



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** Community Safety Committee **Date:** February 13, 2024

**From:** Dave Chauhan **File:** 09-5000-01/2024-Vol  
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge 01

**Re:** RCMP Monthly Activity Report – January 2024

### Recommendation from the OIC

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – January 2024”, dated February 13, 2024, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

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

Att. 4

<b>REPORT CONCURRENCE</b>	
<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b>	
<b>SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW</b>	<b>INITIALS:</b> 
<b>APPROVED BY CAO</b>	

## 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. Road Safety Unit
8. Victim Services
9. Youth Section

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #1 Proactive in Stakeholder and Civic Engagement:

*Proactive stakeholder and civic engagement to foster understanding and involvement and advance Richmond's interests.*

### Analysis

#### Activities and Noteworthy Files

##### *Collison*

On January 10, 2024, the Richmond RCMP received dashcam footage of a truck striking the roof of the Massey Tunnel. The Richmond RCMP Road Safety Unit partnered with Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement (CVSE) officers to identify the carrier and driver of the commercial vehicle.<sup>1</sup> The carrier was served an immediate suspension pending an investigation by CSVE, resulting in the grounding of all 20 vehicles in their fleet. The driver was identified, and police issued a violation ticket for failing to remain at the scene of a collision under Sec. 68(1) of the *Motor Vehicle Act*.

##### *Assault aboard Flight*

On January 13, 2024, the Richmond RCMP responded to a complaint of an aggressive passenger on a flight inbound to the Vancouver International Airport. Airline staff restrained the individual after conducting a risk assessment. Upon landing, police officers boarded the flight and apprehended the passenger under Section 28 of the *Mental Health Act*.

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<sup>1</sup> Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement officers are part of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

### *Online Marketplace Thefts*

On January 29, 2024, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release advising of recent thefts involving online marketplace sales. In January, Richmond RCMP investigated two incidents of high-dollar items being stolen from a seller after a buyer switched an envelope containing cash with one containing paper. The thefts are under investigation.

### Analysis of Police Statistics

#### *Arson*

In January 2024, there were two reported arsons. No patterns or trends have been identified. In January 2024, a new Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) code was introduced related to intentionally set fires that do not meet the *Criminal Code* definition of Arson.<sup>2</sup> The introduction of this new UCR code currently prevents comparison to prior year arson counts. Staff will resume reporting trend comparison once sufficient statistically significant data under the new UCR system has been collected.

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

There were 13 serious assault events in January 2024, which represents a 13 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 24 per cent decrease from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is within the average range.

Approximately 31 per cent of the incidents reported in January 2024 were domestic assaults.

#### *Auto Theft*

In January 2024, there were 23 auto thefts, which represents a 10 per cent increase from the previous month and a 10 per cent increase from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is within the average range.

#### *Drugs*

In January 2024, there were 17 drug offences, which is a 29 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 35 per cent decrease from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is within the average range.

#### *Mental Health*

There were 235 mental health-related incidents in January 2024, representing a five per cent decrease from the previous month and an 11 per cent decrease from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is within the average range.

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<sup>2</sup> The new UCR code, 8900-25 Fire – Not Arson, will allow for the more accurate capturing of arson incidents.

There were 88 police apprehensions this month, representing a five per cent decrease from the previous month, while the average hospital wait time increased by five per cent to 131 minutes. The extended wait time has been attributed to five files with exceptionally long wait times.

#### *Residential Break and Enter*

There were 33 break and enters to residences in January 2024, which represents no change from the previous month and a 32 per cent increase from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of residential break and enters this month is within the average range.

#### *Commercial Break and Enter*

In January 2024, there were five break and enters to businesses, which represents a 69 per cent decrease from the previous month and an 87 per cent decrease from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters this month is the lowest number recorded in over ten years and is below the average range.

#### *Robbery*

There were two robberies in January 2024, representing a decrease of four incidents from the previous month and an increase of one incident from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is within the average range.

One incident this month involved the use of bear spray, while the other involved physical force.

