



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** March 17, 2025

From: Dave Chauhan **File:** 09-5350-01/2025-Vol
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge 01

Re: RCMP Monthly Activity Report – February 2025

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – February 2025”, dated March 17, 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. Community Police Station Programs
6. Crime Prevention Unit
7. Communications 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

Distraction Theft

On February 6, 2025, Richmond RCMP officers responded to the 8300 block of Lansdowne Road for a reported theft in progress. Two Good Samaritans held the suspect until police arrived on the scene. Investigators believe that additional individuals may have been involved in the offence, which appears to have been a distraction theft.

Unlicensed Ride-Hailing

On February 8, 2025, the Richmond RCMP, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement (CVSE) branch collaborated on an illegal ride-hailing enforcement initiative. During this operation, police and CVSE officers charged six illegal ride-hailing operators and issued over \$13,000 in fines.

Fraud Warning

On February 10, 2025, the Richmond RCMP issued a fraud warning to the Chinese-speaking community in Richmond following multiple reports of a scam involving fraudsters posing as

employees from an Asian-based telecommunications service. To date, five incidents have been reported since December 2024, resulting in losses of over \$400,000.

Car Seat Safety Clinic

On February 15, 2025, Richmond RCMP officers, in collaboration with Richmond-Fire-Rescue, hosted a car seat safety clinic at Brighthouse Fire Hall 1. 24 car seats were checked, and families were provided with instructions and guidance on best practices for the selection and installation of car seats.



Figure 1: Car Seat Safety Clinic

Analysis of Police Statistics¹

Arson

There were two reported arsons in February 2025, which is down one incident from the previous month. Year to date, arsons are down 62 per cent compared to the same period in 2024.²

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 17 serious assaults in February 2025, representing a 21 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, the number of serious assaults remains unchanged from the same period in 2024. The number of serious assaults this month is within the average range.

The majority of incidents reported in February 2025 involved physical force. Forty-seven per cent of serious assaults were domestic incidents.

Auto Theft

There were 16 auto thefts in February 2025, representing no change from the previous month. Year to date, auto thefts are down 20 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 255 mental health-related incidents in February 2025, representing less than a one per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, mental health-related incidents are up 14 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of mental health-related incidents 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 (UCR) survey 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.

There were 52 police apprehensions in February 2025, and the average hospital wait time was 110 minutes. These statistics are below average. Twenty-eight individuals were responsible for two or more calls in February, with one caller generating 36 incidents.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 18 break and enters to residences in February 2025, representing an 18 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, residential break and enters are down 29 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 February 2025, there were 20 break and enters to businesses, which is a nine per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, commercial break and enters are up 75 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of commercial break and enters this month is within the average range.

Robbery

No robberies were reported in February 2025, a decrease of five incidents from the previous month. Year to date, robberies are down 50 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of robberies this month is below the average range.

Sexual Offences

In February 2025, there were 14 sexual offence files, representing a 39 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, sexual offences are down 21 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of sexual offences this month is within the average range.

Half of the offences reported in February 2025 were sexual assaults.

Shoplifting

There were 103 reported shoplifting thefts in February 2025, which is a three per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, shoplifting thefts are down 21 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is within the average range.

Theft from Automobile

There were 45 thefts from automobiles in February 2025, which is a 37 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, thefts from automobiles are down 18 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of thefts from automobiles is below the average range.

Drugs

In February 2025, there were 27 drug offences, which is an eight per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, drug offences are up 58 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of drug incidents this month is within 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 connected to a public complaint of (suspected) drug use.

