

## **Report to Committee**

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

July 14, 2021

01

From:

Will Ng

File:

09-5000-01/2021-Vol

Re:

**RCMP Monthly Activity Report - June 2021** 

Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge

#### Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "RCMP Monthly Activity Report – June 2021", dated July 14, 2021, from the afficer in Charge Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

Will Ng

Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge

(604-278-1212)

Att. 4

REPORT CONCURRENCE

CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER

SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW

INITIALS:

APPROVED BY CAO

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. Auxiliary Program
- 5. Block Watch
- 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 2018-2022 Strategy #1 A Safe and Resilient City:

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

#### **Analysis**

#### Activities and Noteworthy Files

Serious Motor Vehicle Incident

On June 2, 2021, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release seeking witnesses to a single-vehicle rollover collision, which occurred on May 27, 2021. Both occupants were transported to hospital; one of whom sustained life-threatening injuries but is expected to survive. The Richmond RCMP Criminal Collision Investigation Team is investigating.

#### Arrests

On June 19, 2021, Richmond RCMP officers partnered with Metro Vancouver Transit Police for a joint operation targeting property crime offenders. Police specifically focussed on offenders who use public transit to enter Richmond in order to commit crimes. Police arrested 17 suspects; most of whom were arrested for thefts from local businesses.

#### Armed and Barricaded Male

On June 21, 2021, Richmond RCMP responded to a residence in the 22000 block of Norton Court for a report of a man pointing a firearm. Richmond RCMP officers secured the area for public safety. The Lower Mainland Emergency Response Team was also on scene and assisted with taking the man into custody. The incident remains under investigation.

#### Shooting

On June 25, 2021, Richmond RCMP officers responded to a residence in the area of Westminster Highway and Barnard Drive for reports of shots fired. Police located two deceased persons; one of whom was the victim of a homicide. The incident is not related to the Lower Mainland Gang Conflict. The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team is investigating.

#### Analysis of Police Statistics

#### Arson

In June 2021, there were five reported arsons, which is half the number reported in the previous month and is down four incidents from June 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of arsons this month is within the expected range.

#### Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 20 assault serious events in June 2021, which is up 11 per cent from the previous month and up 54 per cent from June 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is above the expected range.

Of the incidents reported this month, 35 per cent were domestic in nature and 45 per cent occurred in private dwellings.

#### Auto Theft

In June 2021, there were 19 incidents of auto theft, which is up 27 per cent from the previous month and up 19 per cent from June 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is within the expected range.

#### Drugs

In June 2021, there were 40 drug files, which is up eight per cent from the previous month and down two per cent from June 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is within the expected range.

#### Mental Health

There were 151 mental health-related incidents in June 2021, which is up 25 per cent from the previous month and down 18 per cent from June 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is within the expected range.

There were 97 police apprehensions this month and the average hospital wait time was 90 minutes. Both of these statistics are within the expected range.

#### Residential Break and Enter

There were 15 break and enters to residences in June 2021, which represents a 32 per cent decrease from the previous month and is a 25 per cent decrease from June 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of residential break and enters this month is within the expected range.

#### Commercial Break and Enter

In June 2021, there were 25 break and enters to businesses, which represents a four per cent decrease from the previous month and is a 24 per cent decrease from June 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters this month is within the expected range.

#### Robbery

There were two robbery incidents in June 2021, which is down two incidents from the previous month and down three incidents from June 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is within the expected range.

#### Sexual Offences

In May 2021, there were 15 sexual offence files, which is a 44 per cent decrease from the previous month and is a 25 per cent decrease from June 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sexual offences this month is within the expected range.

#### Shoplifting

There were 77 reported shoplifting thefts in June 2021, which is a 97 per cent increase from the previous month and is more than double the number reported in June 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is within the expected range.

The increased number of shoplifting incidents this month has been attributed to the joint operation targeting thefts from businesses mentioned in the Activities and Noteworthy Files section of this report.

