




City of Richmond

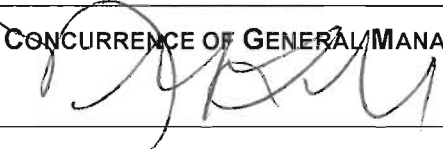

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** June 3, 2013
From: Rendall Nessel **File:** 09-5350-01/2013-Vol
Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment 01
Re: **Richmond RCMP 2011-2013 Strategic Plan Update – Fiscal Year 2012/13**

Staff Recommendation

That the report dated June 3, 2013 from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, entitled “Richmond RCMP 2011-2013 Strategic Plan Update – Fiscal Year 2012/13” be received for information.


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

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 	
REVIEWED BY DIRECTORS	INITIALS: DW
REVIEWED BY CAO ()	INITIALS: AE

Origin

This report provides an update to the Richmond RCMP Strategic Plan for the fiscal year 2012/13. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond Detachment is committed to aligning the priorities of the Richmond RCMP with the City's strategic goals.

This report addresses Council Term Goal – Community Safety and Community Safety Priority 1.4:

“To ensure Richmond remains a safe and desirable community to live, work and play in, through the delivery of effective public safety services that are targeted to the City’s specific needs and priorities”

Analysis

The Richmond RCMP Strategic Plan 2011-2013 (the “Strategic Plan”) is a guiding document to enhance police service delivery in the City of Richmond and to build strong and enduring relationships with public safety agencies and community stakeholders. Richmond Detachment regular members, municipal employees and volunteers are committed to the goal of “Safe Homes, Safe Communities” and supporting the Law and Community Safety Department’s vision “To be the safest community in Canada”; this fundamentally contributes to the City of Richmond’s vision “To be the most appealing, liveable and well-managed Community in Canada”.

This staff report provides an update on the progress of the five Strategic Priorities of the Richmond Detachment: Traffic Safety, Organized Crime, Community Engagement, Youth Engagement and Property Crime. The strategic priorities are part of the Crime Reduction Strategy to support the Richmond RCMP’s strategic goal of Safe Homes, Safe Communities.

Traffic Safety

The goal of this priority is to reduce the number of motor vehicle collisions and associated injuries. The emphasis of this strategy is placed on prevention through combined enforcement, education and problem solving.

The Richmond Road Safety Unit (RSU) continues to focus on safety violations such as cell phone/distracted driving, pedestrian enforcement, speed enforcement and other moving violations. The Richmond RCMP’s Speed Watch Program, partnering with ICBC, has implemented “Project Swoop” as a one day education and enforcement campaign to remind drivers about the dangers of speeding and distracted driving. Five deployments of Speed Watch were conducted in the morning that focused on high crash locations throughout Richmond. In the afternoon, another five deployments were conducted that focused on areas around schools. Speed enforcements were also carried out at various strategic locations, including but not limited to: Steveston Highway, Westminster Highway and No. 5 Road.

For the fiscal year 2012/13, pedestrian safety is one of the top community priorities for the Richmond RCMP. The majority of pedestrian injuries and fatalities can be attributed to

jaywalking, wearing dark clothing, rushing for signal lights or buses, or being inattentive while crossing (i.e. texting or listening to music). There were two pedestrian safety campaigns, one held on November 2012 and the other on March 2013. The campaign received media coverage and involved the Richmond RCMP, Community Police Station Volunteers, Richmond Fire Rescue, Transit Police, ICBC and Richmond Auxiliary Constables. The target for the Pedestrian Safety Initiative is a reduction of 10% in pedestrian and vehicle collision-related injuries. However, total pedestrian injuries were fairly consistent with the last fiscal year – a decrease of 2 pedestrian injuries, or 1.4%, from 2011/2012. In 2012/13, there was one pedestrian fatality in November of 2012 from jaywalking. This is a significant decline from 2011/12 where there were six pedestrian fatalities. Jaywalking remains to be the leading cause of pedestrian fatalities in the City of Richmond for the last two years.

Richmond Detachment and RSU continue to be dedicated to the “Alexa’s Team” initiative. Alexa’s Team is a program that recognizes police officers who make an extraordinary contribution in reducing the number of impaired drivers on the roads of BC Communities. The BCAA Road Safety Foundation, along with Alexa Middelaer’s family and the Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC) are partners in Alexa's Team, which recognize the efforts of these outstanding officers. In 2012, two members of Richmond RCMP Detachment were named members of “Alexa’s Team” through their commitment in pursuing impaired driving investigations.

