



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee

Date: September 12, 2025

From: Dave Chauhan
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge

File: 09-5350-01/2025-Vol
01




Re: RCMP Monthly Activity Report – August 2025

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – August 2025”, dated September 12, 2025, from the Officer in Charge, be received for information.

Dave Chauhan
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge
(604-278-1212)

Att. 3

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS: 
APPROVED BY CAO 	

Staff Report

Origin

At the request of the Community Safety Committee, the Officer in Charge will keep Council informed on matters pertaining to policing in the Richmond community. This monthly activity report for the RCMP provides information on each of the following areas:

1. Activities and Noteworthy Files
2. Analysis of Police Statistics
3. Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions
4. Block Watch
5. Communications Unit
6. Community Police Station Programs
7. Crime Prevention Unit
8. Road Safety Unit
9. Victim Services
10. Youth Section

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #3: A Safe and Prepared Community:

Community safety and preparedness through effective planning, strategic partnerships and proactive programs.

Analysis

Activities and Noteworthy Files

Bank Card Scam

On August 6, 2025, the Richmond RCMP issued a public warning of a recent bank card scam, with 11 similar incidents reported since April 2025, resulting in \$53,000 in losses. In all instances, the victims were contacted by phone by individuals posing as bank employees. The fraudsters convinced victims to provide their personal information by telling them that their bank cards had been compromised.

Assault with a Weapon

On August 13, 2025, Richmond RCMP officers responded to a report of an assault with a weapon at a shopping centre parkade on No. 3 Road, between Park Road and Cook Road. Police arrested the suspect without incident. The victim was transported to the hospital in stable condition. Police determined the incident was targeted, and the investigation is ongoing.

Youth Academy

The Richmond RCMP held its fourth annual Youth Academy between August 11 and 16, 2025. The program, which is jointly coordinated with the Richmond School District, offers students in grades 10 to 12 who have expressed an interest in a career in policing the opportunity to participate in an intensive program in a controlled environment. Participants modelled police work through classroom lectures and scenario-based training, and engaged with police officers from various specialized sections, including the Emergency Response Team.



Figure 1: Youth Academy

Arson

On August 17, 2025, the Richmond RCMP responded to a fire outside a store in the 8300 block of Granville Avenue following a report from a store employee. Richmond-Fire-Rescue attended and extinguished the fire. A person of interest was identified, and the incident remains under investigation.

Rental Scam

On August 22, 2025, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release warning the public of a recent rental deposit scam in which victims paid a deposit to secure a property and later learned it was unavailable. Since July 2025, police have received five similar reports, with losses ranging from \$400 to \$2,600. The incidents remain under investigation.

Analysis of Police Statistics¹

Arson

There were eight reported arsons in August 2025, representing no change from the previous month. Year to date, arsons are down 22 per cent compared to the same period in 2024.²

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 19 serious assaults in August 2025, representing no change from the previous month. Year to date, the number of serious assaults is up three per cent from the same period in 2024. The number of serious assaults this month is within the average range.

¹ Unless otherwise noted, no patterns or trends have been identified in this month's statistics.

² In January 2024, a new Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) code was introduced for intentionally set fires that do not meet the *Criminal Code* definition of Arson. This new UCR code prevents comparison to multi-year arson counts and averages.

Thirty-two per cent of serious assaults reported in August 2025 were domestic incidents. Three of the incidents reported this month involved a group of youth throwing water balloons at people passing by. Suspects have not been identified.

Auto Theft

There were 13 auto thefts in August 2025, which is a 43 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, auto thefts are down 17 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of auto thefts this month is below the average range.

Mental Health

There were 281 mental health-related incidents in August 2025, which is a four per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, mental health-related incidents are up nine per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is above the average range.

There were 66 police apprehensions, and the average hospital wait time was 132 minutes; both statistics are within the average ranges. Twenty-nine individuals were responsible for two or more calls in August, with one caller generating seven incidents.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 19 break and enters to residences in August 2025, which is a five per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, residential break and enters are down eight per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of residential break and enters this month is within the average range.

Commercial Break and Enter

In August 2025, there were 28 break and enters to businesses, which is a 27 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, commercial break and enters are up 18 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of commercial break and enters this month is within the average range.

Robbery

Three robberies were reported in August 2025, which represents a decrease of one incident from the previous month. Year to date, robberies are down 20 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of robberies this month is below the average range.

All three incidents reported this month involved the use of physical force.

Sexual Offences

There were 25 sexual offence files in August 2025, representing no change from the previous month. Year to date, sexual offences are down three per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of sexual offences this month is above the average range.

Twenty per cent of the offences reported in August 2025 were sexual assaults, 20 per cent were indecent acts/exposing, and 15 per cent were sexual interference.