#### Theft from Automobile

There were 122 theft from automobile incidents in June 2021, which is up two per cent from the previous month and down six per cent from June 2020. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is within the expected range.

#### COVID-19 Statistics

Table 1 outlines the number of police calls for service related to COVID-19. In June 2021, there were 20 COVID-19-related files. The majority of incidents were related to reports of social gatherings, failure to wear masks and quarantine violations. Police issued approximately 23

Violation Tickets this month.<sup>1</sup> June 30, 2021 marked the final day of the provincial state of emergency and COVID-19-related enforcement concluded under the *Emergency Program Act*. While the *COVID-19 Related Measures Act* will remain in effect until December 31, 2021, it is anticipated that COVID-19-related files will remain low.<sup>2</sup> As a result, the Richmond RCMP will conclude monthly reporting on this matter.

Table 1: COVID-19-relate	d Calls for Service June 2021
Quarantine Act (Federal)	5
Public Health Act (Provincial)	0
Emergency Program Act	15
Total	20

#### Hate Crimes and Incidents

Table 2 presents the number of hate crimes and hate incidents reported between January 1, 2018 and June 30, 2021. A "hate crime" refers to any criminal offence targeting an identifiable group. The criteria for an offence to be considered a hate crime as per the *Criminal Code* carries a higher threshold and usually involves one or more criminal offences. A "hate incident" may be motivated by the same factors as a hate crime, but does not reach the threshold of being a criminal offence. Most of the events reported this month were related to the use of racial slurs and derogatory comments, as well as racist graffiti.

Table 2 – Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents						
Year	Hate Crime Files	Hate Incident Files	Total			
2018	19	4	23			
2019	11	9	20			
2020	21	13	34			
2021 YTD	17	20	37			

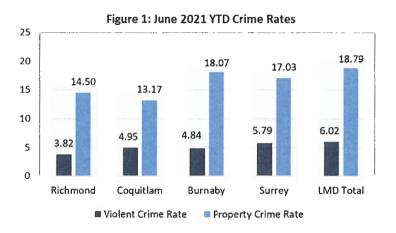
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The total number of Violation Tickets is subject to change as it is based on the physical tickets submitted at the time of writing and there may be delays in the submission of tickets.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The COVID-19 Related Measures Act end date is subject to change.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The BC Hate Crimes Unit uses the terms hate-motivated crime and hate-motivated incident.

#### Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Data on crime rates is presented in Figure 1.<sup>4</sup> In June 2021, out of the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), Richmond had the lowest violent crime rate and the second lowest property crime rate.



#### **Auxiliary Program**

In June 2021, the Richmond RCMP Detachment had a complement of 31 Auxiliaries.<sup>5</sup> Due to COVID-19 safety protocols, volunteer activities have been significantly reduced. Auxiliaries provided a total of 148 volunteer hours during the month of June.

On June 23, 2021, the Province of British Columbia provided written correspondence to RCMP E-Division Headquarters advising that the Auxiliary Program and all related activities immediately must cease and all Auxiliary officer appointments rescinded. With this direction, the Officer-in-Charge (OIC) of Richmond RCMP has stopped local Auxiliary programs and rescinded appointments. Negotiations between the Province of British Columbia and National RCMP Headquarters remain ongoing with the intention that they will result in a revised and viable program in the near future.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Crime rate is calculated per 1,000 people.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Previously referred to as Auxiliary Constables.

Figure 2 compares the monthly hours of service provided from 2017 to 2021.