The table below highlights traffic enforcement activities in the community:

Traffic Enforcement Statistics – 2012/13	
Total Tickets¹ (# of charges)	13,103
Electronic Devices Charges	1,481
Excessive Speeding	149
Speed Related Violations	4,211
Drivers License Related Violations	1,064
Other	6,198

Organized Crime

This priority focuses on intelligence-led policing to identify criminal groups and utilizes resources to target and reduce the impact of these groups on crime and the community.

Drug Enforcement – Methamphetamines² (MDMA) and “Ecstasy” continue to be the drugs of choice outside of marijuana and are a large source of income for criminal organizations. Richmond Drug Enforcement Team had several notable successes through 2012. A large scale MDMA drug lab was discovered and dismantled after a resulting house fire in a quiet residential neighbourhood. Chemicals and other compounds were obtained from the scene as evidence. The lab is believed to be connected to Asian Organized Crime which specializes in MDMA.

¹ Tabulation of Impaired Drug/Alcohol Infractions may not be complete due to reporting and system errors.

² Also referred to as MDMA (3-4-Methylenedioxymethamphetamine) by scientists, it is a synthetic chemical that can be derived from an essential oil of the sassafras tree. Source: American Council for Drug Education

A five month investigation was concluded, resulting in the prosecution of seven people, one of which is believed to be the leader of the drug trafficking group. This group is believed to be linked to organized crime groups operating in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. The group also has involvement in on-going gang conflict. On another drug operations investigation, three individuals were arrested and charged for drug trafficking and weapons-related offences. A loaded handgun and multiple stun guns were seized at an apartment in Richmond as part of the investigation. Charges were laid and the individuals are awaiting trial.

Gang Enforcement – The Richmond RCMP conducted various bar and liquor establishment checks throughout 2012/13 to gather intelligence on gang-related activities. In addition, street checks were conducted and intelligence was gathered to link potential crime groups and individuals. Last year, there were a total of 10 establishment checks, and 134 premises were checked for gang activities.

Community Engagement

This priority emphasizes partnerships between police, the community and other community agencies and resources, with the goal of proactive, mutual problem solving. Increased visibility and a commitment to establish relationships and develop trust are key factors in this priority.

Community Policing – Community events, big or small are important to any community. Festivals and celebrations promote cultural identities and a “sense of community belonging”, which supports the City in being the most appealing, liveable and well-managed community in Canada. The main objective of community policing for the Richmond RCMP is to provide a safe environment for citizens to participate in local community events. The Richmond RCMP strives to provide a highly visible police presence, engage the public and the communities, control liquor in public places and protect persons and property at these events.

In 2012, there were approximately 12 notable community events where the Richmond RCMP provided a strong presence. These events included Hockey Day, Police Week, Red Serge on the Beach, Jimmy Ng Hockey Tournament, Rick Hansen Tour, Ships to Shore, Salmon Festival/Canada Day, Dolphin Classic Basketball Tournament, Christmas in Steveston, Remembrance Day, Big Bike Event and many more events that were sponsored by community centres and non-profit groups throughout Richmond.

The Richmond RCMP piloted a new community engagement initiative called “Serge on the Beach” to reinforce the presence of the RCMP's heritage in the community. Regular members dressed in Red Serge took part in photo opportunities as well as provided foot patrol enforcement during the summer months in the Steveston Village area. This event was well received by the public and many photos were taken by both tourists and local residents. The Richmond RCMP also attended “YVR Take-off Fridays³”, where the Vancouver International Airport hosts a public party event every Friday during the summer season. Regular members stationed out of YVR participated in this event in Red Serge and connected with the public and travellers.

³ http://www.yvr.ca/en/blog/posts/Take-off_Fridays_are_back.aspx

Community Police Stations – The Community Police Stations in the City Centre, South Arm and Steveston sponsor various outreach programs and deliver Crime Prevention Programs. Such programs include, but are not limited to: Block Watch, Business Link, Crime Free Multi-Housing, Mature Driver’s Program, Rent Safe, On-line Criminal Activity Maps, Safety and ESL presentations, Lock Out Auto Crime, Stolen Auto Recovery, Pedestrian Safety, Speed Watch, and Community Foot/Bike patrols of trails, parks, dykes and neighbourhoods. Volunteers are based in the City Centre, South Arm and Steveston CPS to assist in delivering the above Crime Prevention programs.