Shoplifting

There were 135 reported shoplifting thefts in August 2025, which is a six per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, shoplifting thefts are down 15 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is above the average range.

Theft from Automobile

There were 56 thefts from automobiles in August 2025, which is a 26 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, the number of thefts from automobiles is unchanged compared to the same period in 2024. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is below the average range.

Drugs

In August 2025, there were 27 drug offences, which is a 35 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, drug offences are up 23 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of drug incidents this month is below the average range.

Drug-Related "Social Disorder" Calls

Public complaints related to drug use fall under call categories such as nuisance, cause disturbance, mischief, unwanted person, suspicious person, and check well-being. Table 1 presents the number of police calls for service related to a public complaint of suspected drug use.

Table 1: Drug-Related Calls for Service

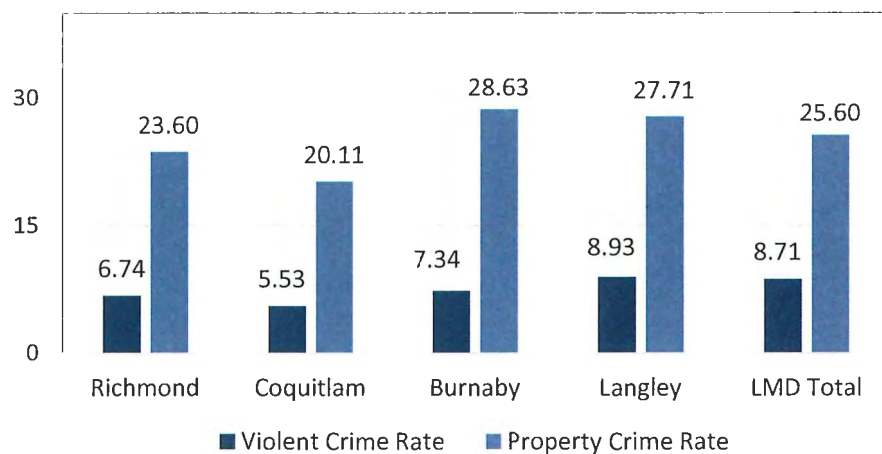
Month	Total Number of Drug-Related Calls	Suspected	Confirmed
January	71	42	29
February	38	23	15
March	49	31	18
April	58	41	17
May	57	36	21
June	70	44	26
July	40	20	20
August	59	44	15

Confirmed incidents refer to files where direct observation of drug use or apparent signs of intoxication is noted. Most calls involved incidents where drug use was suspected, including reports of unwanted persons who were possibly under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Figure 2 presents crime rates in August 2025 for the four largest municipalities in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), which the RCMP polices.³ The property and violent crime rates in Richmond were below the LMD average.

Figure 2: August 2025 YTD Crime Rates



Block Watch

At the end of August 2025, the Block Watch program had 301 groups, totalling 6,705 participants. Currently, the program includes 423 captains and co-captains. On August 2, 2025, Block Watch staff provided training to new group participants, including program expectations, how to identify suspicious activities, and target hardening.

Communications Unit

The Communications Unit provides public safety and crime prevention messaging to enhance community awareness of various policing-related issues. During August, the Communications Unit conducted the following:

- An education campaign for Impaired Driving Awareness continued throughout the summer months.
- 14 media releases were issued, including four related to missing persons.
- 36 social media posts were made on X, including fraud prevention messaging.



Figure 3: Impaired Driving Awareness

³ Based on PRIME query by Richmond Crime Analysis Unit on September 10, 2025

Community Police Office Programs

Community police offices continue to enhance the Richmond Detachment's policing services by providing various crime prevention resources and community safety initiatives. City staff and volunteers pursue safety initiatives to improve crime prevention program awareness, community engagement and police accessibility. These initiatives help reduce anxiety and fear related to crime. The program activities vary from month to month, reflecting weather conditions, seasonal initiatives and the availability of volunteers.

During August, volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of one bike patrol, totalling 16 hours, and one foot patrol, totalling five hours.
- A total of 20 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 1,068 information letters issued.
- There were 22 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, resulting in 498 information letters issued.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 2,142 vehicles, resulting in 28 information letters issued.
- August 2 – Volunteers assisted Block Watch with a Block Party, interacting with attendees, distributing safety reflectors and Community Safety App cards.
- August 6 – Volunteers assisted with setup, food preparation, food service and cleanup at the Pathways Clubhouse BBQ.⁴
- August 11 to 15 – Volunteers participated in organizing training activities for students in the Youth Academy.
- August 14 – The first group of VolunTEENs received training on the Richmond RCMP's newly designed volunteer program for high school students in grades 10 to 12 who are interested in law enforcement careers.
- August 16 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with the Youth Academy Graduation.
- August 19 – Volunteers attended the Kids Play: Back to School event at the Riverside Banquet Hall, engaging with families, assisting Safety Bear and distributing RCMP swag.
- August 23 and 24 – Volunteers supported RCMP officers with crime prevention outreach at the Steveston Maritime Festival. Volunteers distributed E-scooter safety cards, conducted foot patrols and promoted Project 529.
- August 28 – Volunteers attended the Aspire Community BBQ, offering photo opportunities with Safety Bear and distributing RCMP swag.