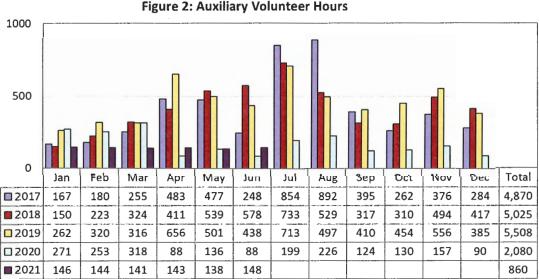


Figure 2: Auxiliary Volunteer Hours

#### Auxiliary Program Activities

Auxiliaries attend events in the community to promote a positive police presence, support RCMP members and assist with community policing and crime prevention initiatives, as well as traffic and crowd control. During the month of June, Auxiliaries participated in:

- Bait Car
- **Diversity Initiatives**
- Doors Open Richmond Video
- Hate Has No Place Video
- PFD Inspection & Maintenance<sup>6</sup>
- Pride Month Video

#### **Block Watch**

At the end of June 2021, the Block Watch program had 302 groups totaling 6,940 participants. Currently, the program includes 434 captains and co-captains.

#### Community Police Station Programs

Community police stations enhance the Richmond RCMP Detachment's policing services by providing an array of crime prevention resources and community safety initiatives. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all three community police stations have been closed to the public since March 2020. Volunteer deployments resumed in June 2020, in accordance with the guidelines established by RCMP "E" Division's Crime Prevention Services; however, the scope of volunteer activities has been limited. City staff and volunteers continue to pursue safety initiatives to enhance crime prevention program awareness, community engagement and police accessibility.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Personal Floatation Device (PFD)

During the month of June volunteer highlights included:

- Three Lock Out Auto Crime deployments took place, which resulted in 118 information letters being distributed.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 2,778 vehicles at multiple locations and 96 information letters were issued.
- June 2 Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Fail to Stop deployment at Katsura Street and Ferndale Road. A total of 177 vehicles went through the deployment and 50 information letters were issued.
- June 7 In collaboration with ICBC, volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Lock Out Auto Crime deployment in a commercial complex on Bridgeport Road, which resulted in 45 information letters.
- June 21 In collaboration with ICBC, volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Lock
  Out Auto Crime deployment at Richmond Centre Mall, which resulted in 49 information
  letters.
- June 25 and 28 In collaboration with ICBC, volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Speed Watch deployment in the 8800 block of Blundell Road. A total of 1,291 vehicles went through the deployment and 50 information letters were issued.

#### Lock Out Auto Crime

Figure 3 provides a comparison by year of the number of vehicle notices issued.<sup>7</sup>

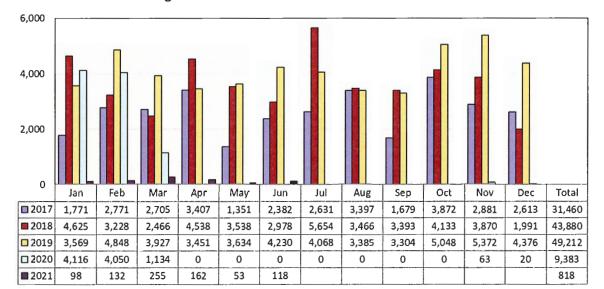


Figure 3: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Beginning in November 2020, Lock Out Auto Crime letters were issued in place of notices.

#### Speed Watch

Figure 4 provides a yearly comparison of the number of letters sent to registered vehicle owners.

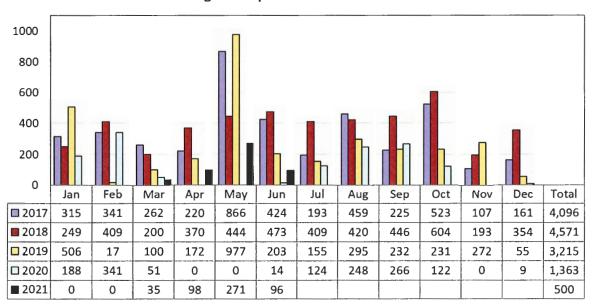


Figure 4: Speed Watch Letters Sent

#### Crime Prevention Unit

The Crime Prevention Unit reduces crime and enhances community engagement through public awareness and education initiatives. During the month of June, the Crime Prevention Unit participated in the following events/activities:

- Community Outreach Patrols
- Diversity & Inclusion Initiatives
- Fail to Stop

- Lock Out Auto Crime
- Place of Worship Patrols
- Speed Watch

#### 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. Table 3 compares statistics for June 2021 to both April 2021 and May 2021. Violation Tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Infraction	April 2021	May 2021	June 2021	
Distracted Driving	139	163	108	
Driver License	161	250	146	
Impaired	34	39	42	
Intersection Offences	38	39	24	
Moving Infractions <sup>8</sup>	98	73	62	
Speeding	184	419	265	
Seatbelts	8	13	18	
Vehicle Related <sup>9</sup>	75	83	56	
Other <sup>10</sup>	6	2	6	
Total	743	1,081	727	

Table 3: Violation Tickets Issued

#### Victim Services

In June 2021, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 89 new clients and attended nine crime/trauma scenes after hours. Victim Services reduced in-person client services in March 2020 and began offering services by phone but continue to attend some of the more serious calls in person. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 260 files. In June, Victim Services responded to a number of cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, mental health issues and suicides.

#### Youth Section

The Richmond RCMP Detachment's Youth Section focuses on strategies that contribute to safe and healthy behaviours essential to the development of productive and civic-minded adults. During the month of June, Youth Section highlights included:

- The Youth Section delivered 36 Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) classes virtually to Grade 5 students to conclude the third term of the program. RCMP officers participated in 18 DARE graduations.
- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 69 proactive school visits at Secondary Schools and 91 visits at Elementary Schools. Police officers engaged with the students at recess and lunch, as well as during morning and afternoon supervision.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Moving infractions refers to unsafe lane change and unsafe passing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Vehicle related refers to vehicle defects, for example no lights and no insurance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Other refers to miscellaneous charges including fail to remain at the scene of an accident and failing to stop for police.

#### **Financial Impact**

None.

#### Conclusion

In June 2021, the Richmond RCMP conducted a number of noteworthy investigations, including a file involving an armed and barricaded male and a joint operation targeting property crime offenders. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the expected ranges, with the exception of serious assaults, which were elevated this month.

In June, the Richmond RCMP Community Engagement Team and volunteers conducted road safety deployments focusing on speeding and crime prevention deployments targeting thefts from vehicles. In addition, the DARE program concluded its final term of the 2020-21 school year, which was delivered via virtual lessons. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment will continue to ensure that Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.

Edward Warzel

Manager, RCMP Administration

E. Wazel

(604-207-4767)

#### EW:

Att. 1: Community Policing Programs

- 2: Crime Statistics
- 3: Crime Maps
- 4: Crime Prevention Newsletter

#### **Auxiliary Constables**

- The primary mandate of Richmond's Auxiliary Constables is to support community policing activities related to public safety and crime prevention.
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/auxiliary.htm

#### **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: <a href="mailto:blockwatch@richmond.ca">blockwatch@richmond.ca</a>
- 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.

#### 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.

#### **JUNE 2021 STATISTICS**

#### RICHMOND RCMP

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.

In 2019, changes were implemented regarding the collection of UCR data. The new standards provide much more stringent criteria to classify a file as unfounded. As a result, there will be an increase in many crime statistics, and clearance rates will conversely decline. This creates numerous challenges when comparing previous years' data. Full details on the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey are available at Statistics Canada: https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54973-eng.htm. For more information, contact Richmond Crime Analysts.

