



To: Community Safety Committee

Date: October 13, 2011

From: Rendall Nasset
Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment

File: 09-5000-01/2010-Vol
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(11.14)

Re: Marine Patrol Program – Post Patrol Report 2011

Staff Recommendation

That the OIC's report entitled "Marine Patrol Program – Post Patrol Report 2011" dated October 13, 2011, be received for information.

(Rendall Nasset) Superintendent
Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment
(604-278-1212)

FOR ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY		
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Origin

At the Community Safety Committee on April 12, 2011 staff was directed to report back:

That staff be directed to review the RCMP Marine Vessel Program at the end of the summer boating season and report back on the various aspects of the program.

Purpose

The following report was prepared to advise of the findings of the Richmond Detachment Marine Patrol Program that was conducted on the waterways surrounding the City of Richmond throughout the summer of 2011. The purpose of this report is threefold:

1. Document and share statistical data garnered from patrols conducted
2. Present findings of criminality and activity on waterways
3. Provide rationale for the continuance of these patrols

Background

The Marine Patrol Program was created to allow uniformed members of the Richmond RCMP and Fisheries Officers of the Steveston office from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and other enforcement agencies to work in partnership to assess the level of the community marine activity and to provide an enforcement presence on the waterways surrounding the City of Richmond. These patrols were conducted in the interest of public safety; improving interoperability of the Richmond Detachment with DFO and to provide a level of law enforcement on the waterways, namely: enforcement of Fisheries Acts, Criminal Code and Provincial Statutes of BC. Tertiary benefits of the patrols were to provide a resource for calls for service for the city for marine related incidents on the Fraser River.

Analysis

Resources / Operators

At the onset of the project, interest in participation was gathered from all points within Richmond Detachment, with 6 members selected to partake in the marine training (Basic Water Transport & Advanced Water Transport) required to operate the vessel and conduct patrols, specifically:

- 1 Constable from each of the 4 General Duty Watch's, including YVR
- 2 Constables from support services (Traffic and Youth teams)

Richmond Detachment is providing further opportunities for members to obtain this training, with 3 members selected for fall 2011 training and a further 6 to be trained in spring 2012.

Deployment and Statistics (June – September, 2011)

Total dates patrolled: 34 (6 hour shifts for a total of 204 hours)
 Total patrols scheduled: 44

Vessels checked: 166
 Persons checked: 217
 Documents issued¹: 166

Files self-generated: 38
 Files (E-Comm) dispatched: 45
 Total files: 83

Number of Patrols:

June	4 (received boat on June 26 th)
July	15
August	13
September ²	<u>2</u>
TOTAL:	<u>34</u>

Community Engagement

A cornerstone of the Marine Patrol Program is for community engagement, which is one of the primary focuses of each patrol. Members patrolled local marine communities; harbours and marinas, and took part in every available marine community event that occurred in Richmond throughout the spring and summer. The boat will continue to attend any and all events throughout the year and will contribute to the safety of those events. Community events that the vessel took part in included:

- Participated as a float for the Canada Day Parade in Steveston
- Taking part in patrols and boat launch checks for all 3 Celebration of Lights Fireworks nights
- Participated in the Steveston Maritime Community Festival
- Patrolled the Ships to Shore Maritime Festival
- Participated in the Dragon Boat Festival
- Patrolling the UBC Rowing Club (middle arm) Regatta (taking place on Oct 15)

¹For every vessel stop conducted, a written document is issued to the boater, indicating reason for the stop, which can be in the form of a warning ticket, actual violation ticket or a fisheries ticket or a combination of all three.

² While moored, the RCMP Boat was impacted by another vessel during the first week of September.

Partner Agencies

Throughout the patrols and attendance to calls for service, members visited the local marinas, communities and businesses. And through attending files and community events, worked hand-in-hand with the following agencies:

VPD (Marine Unit)
RCMP Support Services (Air Services, Police Dog Services (PDS), IHIT, ERT)
New West Police Department (Marine Unit)
Delta Police Department
Canada Coast Guard
Transport Canada
Steveston Harbour Authority
Vancouver Fraser Port Authority

Financial Impact

The Marine Patrol Program to date has remained within the budget allotted through the Lower Mainland District "Seasonal Policing Fund" (\$15,000). The Program will continue to accrue costs through the operation of the vessel throughout the remainder of the fiscal year forecast to stay within the budget set out in a previous report.

Conclusion

The Marine Patrol Program was proposed to conduct marine patrols in the waterways surrounding the City of Richmond; to interact with the marine community and to detect, deter and investigate criminal activity in these waterways.

While the project objectives were broad in nature, they also posed a specific purpose, and this was to obtain a real and measurable reading of the amount of activity, both criminal and benign, that was occurring on these waterways. Given the 34 patrols that were conducted, the 83 calls for service and the interactions that were made with the marine community during these patrols, it can be determined that this goal was obtained.

The marine patrols have come to a close for the 2011 summer season; however, the boat remains available for calls for service and all marine related events.



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NCO 'B' Watch
Richmond RCMP
(604-278-1212)