The City Centre Community Police Station was newly commissioned in September of 2012. With the densification and growing population of central Richmond, the City Centre Community Police Station provides area residents and businesses with crime prevention advice and personal safety tips. This Station provides a centralized location for youths and their parents to attend Youth Intervention counselling sessions. The City Centre Community Police Station is also equipped with computer workstations and other systems to allow regular members to conduct police work without returning to the main detachment, thereby reducing travel time and keeping regular members central in the downtown area. The resulting effect is an additional level of police presence and visibility in the downtown core.

The tables below highlight delivery of Crime Prevention Programs:

Speed Watch – 2012	
Number of Deployments	245
Total Vehicles Checked	137,023
Warning Letters Sent	7,214
Visibility and Admin Hours	1,891
Lock Out Auto Crime and Stolen Auto Recovery – 2012	
Number of Deployments	341
Vehicles viewed/checked	67,939
Vehicles scanned thru Stolen Auto Recovery	22,464
Crime Prevention Notice Issued	21,480
Patrol and Admin Hours	1,579
Bike Patrols - 2012	
Number of Deployments	64
Patrol Hours	840
Other Activities - 2012	
Distracted Drivers Deployments	122
Distracted Drivers Warning Letters	719
Total Number Volunteers (Approx.)	139
Total Volunteer Hours (Approx.)	8,819

Auxiliary Constable Program – The Auxiliary Constable Program strengthens community and police partnerships by providing citizen volunteers with the opportunity to perform authorized activities in support of strategies to address the causes, or reduce the fear, of crime and disorder. The mandate of Richmond's Auxiliary Constables is to support community policing activities relating to public safety and crime prevention within the City of Richmond. For 2012, the program totalled 6,918 volunteer hours. Approximately 4,363 of these hours were dedicated towards community events or crime prevention activities. As of the beginning of 2013, there were 33 active Auxiliary Constables serving the community of Richmond. It is notable that, given the 11% reduction in Auxiliary members from the previous year, there were still significant net increases in volunteer hours for core activities. Crime Prevention Programs totalled 1,879 hours in 2012 – an increase of 27% over 2011. Community Events totalled 1,605 hours in 2012 – an increase of 7% over 2011.

The “Exceptional Service” achievement award from the Ministry of Justice was earned by two Auxiliary Constables who have dedicated over 700 and 500 volunteer hours respectively. One Auxiliary Constable was awarded with the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal for his combined services to the community, including the Richmond RCMP and his contribution to the Union Gospel Mission in Vancouver. One Auxiliary Constable received the 9-1-1 Award’s Community Safety Volunteer of the Year award for his outstanding service, averaging over 700 hours annually. Lastly, the Richmond RCMP Auxiliary Program, as a whole, received the Constellation Award for the best volunteer group in Richmond by Volunteer Richmond.

Victim Witness Services – The Richmond RCMP police-based Victim Witness Services, offered by the City of Richmond and Richmond RCMP, provides victims of crime, witnesses and those who are experiencing trauma with professional assistance to minimize the emotional and psychological impact of crime events. This service has been offered by the Richmond Detachment since 1988 with the dedication of citizen volunteers and program staff. The unit is currently staffed by three full time employees, six after-hour crisis intervention workers and 15 extensively trained citizen volunteers.

In 2012/13, the Richmond RCMP Victim Witness Services responded to two local homicides and assisted with Richmond family members affected by homicides in other jurisdiction. These situations are emotionally charged and require special attention and training from the victim services staff. Language barriers are one of the main challenges in these situations as proper documentation is required. Other services provided by the Victim Witness Services include court accompaniment and support of witnesses during trials.

The Victim Witness Services opened 484 new files related to police incidents and the crisis intervention teams responded to 149 crime and trauma scenes. The typical files were incidents related to violent robberies, dysfunctional families in conflict, medical-related sudden deaths, suicides and fatal pedestrian collisions. The Victim Services volunteer team contributed approximately 4,397 hours in the same year. Volunteers and staff receive monthly training to continuously improve skills and to ensure best practices are utilized.

Richmond Marine Patrol Program – The Richmond RCMP Marine Patrol Program was implemented with the objective of providing a uniformed police presence on waterways surrounding Richmond, as well as to respond to marine-related calls of service. Marine patrols along the south, middle and north arms of the Fraser River will be part of an ongoing enforcement and community initiative that include conducting vessel safety checks, participating in marine community events and enforcing various Federal and Provincial Acts and Regulations. The Marine Patrol Program participated in community events such as: Canada Day, Celebration of Lights Fireworks and the Dragon Boat Festival.

