-esm/intro-eng

RCMP is also a member of the Alderbridge Supportive Housing Community Advisory Committee and is represented by a member of the VPU.

Results

The Mental Health Car (Fox 80) became fully operational this quarter. The Richmond Detachment has successfully achieved this objective. Future reporting will provide progress updates on the rollout of the program.

## Community Priority 4: Road Safety

### Obiective

A two per cent increase in the rate of road safety enforcement.<sup>2</sup>

#### Actions

This quarter, the CPU promoted a number of road safety initiatives with the collaboration of volunteers, the Richmond RCMP Road Safety Unit (RSU) and ICBC. There were 110 Fail to Stop deployments, which resulted in 2,907 letters being mailed to registered vehicle owners.<sup>3</sup> In addition, 558 Speed Watch letters were issued.

There was also a strong focus on pedestrian safety, which included the introduction of a targeted youth pedestrian safety initiative. In October 2019, RCMP officers in the CPU and Youth Section introduced pedestrian safety and awareness education in DARE classes, which reached 429 Grade 5 students in nine schools. In addition, an RCMP officer, an Auxiliary and community policing volunteers conducted Youth Pedestrian Safety Blitzes at three elementary schools and distributed 509 reflectors and 146 reflective arm bands. Additional Pedestrian Safety Blitzes were also conducted near Brighouse Canada Line Station, Steveston Village and Ironwood Plaza and 3,736 reflectors were distributed to promote the initiative. Social media was also incorporated to increase awareness for pedestrian safety.

In response to public concerns, in November 2019 the RSU conducted a two-week speed enforcement project on Sidaway Road, which led to 150 drivers receiving enforcement notices. Consequently 10 drivers had their vehicles impounded as a result of excessive speeds, including a driver who was driving 85 kilometres over the posted speed limit.

**CS-47** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Road safety enforcement includes Violation Tickets, Notice and Orders and written warnings. Comparison using the average of the last three fiscal years.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> These information letters advise the registered owner of the safety risks associated with not coming to a full stop at stop sign intersections.

#### Results

Table 2: Road Safety Enforcement Notices

Quarter	Date Range	Average of Last Three Fiscal Years	Enforcement Notices Issued 2019-2020	Percentage Increase
1	Apr. 1 - Jun. 30	3,348	4,648	39%
2	Jul. 1 - Sept. 30	3,348	4,543	36%
3	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31	3,348	4,309	29%
4	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31			
Total		10,044	13,500	34%

The number of enforcement notices issued this quarter is 29 per cent higher than the quarterly average from the last three fiscal years. A total of 4,309 notices were issued in the third quarter of the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Year to date, the number of enforcement notices is up 34 per cent over the average from the last three years. This total exceeds the two per cent target identified; indicating that the Richmond Detachment is on-track to meet this objective.

## **Financial Impact**

None.

## Conclusion

The Richmond RCMP Detachment (Richmond Detachment) has implemented various initiatives to support the community priorities and objectives established in the 2019-2020 Annual Performance Plan. Residential break and enters have decreased 38 per cent over the same period last fiscal year. New programs to target organized crime and money laundering continue to be developed and reviewed and the Richmond Mental Health Car became fully operational this quarter. Finally, Road Safety enforcement notices have increased 34 per cent over the average from the last three fiscal years.

Richmond Detachment is on-track to meet all identified targets and continues to support the City of Richmond's public safety strategy using evidence-led approaches to target criminality.

Edward Warzel

Manager, RCMP Administration

(604-207-4767)