#### *Sexual Offences*

In January 2024, there were 24 sexual offence files, representing no change from the previous month and a 14 per cent increase from January 2023.<sup>3</sup> No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sexual offences this month is above the average range.

To date, 13 suspects have been identified. One-third of the offences reported in January 2024 were incidents of indecent acts/exposing.

#### *Shoplifting*

There were 116 reported shoplifting thefts in January 2024, which is a 13 per cent increase from the previous month and a 51 per cent increase from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is above the average range.

The top targeted location remained consistent with previous months, and the most frequently stolen items were clothing and accessories. Suspects have been identified in 29 per cent of incidents reported this month.

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<sup>3</sup> The Sexual Offences category comprises a range of offences including: sexual assault, sexual interference, making and distributing child pornography, possessing and accessing child pornography and indecent acts/exposing.

*Theft from Automobile*

There were 72 thefts from automobile incidents in January 2024, which is a 22 per cent increase from the previous month and a 60 per cent decrease from January 2023. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is within the average range.

*Hate Crimes and Incidents*

Table 1 presents the number of hate crimes and hate incidents reported between January 1, 2020 and January 31, 2024.<sup>4</sup> 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. No hate crimes or incidents were reported in January 2024.

Table 1 – Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents			
Year	Hate Crime Files	Hate Incident Files	Total
2020	21	13	34
2021	21	24	45
2022	8	26	34
2023	6	19	25
2024	0	0	0

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Data on crime rates is presented in Figure 1.<sup>5</sup> In January 2024, out of the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), Richmond had the lowest violent crime rate. The property crime rate for Richmond was below the LMD average.



<sup>4</sup> The BC Hate Crimes Unit uses the terms hate-motivated crime and hate-motivated incident.

<sup>5</sup> Crime rate is year to date (YTD) and calculated per 1,000 people.

### Block Watch

At the end of January 2024, the Block Watch program had 306 groups, totalling 7,077 participants. Currently, the program includes 439 captains and co-captains. This month, the First Quarter Crime Prevention Newsletter was issued and featured catalytic converter theft prevention and fraud awareness.

### Community Police Station Programs

Community police stations 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 to 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.

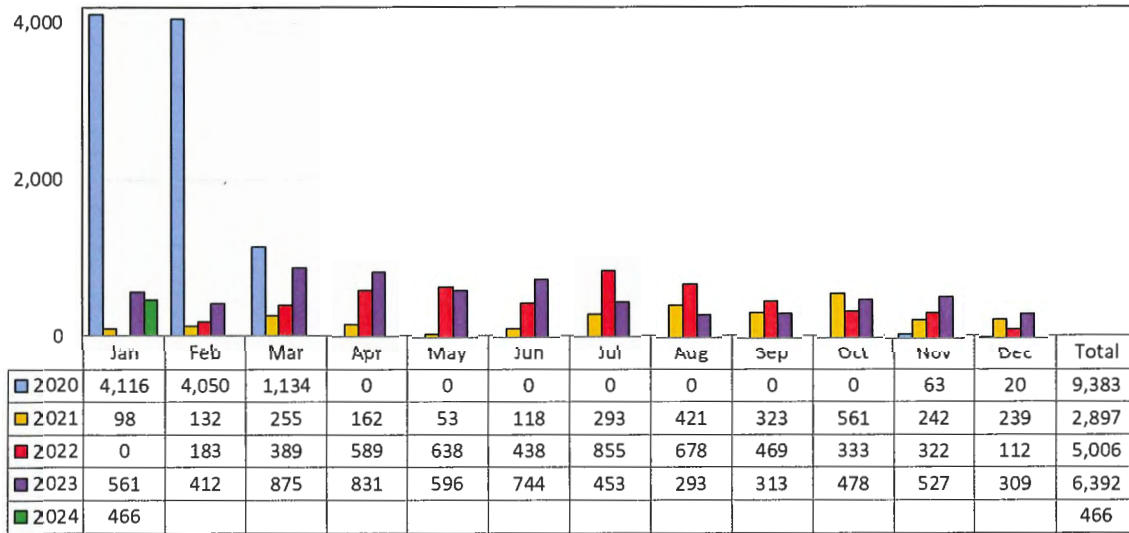
During January, volunteer highlights included:

- A total of 24 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 677 information letters issued.
- There were 48 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, resulting in 466 information letters issued.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 1,587 vehicles, resulting in 118 information letters issued.
- January 11 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers in the Road Safety and Youth sections with a Speed Watch deployment at Jesse Wowk Elementary School. Safety reflectors were also distributed to students.
- January 26 – Volunteers conducted a Speed Watch deployment at Cook Elementary School and issued 45 information letters.
- January 30 – Volunteers conducted a Lock Out Auto Crime deployment at Richmond Centre and issued 26 information letters.
- January 31 – The Richmond RCMP recognized its volunteers at the Annual Volunteer Awards and Dinner Night, which had been postponed from November 2023.

*Lock Out Auto Crime*

Figure 2 provides a yearly comparison of the number of vehicle notices issued.<sup>6</sup>

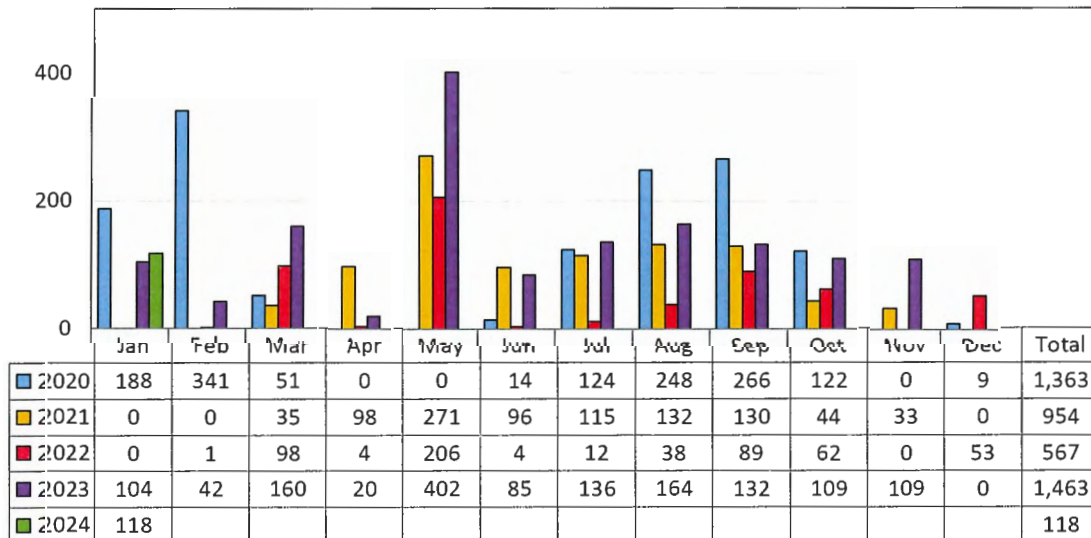
**Figure 2: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice**



*Speed Watch*

Figure 3 compares the number of letters sent to registered vehicle owners yearly.

**Figure 3: Speed Watch Letters Sent**



<sup>6</sup> Beginning in November 2020, Lock Out Auto Crime letters were issued in place of notices. Letters are only issued to vehicles displaying security vulnerabilities; whereas previously, notices were issued to all vehicles. This has resulted in a significant reduction in the number of letters issued.