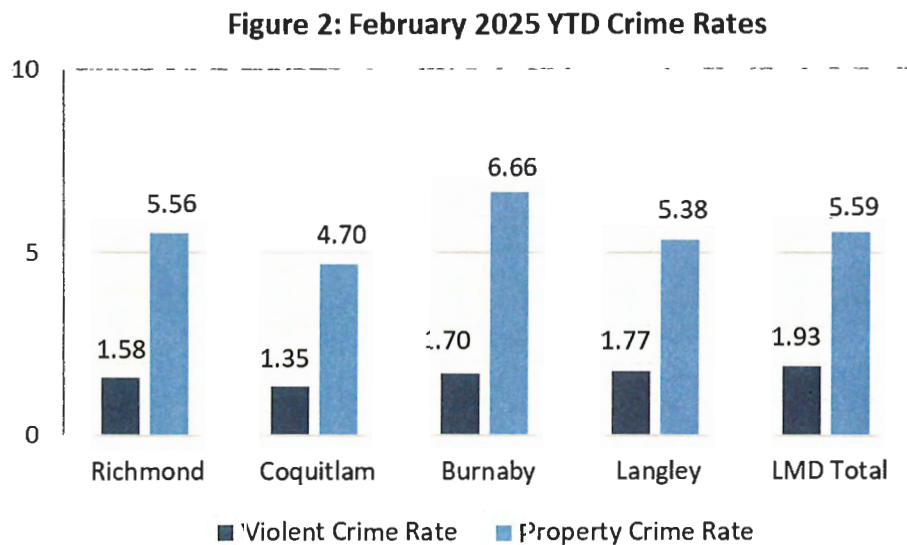
Table 1: Drug-related Calls for Service

Month	Total Number of Drug-related Calls	Suspected	Confirmed
January	71	42	29
February	38	23	15

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

Crime Trends across Jurisdictions

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



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

Block Watch

At the end of February 2025, the Block Watch program had 299 groups, totalling 6,693 participants. Currently, the program includes 421 captains and co-captains.

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 February, volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of one van patrol, totalling six hours.
- 11 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 469 information letters issued.
- There were 44 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, resulting in 816 information letters issued.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 1,389 vehicles, resulting in 40 information letters issued.
- February 1 – Volunteers and RCMP officers hosted a crime prevention table at the Lunar New Year event at Lansdowne Mall, attended by over 1,300 people. Police and volunteers engaged with attendees and distributed crime prevention resources.
- February 5 – Volunteers and RCMP officers attended an Auxiliary Program recruiting session at City Hall.
- February 6 – Volunteers and RCMP officers participated in a School Sports event at Blundell Elementary School.
- February 13 – Volunteers and RCMP officers participated in a School Sports event at Cornerstone Christian Academy.
- February 15 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a car seat safety clinic held at Brighthouse Fire Hall 1.
- February 20 – Twelve volunteers attended a Crime Watch information session at the City Centre Community Police Office. Crime Watch is being re-launched, and the training session provided an overview of the program's duties, responsibilities and commitments.
- February 21 – Volunteers conducted three Lock Out Auto Crime Deployments in central Richmond and issued 56 information letters.



Figure 3: Car Seat Safety

Communications Unit

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

- 13 media releases were issued, including three related to fraud/theft trends.
- 48 social media posts were made on X, including road safety messaging pertaining to traffic enforcement, distracted driving, and snow education.



Figure 4: Road Safety Social Media

Crime Prevention Unit

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

- 158 Place of Worship patrols were conducted.
- On February 5, 2025, RCMP officers hosted a Road Safety Workshop at McMath Secondary in collaboration with ICBC.
- On February 26, 2025, RCMP officers hosted a Senior Fraud Awareness presentation at the Richmond Pentecostal Church.



Figure 5: Road Safety Presentation

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. Six hundred eighty-eight violation tickets were issued in February 2025. Figure 6 provides statistics for the top five infractions for which violation tickets were issued in February:

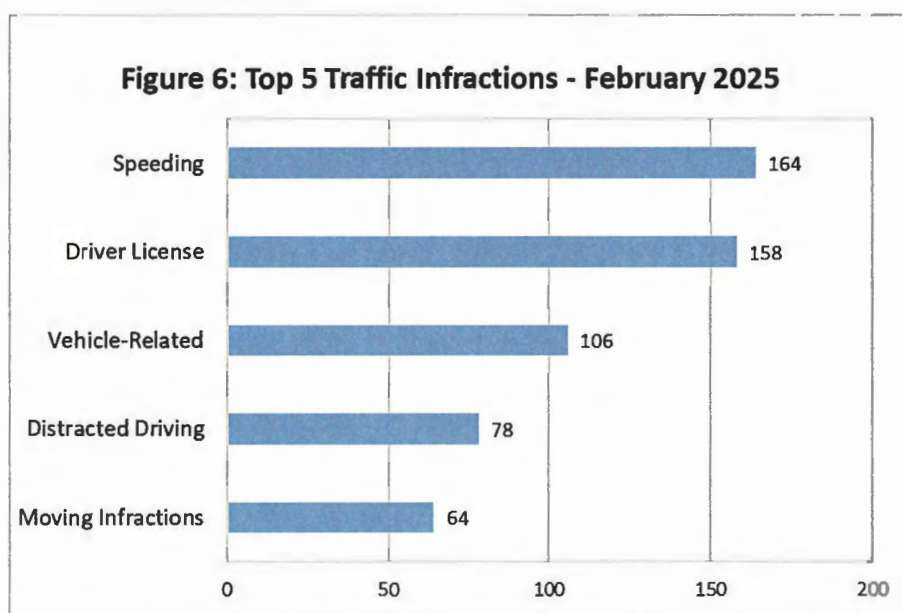


Table 2 presents the number of motor vehicle collisions involving injuries and fatalities reported between January 1, 2021 and February 28, 2025.

Table 2 – Motor Vehicle Collisions		
Year	Collisions with Non-Fatal Injuries	Fatalities
2021 ⁴	355	4
2022	406	1
2023	436	3
2024 ⁵	455	2
2025 (YTD)	69	0

Victim Services

In February 2025, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 50 new clients and attended five crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 76 files. In February, Victim Services responded to several cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, family conflicts and mental health-related issues.

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 February, Youth Section highlights included:

⁴ Motor Vehicle collisions decreased during the pandemic due to changes in behaviour patterns and fewer vehicles on the roads.

⁵ The last fatal collision occurred on October 12, 2024.

- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 81 proactive school visits at secondary schools and 110 visits at elementary schools. Police officers engaged with students during recess, lunch, morning, and afternoon supervision.
- DARE classes continued for the second 2024-2025 school year term. There were 409 students in 15 classes who participated in the program.
- The Youth Section finalized the student applications for the 2025 Youth Academy. A media release was issued on February 27, 2025, and forms were distributed to all secondary schools.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

In February 2025, the Richmond RCMP conducted several notable investigations, including a distraction theft and an illegal ride-hailing enforcement project. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the average ranges, except for auto thefts and thefts from vehicles, which were below average.

In February, the Richmond RCMP and volunteers continued to promote crime prevention and road safety initiatives, including a car seat safety clinic. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment will continue to ensure that Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.



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.

February 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			
	Feb - 25	February		2024	2025	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	164	138.8	122-155	306	340	11%	34
Robbery	0	5.8	4-8	10	5	-50%	-5
Assault Common	64	46.8	43-51	101	123	22%	22
Assault Serious	17	13.6	8-19	31	31	0%	0
Sexual Offences	14	17.4	12-22	47	37	-21%	-10
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	529	559.8	504-615	1161	1187	2%	26
Business B&E	20	26.6	20-33	24	42	75%	18
Residential B&E	18	31.6	17-46	56	40	-29%	-16
Auto Theft	16	20.2	17-23	40	32	-20%	-8
Theft from Auto	45	114.4	85-143	142	116	-18%	-26
Theft	106	78.0	65-91	203	261	29%	58
Shoplifting	103	89.6	56-123	265	209	-21%	-56
Fraud	108	78.2	69-88	185	226	22%	41
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	224	223.4	187-260	575	540	-6%	-35
Arson	2	n/c	n/c	13	5	-62%	-8
Cause Disturbance	160	160.0	123-197	446	398	-11%	-48
Collisions - all	164	127.6	109-146	348	338	-3%	-10
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	917	924.0	832-1016	2052	2067	1%	15
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	27	36.4	20-53	33	52	58%	19
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	255	237.4	210-265	450	512	14%	62

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Commercial Break & Enter February 2025



Commercial B&E
N=20

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2025-03-03

Residential Break & Enter February 2025



Auto Theft
February 2025

Attachment 3



Theft From Auto February 2025