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

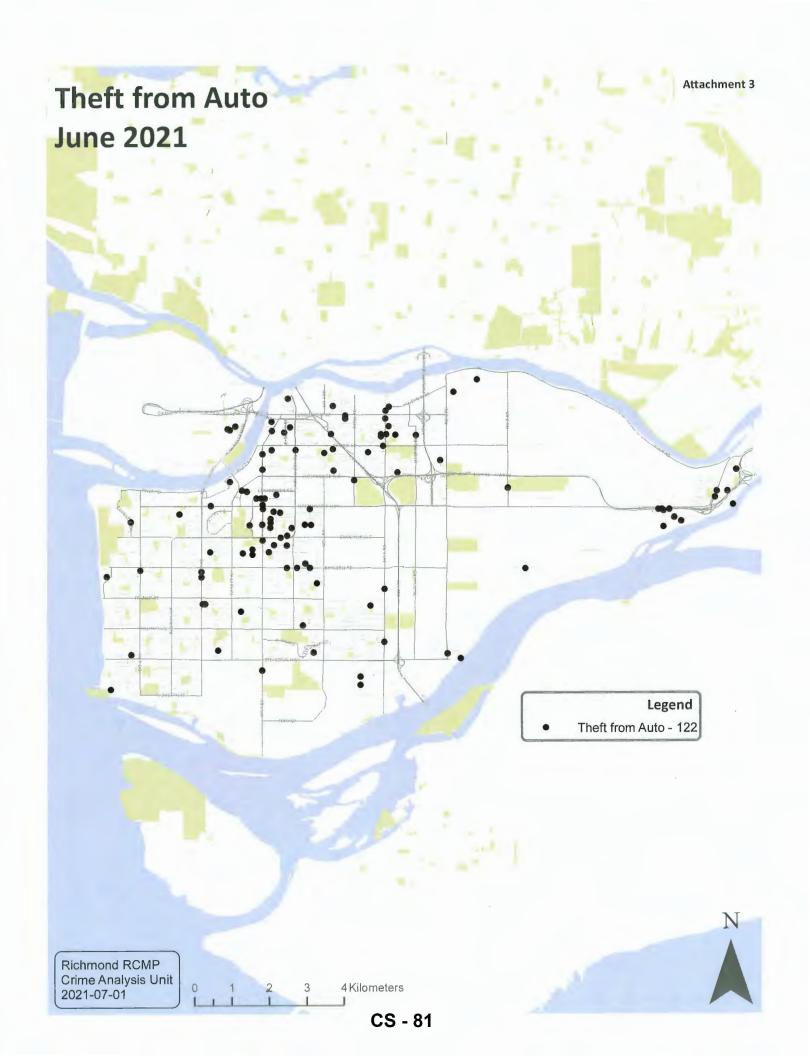
	Month	5-Yr Avg	Year to Date Totals				
	June-21	June		2020	2021	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	139	140.6	124-157	795	883	11%	88
Robbery	2	6.4	4-9	26	25	-4%	-1
Assault Common	41	50.0	39-61	297	269	-9%	-28
Assault Serious	20	14.2	12-16	66	91	38%	25
Sexual Offences	15	13.2	9-18	95	117	23%	22
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	509	588.0	526-650	3118	3165	2%	47
Business B&E	25	26.8	20-34	186	153	-18%	-33
Residential B&E	15	34.4	24-45	206	174	-16%	-32
Auto Theft	19	22.8	17-28	125	118	-6%	-7
Theft from Auto	122	152.2	125-179	828	808	-2%	-20
Theft	65	86.4	73-100	370	342	-8%	-28
Shoplifting	77	65.4	41-90	289	365	26%	76
Fraud	62	70.0	60-80	400	441	10%	41
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	259	181.6	164-200	1033	1419	37%	386
Arson	5	6.0	3-9	34	43	26%	9
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	907	938.8	886-992	5090	5469	7%	379
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	40	60.2	45-75	408	229	-44%	-179
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	151	143.6	110-177	981	771	-21%	-210

Prepared by Richmond RCMP Crime Analysts. Data collected from PRIME on 2021-07-01. Published 2021-07-05. These data are operational and 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).