### Crime Prevention Unit

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

- Business Outreach
- Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University Recruitment Fair
- Place of Worship Patrols
- Scouts Tour
- Volunteer Appreciation

### 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 2 compares statistics for January 2024 to both December 2023 and November 2023. Violation tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Table 2: Violation Tickets Issued

<b>Infraction</b>	<b>November 2023</b>	<b>December 2023</b>	<b>January 2024</b>
Distracted Driving	72	84	86
Driver License	146	126	168
Impaired	34	19	15
Intersection Offences	41	22	39
Moving Infractions <sup>7</sup>	85	71	89
Speeding	160	117	135
Seatbelts	7	5	12
Vehicle-Related <sup>8</sup>	108	101	119
Other <sup>9</sup>	15	8	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>675</b>

### Victim Services

In January 2024, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 71 new clients and attended eight crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 96 files. In January, Victim Services responded to several cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, motor vehicle accidents and frauds.

<sup>7</sup> Moving infractions refers to unsafe lane change and unsafe passing.

<sup>8</sup> Vehicle related refers to vehicle defects, for example no lights and no insurance.

<sup>9</sup> Other refers to miscellaneous charges including failing to remain at the scene of an accident and failing to stop for police.



### 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 January, Youth Section highlights included:

- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 25 proactive school visits at secondary schools and 47 visits at elementary schools. Police officers engaged with students during recess, lunch and morning and afternoon supervision.
- DARE classes were delivered to 326 elementary school students in 11 classes.

### **Financial Impact**

None.

### **Conclusion**

In January 2024, the Richmond RCMP conducted several noteworthy investigations, including an assault on a plane and a series of thefts related to online sales. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the average ranges, except for sexual offences and shoplifting thefts, which were elevated and commercial break and enters, which were below average.

In January, the Community Engagement Team and volunteers continued to promote crime prevention and road safety initiatives. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment will continue to ensure that Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.



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

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

### 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](mailto:blockwatch@richmond.ca)
- For more information, visit [www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/blockwatch.htm](http://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](http://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](http://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.

## JANUARY 2024 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

	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	Jan - 24	January		2023	2024	% Change	# Change
<b>VIOLENT CRIME</b> (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	137	146.4	137-156	153	137	-10%	-16
Robbery	2	5.8	2-9	1	2	100%	1
Assault Common	49	48.6	44-53	48	49	2%	1
Assault Serious	13	15.2	13-18	17	13	-24%	-4
Sexual Offences	24	18.4	14-23	21	24	14%	3
<b>PROPERTY CRIME</b> (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	573	607.4	507-708	667	573	-14%	-94
Business B&E	5	33.4	26-41	39	5	-87%	-34
Residential B&E	33	49.2	21-78	25	33	32%	8
Auto Theft	23	25.4	18-33	21	23	10%	2
Theft from Auto	72	163.8	139-188	178	72	-60%	-106
Theft	114	83.4	61-106	105	114	9%	9
Shoplifting	116	66.4	54-79	77	116	51%	39
Fraud	92	72.8	61-84	88	92	5%	4
<b>OTHER CRIMINAL CODE</b> (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	279	204.0	150-258	305	279	-9%	-26
Arson	2	n/c	n/c	n/c	2	n/c	n/c
<b>SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES</b> (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	990	958.4	834-1083	1125	990	-12%	-135
<b>DRUGS</b> (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	17	44.2	7-82	26	17	-35%	-9
<b>MHA RELATED CALLS</b> (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	235	248.8	232-266	263	235	-11%	-28

Prepared by Richmond RCMP CAU. Data collected from PRIME on 2024-02-02. Published 2024-02-02. Data subject to change. This document is not to be copied, reproduced, used in whole or part or disseminated to any other person or agency without the consent of the originator(s).