Figure 4: Maritime Festival

⁴ Pathways Clubhouse is a non-profit mental health community services organization offering support services to its members and creating a meaningful community for people with mental illness.

Crime Prevention Unit

The Crime Prevention Unit reduces crime and enhances community engagement through public awareness and education initiatives. During August, the Crime Prevention Unit participated in various activities, including diversity and inclusion initiatives, road safety deployments and the following events:

- A total of 170 Place of Worship patrols were conducted.
- On August 6, 2025, RCMP Officers participated in the annual Pathways Clubhouse BBQ.
- On August 23 and 24, 2025, RCMP Officers participated in the annual Steveston Maritime and Dragonboat Festival.



Figure 5: Pathways Clubhouse BBQ

Road Safety Unit

The Road Safety Unit makes Richmond’s roads safer through evidence-based traffic enforcement, investigation of serious vehicle collisions and public education programs. A total of 819 violation tickets were issued in August. Figure 5 provides statistics for the top five infractions for which violation tickets were issued in August:

Figure 6: Top 5 Traffic Infractions - August 2025

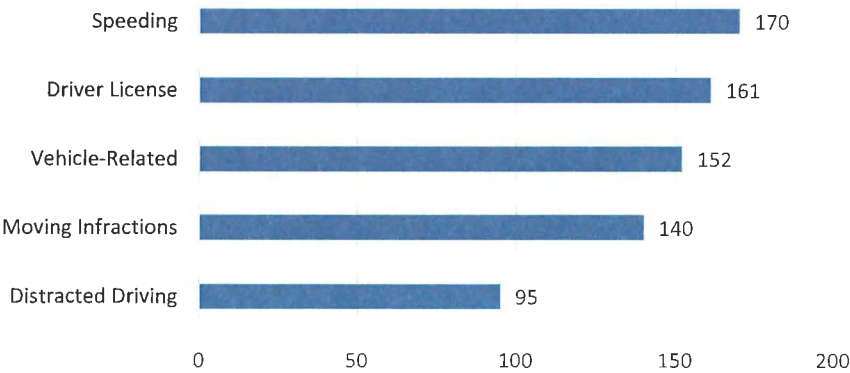


Table 2 presents the number of motor vehicle collisions involving injuries and fatalities reported between January 1, 2021, and August 31, 2025.

Table 2 – Motor Vehicle Collisions		
Year	Collisions with Non-Fatal Injuries	Fatalities
2021 ⁵	355	4
2022	406	1
2023	436	3
2024	455	2
2025 (YTD) ⁶	242	1

Victim Services

In August 2025, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 70 new clients and attended eight crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 93 files. In August, Victim Services responded to several cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, mental illness, and fraud.

Youth Section

The Richmond RCMP Detachment's Youth Section focuses on strategies contributing to safe and healthy behaviours essential to developing productive and civic-minded adults. During August, Youth Section highlights included:

- The Youth Academy was hosted from August 11 to 16, 2025. Students spent five days learning about police duties, conflict resolution, organization, public speaking, self-reliance and discipline.
- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted patrols throughout the month at Elementary and Secondary schools due to reports of graffiti and arson.



Figure 7: Youth Academy Class

Financial Impact

None.

⁵ Motor Vehicle collisions decreased during the pandemic due to changes in behaviour patterns and fewer vehicles on the roads.

⁶ A fatal collision occurred on July 7, 2025.

Conclusion

In August 2025, the Richmond RCMP conducted several notable investigations, including an assault with a weapon and a series of bank card frauds. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the average range, except for sexual offences, mental health-related incidents and shoplifting, which were elevated. Thefts from vehicles, auto thefts, and drug offences were below average.

In August, the Richmond RCMP and volunteers continued to promote crime prevention and road safety initiatives, and the Youth Section coordinated the fourth annual Youth Academy. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment will continue to ensure that Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'E. Warzel', is positioned above the printed name and title.

Edward Warzel
Director, Police Services
(604-207-4767)

- Att. 1: Community Policing Programs
2: Crime Statistics
3: Crime Maps

Block Watch

- Community-based crime prevention program aimed at helping neighbors organize themselves to prevent crime.
- Residents can receive email alerts of neighbourhood residential break and enters by registering their email addresses at: blockwatch@richmond.ca
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/blockwatch.htm

Distracted Driving Program

- Trained volunteers monitor intersections and observe distracted drivers.
- A letter is sent to the registered owner of the offending vehicle with information on the safety risks associated to the observed behaviour and applicable fine amounts.
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/programs.htm

Fail to Stop

- Trained volunteers monitor areas that have been referred to the program by local businesses or residents where drivers are not making a full stop at the stop sign, or running a red light.
- An information letter is sent to the registered owner of the vehicle advising them the date, time and location and applicable fine amounts if the driver received a violation ticket.