3rd Quarter - 2021

## **CRIME PREVENTION**

## **WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME**

**NEWSLETTER** 

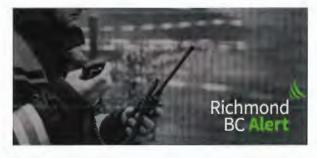
### **Summer Burglary Prevention Tips**

Burglars love summer time but not for the same reasons you do. People are away on vacation or doors and windows being left opened or unlocked while they are busy in the garden or spending the day outdoors. It is easy to let down your guard with home security while you are out enjoying the sun and some summer fun and that is what burglars are looking forward to. Remember, break-ins can occur at any time, to anyone, in any neighbourhood. Before you head out the door, make sure your home is protected.

- Lock it Even when you are out in the backyard weeding, get in the habit of keeping your doors and garage closed and locked. Place a security bar on all sliding doors and windows to prevent them from being opened.
- **Get a home safe** Store your valuables and important documents in a home safe and make sure it is bolted to the floor.
- Install a home alarm system Make sure to turn it on when you leave. When you go on vacations, make sure to have someone you trust and lives locally, to monitor the system as well if it is a self-monitored system.
- **Don't flaunt your stuff** Not everyone needs to know you are away from home. Don't advertise it. Put mail on hold with Canada Post and ask a neighbour to collect newspaper and flyers for you.
- **Tell your trusted neighbours** Ask them to keep an eye on the house while you are away and to report any unusual activity to the police.



Attention: If you subscribed to the Richmond BC Alert system prior to May 13 2021, you must re-subscribe to continue receiving emergency notifications.



- Register for a MyRichmond account at myrichmond.richmond.ca
- From within the MyRichmond web portal, navigate to "Other E-Services" to be redirected to the Richmond BC Alert page. This is where you would set up Richmond BC Alert profile by specifying your contact details and the type of notifications you would like to receive.

If you have any questions about Richmond BC Alert, email emergencyprograms@richmond.ca

## RICHMOND RCMP CRIME PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

## Recognize the Signs of Gang-Involvement Protect Our Youth, Our Future

One of the ways criminal gangs make money is from selling illegal drugs. To ensure the continuance of supply and demand, they target teenage youths to sell and deliver the drugs for them to the consumers. That way, the older gangsters won't get caught and any criminal conviction for the arrested youth may result in a more lenient sentence due to no previous history of criminal involvement. The first step into criminal gangs usually begins with the Dial-a-Dope stage, which youth may falsely perceived as low risk and see the reward of making quick money. That is why it is very important to educate youths that accepting and delivering a drug package is the beginning of a dangerous path that leads to gang involvement. Parents should always know where their kids are, what they are doing, and who they are with. Whatever our roles may be - parents, relatives, caregivers, friends, teachers, neighbours - we can all play a part in guiding youths onto a positive path. Have open communication with youths so that they feel comfortable to share their concerns and worries with you. An early intervention and prevention can help youths stay on track and avoid getting into a dangerous life of crime, violence, and gangs.

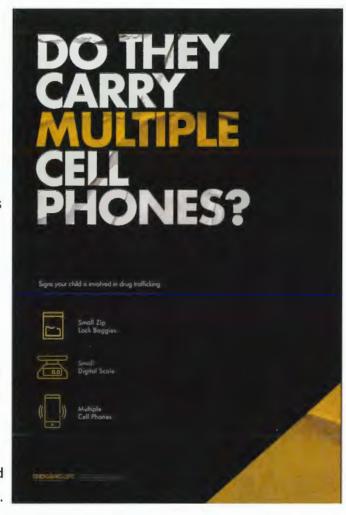
#### Signs of a Youth Dial-a-Doper

- Has a number of different cell phones.
- Often leaves the house for short durations and at all hours of the day and night.
- Often carries a lot of cash even though they live in debt and fear.
- Keeps drugs they are selling at home.
- Keeps their room locked or demands privacy.
- Often becomes upset or mad if others want to know what is in their rooms or why they want their privacy.
- Always under great pressure and displays signs of stress or moodiness.