# Commercial Break & Enter January 2024

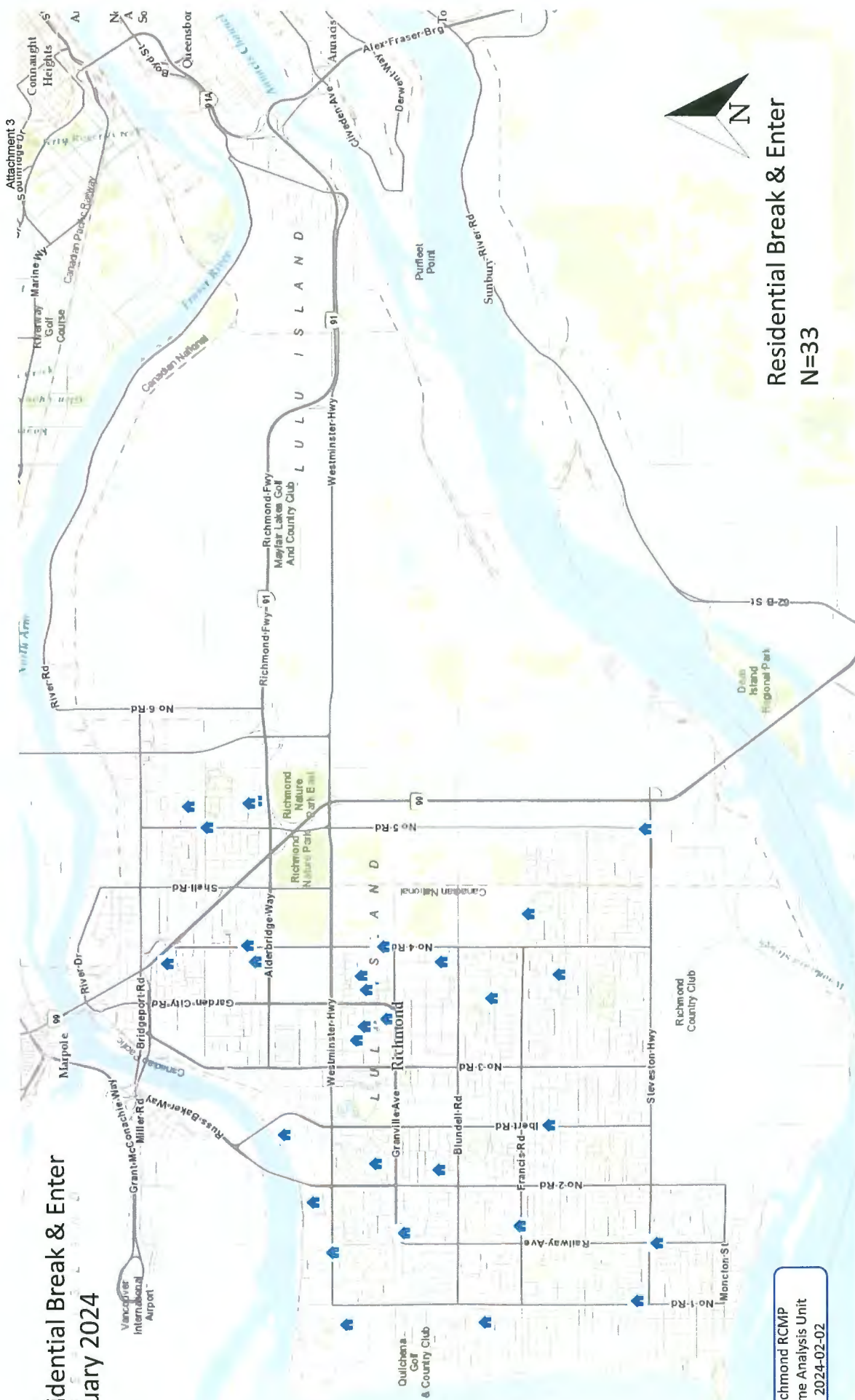


Commercial B&E  
N=5

CS - 50

Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2024-02-02

# Residential Break & Enter January 2024



CS - 51



Residential Break & Enter  
N=33

Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2024-02-02







# CRIME PREVENTION

## WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME

## NEWSLETTER

### How to Prevent Theft of Catalytic Converters

The lower mainland is currently experiencing a surge in incidents involving the theft of catalytic converters. A catalytic converter plays a crucial role in your vehicle by effectively controlling and reducing harmful emissions from the engine before they are released through the exhaust pipe. Although it may not be immediately evident upon inspecting your car, you will certainly become aware of the theft as soon as you start the engine. In the absence of a catalytic converter, your vehicle will produce a noticeably loud and intense roaring sound that will only grow louder as you accelerate, potentially accompanied by the release of fumes into the cabin. These thieves are specifically targeting locations such as shopping malls, driveways, school parking lots, and busy business districts, and they are carrying out their criminal activities during daylight hours using conventional metal cutting tools.