Lock Out Auto Crime

- Co-sponsored by the Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC), volunteers patrol city streets and parking lots looking for automobile security vulnerabilities.
- Notices supplied by ICBC are issued to every vehicle inspected indicating to the owner what issues need to be addressed in order to keep the vehicle and contents secure.
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/personal/vehicle.htm

Project 529

- This program allows riders to easily and securely register their bikes. This up-to-date database of bikes alerts its registrants if a fellow 529 bike is stolen.
- Project 529 is a unique, multi-national registry that holds a database of all registered and stolen bikes.

Speed Watch

- Co-sponsored by ICBC, promotes safe driving habits by alerting drivers of their speed.
- Trained volunteers are equipped with radar and a speed watch reader board that gives drivers instant feedback regarding their speed.
- Volunteers record the license plate number and the speed, and a letter is sent to the registered owner of the offending vehicle. The letter includes the date, time and location and applicable fine amounts if the driver received a violation ticket.

Spot the Target

- This initiative consists of frequently stolen items being placed in the volunteer van for participants to identify in order to enhance awareness of thefts from automobiles.

Stolen Auto Recovery

- Co-sponsored by ICBC, trained volunteers equipped with portable computers identify stolen vehicles.
- These volunteers recover hundreds of stolen vehicles each year throughout the Lower Mainland.

Volunteer Bike and Foot Patrol Program

- Trained volunteers patrol Richmond neighbourhoods reporting suspicious activities and providing a visible deterrent to crime and public order issues.

AUGUST 2025 STATISTICS - RICHMOND RCMP

The following information is a limited list of select crime-type samples, which does not comprise the entirety or assortment of all crimes captured by the RCMP. The statistics in this chart should be considered independently of the analysis provided as the data is unrelated to the research provided earlier in this report.

This chart identifies the monthly totals for founded Criminal Code incidents, excluding traffic-related Criminal Code incidents. Based on Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) scoring, there are three categories: (1) Violent Crime, (2) Property Crime, and (3) Other Criminal Code. Within each category, particular offence types are highlighted in this chart. In addition, monthly totals for Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) incidents and MHA-related calls for service are included. Individual UCR codes are indicated below the specific crime type.

The 5 year average is based on activity within a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence falls outside the 5 year range (using one standard deviation) due to crime trends, patterns, or spikes, it will be noted in **red** if higher and **blue** if below. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the 5 year range due to primarily non-operational reasons such as the new UCR standards or other scoring issues, the total will be noted in **purple**.

	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	August - 25	August		2024	2025	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	179	151.6	135-168	1259	1437	14%	178
Robbery	3	6.8	5-8	41	33	-20%	-8
Assault Common	74	53.2	46-61	414	505	22%	91
Assault Serious	19	18.0	13-23	142	146	3%	4
Sexual Offences	25	20.8	17-24	167	160	-4%	-7
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	635	612.4	577-648	5026	5005	0%	-21
Business B&E	28	29.0	20-38	163	192	18%	29
Residential B&E	19	22.8	13-32	155	150	-3%	-5
Auto Theft	13	19.0	16-22	184	152	-17%	-32
Theft from Auto	56	112.4	76-149	588	587	0%	-1
Theft	140	96.6	64-129	882	1023	16%	141
Shoplifting	135	84.4	59-110	1107	944	-15%	-163
Fraud	92	77.6	62-94	785	790	1%	5
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	311	295.0	261-329	2348	2282	-3%	-66
Arson	8	7.6	3-12	49	38	-22%	-11
Cause Disturbance	186	214.2	179-249	1771	1580	-11%	-191
Collisions - all	150	148.2	127-169	1303	1343	3%	40
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	1125	1059.0	943-1113	8701	8714	0%	13
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	27	38.4	28-49	170	208	22%	38
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	281	247.4	237-257	1926	2092	9%	166

Prepared by Richmond RCMP CAU. Data collected from PRIME on 2025-09-02. Published 2025-09-04. Data subject to change. This document is not to be copied, reproduced, used in whole or part or disseminated to any other person or agency without the consent of the originator(s). 2024 YTD counts are based on the Month End reports on the date of original collection period (2024 data is not re-run).

Commercial Break & Enter August 2025



Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2025-09-04

Commercial Break & Enter
N=28



Auto Theft
August 2025

Attachment 3





Theft From Auto
N=56

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2025-09-04