The Marine Patrol Program had a successful year in 2012 and conducted 77 patrols, resulting in 218 vessel checks. Richmond RCMP Youth Section partnered with the Richmond School Board to create a marine vessel naming contest for elementary school students. The goal of this contest was to engage the local youth in participating in police-related activities and to have fun at the same time. Student contestants submitted written essays on how the patrol vessel would assist the Richmond RCMP in serving the Richmond community and created pieces of visual art representing how the vessel would be utilized by police officers. Submissions were reviewed and the selection committee decided that the patrol vessel would be named the “Fraser Guardian”.

Youth Engagement

This priority focuses on the prevention and reduction of youth involvement in criminal activity and the criminal justice system, both as victims and offenders. The Richmond RCMP is aiming to create an environment where youth can interact and develop in responsible and productive ways.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) – This is an ongoing initiative for the Richmond Youth Section. It is a 10 week program taught by uniformed members to all grade 5 students in Richmond. Considerable commitment is required from schools, the community, students and RCMP members to successfully facilitate this program. The table below highlights the participation of the program:

2012/13 School Year	
Number of schools involved:	45
Number of classes taught:	62
Number of students attended D.A.R.E:	1,693

Youth Intervention Program – The Youth Intervention Program (YIP) has been offering professional counselling to youth and their families for over 32 years. The mandate of the Youth Intervention Program is to assess, counsel and/or refer social services for youth and their families. Regular members may refer youth to the YIP who have been in actual or potential conflict with the law. If referred to YIP, rather than proceeding with formal criminal charges, the at-risk youths are given an opportunity to learn more productive and socially acceptable behaviours and understand the consequences of continued criminal behaviour. Counsellors work closely with parents to uncover the underlying problem of problematic behaviour and formulate solutions for the family. For 2012/13 there were 148 referrals to the Youth Intervention Program.

Restorative Justice Program – The Richmond Restorative Justice Program operates under two models: 1) Community Justice Forum and 2) Community Accountability Panel

The Community Justice Forum (CJF) brings together those affected by an incident where a child or youth has admitted guilt for committing a criminal offence. Trained facilitators assist the participants in building an agreement that addresses the harm, and holds the child or youth accountable for their actions. The CJF include:

- Victims and their Support Person(s)
- Offenders and their Support(s)
- Witnesses
- Referring Police Officer

The Community Accountability Panel (CAP) is a Six Step Conferencing Model and is utilized when victims are agreeable to a restorative justice approach but are unable to directly participate in a meeting with the offender.

For 2012/13, there were 37 files that were referred to restorative justice program, totalling 45 youth offenders. The table below outlines the type of accountability action plan placed on youth offenders for the year.

Letters of Apology	32
Verbal Apology	2
Restitution	\$668
Volunteer Hours	204
Counselling	2
Essays	2

High School Liaison – Youth Section members are assigned different high schools in the community. The regular members take ownership of the schools and conduct regular visits to engage students and deal with any issues/files that arise. Liaison duties also include educating students on various topics either informally or formally through class presentations on social media awareness, policing as a career, drugs, youth gangs, and other topics suggested by the schools.

Adopt-A-School – The Richmond RCMP balances education and enforcement with many proactive programs like the Adopt-a-School program. The Adopt-a-School program fosters opportunities for positive contact with Richmond’s youth and to build rapport with school administrators. Uniformed members from General Duty were designated to conduct school visits and provide educational resources for the elementary schools in the community. Traffic enforcement was frequently conducted as part of the program to ensure the safety of pedestrians and the orderly flow of vehicles during morning and afternoon school traffic. For the 2012/2013 school year, 855 school visits were conducted and 154 traffic enforcement activities were performed.

Youth Academy – During the spring of each year, the Lower Mainland RCMP organizes a Youth Academy for students interested in a career in law enforcement. The Richmond Detachment

receives numerous applications of interest from various high schools in Richmond. As part of the selection process, the student applicants go through a rigorous selection process. Students must be in grade 11 or 12, pass an interview, satisfy a police background check and pass a physical test prior to being accepted. The Youth Academy is an eight day “mini depot” to provide a brief representation of what a police officer’s day entails. In 2013, ten students from the Richmond School District participated in the RCMP Youth Academy.