# Are you or someone you know in danger? Being threatened? Want to make a difference? Stand up. Be Heard. Get Help.

Call the Youth Against Violence Line (YAVL) at 1-800-680-4264 and talk one-on-one to a YAV Line support worker 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, or e-mail them at info@youthagainstviolenceline.com

Concerned parents, teachers, caregivers, service providers and others are also welcome to call for information and assistance.



## 3rd Quarter - 2021

#### **Beware of Distraction Theft**

Distraction theft is when someone steals something from another person after tricking them into giving their attention to something else. A commonly seen scenario is where thieves approach people who are wearing expensive jewelry then either try to sell or offer them jewelry. The thieves will place fake jewelry on victims while removing authentic jewelry from them, using the element of surprise or distraction to prey on people. The victims do not realize until later that their jewelry has been exchanged for fake jewelry. Although seniors are often the ones being targeted, it can happen to anyone.



- Be very cautious if strangers approach and attempt to distract you.
- If you are wearing expensive jewelry, ensure that it is properly affixed and not easily removed.
- If possible, conceal your jewelry under clothing.
- Be wary of strangers who do not respect your personal space. Do not let them touch you.
- Walk with a friend whenever possible.
- Be aware of who is around you and report any suspicious incident to the Police immediately.
- Only purchase jewelry from reputable stores.

### **Hostile and Confrontational Situation**

- Keep safe priority is to protect yourself! If you don't feel comfortable with a situation, remove yourself from it.
- Keep your distance make sure to keep a healthy distance from the person and avoid engagement unless
  absolutely have to.
- Avoid Escalation hostile and confrontational individuals often project aggression to get a response and exploit
  your weakness. The less provoked you are, the more you are able to use your better judgment to handle the
  situation.
- Use assertive and effective communication keep a calm and steady voice. Remain respectful.
- De-personalize the situation be mindful of what the other person might be going through can help turn the situation from a reactive one to a proactive one.
- Seek help and support ask people around you for help and/or call the Police.



## **BUSINESS LINK**

## **WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME**

**NEWSLETTER** 

Is your business a target for crime, do you know how to decipher if your business is a target? To safeguard your business from thieves you must think like one. Think like a thief - What could potentially be targeted in your business? Is your business vulnerable to break and enters? Do a walk around your business and check the lighting, gates, doors, windows and fences to look for signs of easy access into your business.

- Are the most expensive merchandise locked up? Do not place expensive items near a door or window.
- Are cameras and mirrors installed to minimize blind spots around the store?
- Put security tags on merchandise that can easily be concealed under clothing?
- Glass windows provide great natural surveillance but is also vulnerable for breakage. Bollards or planters can be installed at the front of your windows to prevent vehicles from driving through.
- Is the storage area for overstocked items secure and closed off to the public?
- Check to see if the exterior fence can be lifted or cut.
- Check the gate to see if it can be protected against cutting and drilling.
- Check all the lighting around your business to see if it is well-lit, especially around the entrances and door ways.



It is also important to have a thorough understanding of the area your business is located in and the types of problems that may exist in the area. Have the businesses around you been targeted? What are your neighbors attitudes toward crime prevention and security? Visit <a href="http://csgeo.city.richmond.bc.ca">http://csgeo.city.richmond.bc.ca</a> for a general overview of reported incidents that fall within a few different property related crime categories.

Richmond Business Link focuses on educating businesses in crime prevention strategies to help reduce crime. The goal is to provide business owners with tools and resources that will help protect their assets and reduce business-related crime. Richmond businesses may also request a free security assessment; please call 604-207-4829 for more information.



Please help by reporting any suspicious behaviour: RCMP Non-Emergency line 604-278-1212. If you witness a crime in progress, dial 9-1-1.

#### **Break & Enter Email Alerts**

Registered businesses will receive email alerts should a commercial break and enter occur in the area. Email RCMP\_Business\_Link@richmond.ca to register today!