- Secure your car's catalytic converter by welding it to the frame. This will not only make it more challenging for thieves to steal it but also increases the time required for the theft.
- Consult with an automotive expert regarding the installation of a catalytic converter lock or alarm for your vehicle. Additionally, consider employing protective coverings, such as the "Catclamp" device, to discourage potential thieves. The Catclamp effectively increases the level of difficulty for thieves equipped with reciprocating saws, making it significantly harder for them to steal your catalytic converter.
- Park your vehicle in a well-illuminated and bustling location, preferably near building entrances. Additionally, consider installing surveillance cameras to keep a watchful eye on your vehicle and deter any potential theft, particularly ones targeting your catalytic converter.
- Adjust the settings of your vehicle's alarm system to activate when it senses any form of vibration. Criminals who target catalytic converters are attracted to vehicles that remain stationary for prolonged periods.
- If you come across individuals behaving suspiciously in parking lots or in close proximity to vehicles, whether it be at your residence, workplace, or any other location, it is important to promptly report such incidents. Once you have informed the police, it is advisable to keep your community updated and vigilant by engaging in conversations with your neighbours. By doing so, you can contribute to enhancing the overall awareness within your community and promoting a safer environment for everyone.

# CITY OF RICHMOND CRIME PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

## Fraud Prevention

Fraudulent messages pop up everyday in all areas of contact. It is beneficial to learn how to spot clues for fraudulent communication. Be careful with whom you are communicating and how information is delivered. Fraudsters take advantage of our busy life and use many creative ways to steal your personal or financial information. The different ways include scam calls, phishing emails, and fraudulent text messages. Therefore, it is important for you to know how to identify clues to spot these scams.

### Clue 1: Phrases that make you feel threatened or surprised

Fraudsters use emotionally charged phrases to target your senses. They may bombard you with statements that make you feel fearful or surprised. If they can derail you from thinking clearly, it gives them a chance to phish sensitive information. In addition, in your confusion they give you instructions and lead you deeper into the scam. Some examples of phrases include threatening arrest, revealing intimate videos, or claiming you won a big prize. Legitimate companies and institutions will not threaten you for information.

### Clue 2: Asking for unconventional payments

Fraudsters use payment options such as gift cards, cryptocurrency and e-transfers because they are difficult to track and recover. They will ask you to secretly purchase or transfer money. Legitimate businesses and institutions will not use these types of payment options for deposits or returns. Additionally, legitimate businesses will not ask you to complete tasks in secret. A key giveaway is the secrecy involved in the scam. Fraudsters do not want you to share their actions to others because another person could spot their scam.

### Clue 3: Sending phishing lures

Common phishing tactics include sending suspicious links through text messages or emails. Phishing links can fit to current events. For example, during tax season fraudsters spoofing as the Canadian Revenue Agency will send you links asking you to click for returns. The clues that tell you it is fraudulent often come from the text. The font may be different from a traditional message and there may be typos. Moreover, the link provided is a giveaway that it is a scam. The links are designed to look similar to a familiar company or institution but never the same. Do your own research into the company or institution and log in to the official site.

You may already know some tips to spotting scams and with these additional clues you should be able to spot fraudulent indicators. Put your knowledge to the test. What are some clues that tell you these pictures are fraudulent?