Summer Youth Camp – The Richmond RCMP partnered with the City of Richmond to provide a summer youth camp for kids. Three camps were held in three community centres and approximately 100 students ranging from grade four to seven participated in the camps. The camps provided students with hands-on instruction in policing, RCMP history, marching and drill, crime scene examination, note taking, report writing and physical training. The curriculum, which included classroom learning as well as practical exercises, was delivered by regular members from the Richmond RCMP Youth Section. The camps received overwhelming interest; therefore, the number of summer youth camps will be increased to six this coming year. They will be held in six different community centre locations.

School Sports Program – This initiative was created in early 2012 to further build trust between youth and local law enforcement. The School Sports Program provides elementary school students a fun environment to interact with members of the Richmond RCMP and to compete in a friendly sports game during lunch hour. Olympic medal winning athletes and other prominent sports personalities were invited to give presentations on their experiences in competitions, as well as the challenges and hard work they faced in achieving their goals. The presentations provide inspiration and positive reinforcement for students to understand the importance of making the “right” decision as they prepare for secondary school. The target is to have one School Sports event per month. Since the program’s inception, there have been 11 elementary schools in Richmond that have participated in the program.

Property Crime

This priority aims to reduce property crime related offences (for example: auto theft, break and enter, theft and fraud). Prevention, education, and the implementation of intelligence-led, proactive policing initiatives are the foundation of this strategy, all supported through the implementation of Crime Reduction Strategies based on data analyses.

Crime Reduction Strategy – The Richmond RCMP continues to utilize Crime Reduction Strategies to address emerging crime trends and prolific offenders through collaboration and sharing of intelligence from all departments. Representatives from general duty, specialized units, criminal intelligence analysts and community policing meet monthly to strategise short and medium term enforcement and operations activities. Pooling of resources and information sharing resulted in comprehensive and effective approaches to drive down the crime rate by targeting causes of crime and increase public confidence in the justice system to keep communities safe.

Since the inception of the Richmond Crime Reduction Strategy, theft from auto (TFA) has been the top priority as it receives the most calls for service in Richmond. Richmond Detachment had success targeting and arresting prolific theft from auto offenders and patrolling hotspots to prevent

crimes. Hotspot maps were provided to all members in every Crime Reduction bulletin, regardless of whether or not activity was above or below average. The hotspot maps also aided Community Policing Volunteers in the deployment of the Lock-Out Auto Crime program.

The Richmond RCMP has engaged in various proactive policing measures in 2012/13, especially in the downtown core (Zone 3), such as increased foot patrols and the targeting and incarceration of chronic offenders. TFAs and robberies have shown a large decrease compared to a year ago. The Richmond RCMP has placed performance targets for TFAs and robberies for a reduction of 7% and 10% respectively. The detachment has exceeded both of these targets. For 2012/13, the total TFAs in Zone 3 dropped 29% compared to a year ago, from 1,050 to 742. However, TFAs for all of Richmond slightly increase by approximately 7% after declining 11% between 2010 and 2011. Robberies, again for 2012/13, dropped 45% in Zone 3 compared to a year ago, from 87 to 48. Robberies for all of Richmond dropped approximately 36%.

The Richmond RCMP initiated a new foot patrol program in late 2012 to primarily provide police presence along the No. 3 Road corridor and Richmond portion of the Canada Line. Richmond members conducted foot patrols with members of the Transit Police. The goal of the program is to provide a higher level of presence as deterrence and to reduce incidents of crime in the downtown core collaboration with businesses and Transit Police. In total, there were approximately 728 foot patrols conducted last year.

A Downtown Richmond Crime Reduction Working Group was established as a joint initiative with the the Richmond Chamber of Commerce to improve communication between stakeholders, encourage business community engagement, identify crime and safety issues impacting businesses along the No 3 Road corridor, promote a collaborative approach to addressing crime and safety issues and develop and implement strategies to address public safety issues. The stakeholders of the Group are: Richmond RCMP, South Coast BC Transit Authority Police (Transit Police), Richmond Chamber of Commerce, Richmond Centre Mall, Lansdowne Mall and River Rock Casino.

Prolific Offenders – Richmond RCMP Quick Response Team (QRT) is responsible for the management of the Prolific Offenders identified within the community. QRT members have adopted a pro-active and targeted approach to managing chronic or high-risk offenders who are on parole or probation. Checks of parolees and offenders are conducted on a regular basis by the QRT to ensure compliance with their conditions of release. Those who fail to comply with their bail/release conditions are brought before the court. The QRT relay this information to partners, such as parole and probation officers. A list of parolees identified for regular check-up is posted to the PRIME FYI⁴ to encourage pro-active checks by general duty police officers.

The Richmond Prolific Offender Team (QRT) is in the process of reviewing all designated prolific and priority offenders. The QRT is currently working with crime analysts in compiling an updated negative contact list for the inclusion of new offenders. The team is currently looking at two repeat offenders to add to the list. The team is also collaborating with crown prosecutors to adopt

⁴ The PRIME FYI is a report in the Police Records Information Management Environment (PRIME) system that provides real-time intelligence to members on the road. The PRIME FYI has evolved to contain information on the following: Stolen Vehicle list, Active Address list, Prolific Offender list, Curfew/Condition Checks list, as well as other postings related to investigations and information pertaining to police/public safety.

protocols when dealing with prolific offenders to ensure they are dealt with effectively within the judicial system.

Property Crime – Break and enters to businesses have shown an increase in 2012/13, while residential break and enters have declined slightly. Property Crime Unit members continue to proactively investigate and monitor all break and enters and had several key successes through the course of 2012, which led to multiple arrests. The Richmond RCMP worked with members from Surrey Detachment to target an organized group committing break and enters throughout the Metro Vancouver area. With continuing intelligence sharing and cross-jurisdiction enforcement, this group was arrested and charged with multiple counts of property-related crimes. The arrests have dampened the number of break and enters in Richmond when compared to the stats prior to the arrests.

Recently, there has been a rash of Chinese herbal store break and enters and thefts. The herbs being targeted are primarily of high value⁵ with no identifiable markings (such as serial numbers). Herbal store thefts may amount to tens of thousands of dollars of goods stolen. The Richmond RCMP met with representatives of the Chinese herbal store community and positive responses were received from the enhanced policing initiatives. For example, foot patrols were conducted at various hours, as well as the priority police response when an alarm is triggered from herbal stores. Regular members were also made aware of the products being stolen and their significance in value.

The table below highlights property crime statistics in the community:

Property Crime – 2012/13	
(Number of occurrences and percentage change from previous year)	
Break and Enter – Residential	663 (-3%)
Break and Enter – Commercial	588 (+77%)
Break and Enter – Other	117 (+3%)
Auto Theft	329 (+33%)

Economic Crime – The Richmond Economic Crime Unit continue to target credit card skimming and fraud related activities. Within the last year, this unit has investigated two large internal theft and fraud files where employees were alleged to have misappropriated funds from their employers. The unit also investigated several identity theft investigations where the suspects were successfully convicted and a jail sentence was imposed. Overall, the City has seen a decrease in all fraud-related files in 2012. There were 536 files in 2011, which decreased to 492 in 2012 – a decrease of approximately 8%. In total, 42 fraud files had charges forwarded to crown counsel for approval in 2012.

Richmond City Centre Community Police Station

The City Centre Community Police Station, located at 5671 No 3 Road, officially opened on September 20, 2012 with the objective of enhancing the level of community policing services

⁵ A Chinese herb called “Cordyceps” is valued at \$16,000 to \$30,000 per pound.

available in the downtown core. The new station equates to an approximately 33% increase in the Community Policing Programs delivered across the City.

The City Centre Community Police Station provides an additional secure location for regular members to further investigate ongoing files and to complete police reports. The proximity to the Richmond Provincial Courthouse would also allow access to federal computers, secure fax lines and preparation of court testimony. Management of community programs is the responsibility of the full-time Community Police Station Coordinator (municipal employee). This role is to recruit, train, motivate and organize a large number of volunteers who assist in the administration, and operation of the various programs as well as to provide assistance in programs administration support. Currently there are approximately 62 active volunteers at City Centre Community Police Station.

The City Centre Community Police Station received a warm welcome from local businesses along No 3 and Lansdowne Roads. The Business Watch program initiative began on July 12th, 2012. Staff and volunteers provided local businesses with newsletters, height strips for their front doors and business watch packages. Businesses also have the option to provide their email addresses so they will receive crime alerts if there are break and enters nearby the area.

The City Centre Community Police Station provides the citizens of Richmond with a higher level of service delivery of public safety programs and reduction of fear of crime in the community. Regular members, municipal staff and community volunteers located in the CPS are able to support and sustain the crime prevention programs offered at City Centre.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact.

Conclusion

This Richmond RCMP Strategic Plan serves as a road map to assist Richmond RCMP members in focusing their efforts toward priorities identified through a collaborative process. Crime Reduction strategies currently employed at the Richmond Detachment will complement the strategic priorities with a positive outcome of Safe Homes, Safe Communities.



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