Dear Tax Payer,

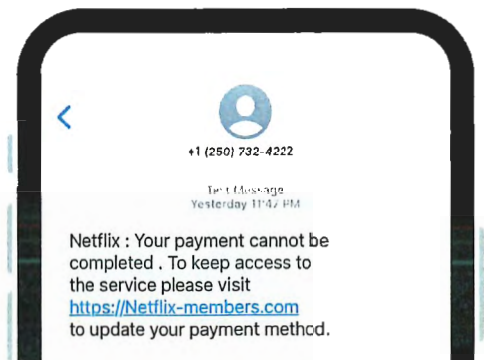
Part of your Canadian tax expenses for the year 2024 as been processed and completed and you are entitled to a refund of \$990.50 CAD. you are required to follow the secured link below to login with your social insurance number.

to access the secure form for your Tax refund, please click the secured link >>>

<https://fakeCRAscamlink.ca/refund>

Sincerely,

Canada Revenue Agency



## New Year Goals

We want to encourage you to build new habits and continue to strengthen your crime prevention knowledge. Strengthening your existing habits not only make your community safer but also increases your situational awareness for your neighbourhood. Step into the new year by taking a proactive approach to your crime prevention habits.



An effective habit to have is to build your neighbourhood baseline. Your baseline is a point of reference you can use to compare what you see, to what you know. It is the little details in your neighbourhood that help you build your baseline. Details such as who lives next to you, how many people are in their household, and what kind of car they drive can help you build your baseline. If someone suspicious appears in your neighbourhood, these little details can help you determine that something suspicious or criminal is about to happen. As a result, building your baseline helps you with crime prevention in your community. Moreover, don't be afraid to say hi to your neighbours because getting to know them will significantly increase your knowledge of your neighbourhood. Your neighbourhood baseline can evolve every year with new neighbours moving in and changes in life so it is important to keep yourself informed through observations and connections. Start building your baseline today, what do you notice about your neighbourhood?

## To start a Block Watch Group

Interested in starting a Block Watch group? Let us tell you a little about Block Watch! Block Watch is a program that brings the police and the communities together. This program helps you build connections and relationships with people in your neighbourhood and the police while striving for the common goal of crime prevention.

### Select a Captain/Co-Captain

- ◇ Each Captain/Co-Captain to submit an application and will be contacted for a suitability interview. Candidates will then need to complete a free Police Information Check.

### Recruit and build your group

- ◇ Upon confirmation from the Block Watch office on completing and passing all required steps in becoming a Captain/Co-Captain, you may begin to recruit homes that are near to you with the provided recruiting materials from the Block Watch office. To build an effective Block Watch, try to involve 50-75% of households in your area.

### Complete activation of your team

1. **Complete** Block Watch Captain/Participant training – invite everyone in your group to participate in a virtual/in-person training session.
2. **Submit** your participating household list.
3. **Qualify** for Block Watch street signs once above steps are completed.

If you are interested in creating a Block Watch group in your area, email us your name and address at [blockwatch@richmond.ca](mailto:blockwatch@richmond.ca) or call 604-207-4829.

# BUSINESS LINK

## WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME

## NEWSLETTER

### Enhancing Security Measures for Commercial Buildings

Ensuring the safety and security of a business is crucial for its prosperity. Crime prevention plays a vital role in minimizing losses. Therefore, it is imperative to dedicate time to evaluate the susceptibility of your business to various forms of criminal activities. This assessment should encompass analyzing the physical layout of your premises and implementing comprehensive security measures. It is crucial to take certain precautionary steps to mitigate potential risks and threats.



#### Here are some recommended measures:

1. **Maintain Unobstructed Visibility**—Ensure that plants, trees, or shrubs surrounding doors or windows do not obstruct the lighting and are trimmed to a height of less than three feet.
2. **Strengthen Door Security**—Opt for high-quality doors and equip them with high-security deadbolt locks. Supplement these with latch guards and security hinges to further fortify entry points.
3. **Install Perimeter Fencing**—If feasible, consider installing perimeter fencing around your property, along with a secure gate. This acts as an additional barrier, deterring unauthorized access.
4. **Display Security Signs**—Mount signs indicating the presence of 24-hour security and alarm systems, acting as a visual deterrent to potential criminals.
5. **Report Suspicious Activity**—Encourage employees and staff members to promptly report any suspicious individuals or vehicles in the vicinity. This aids in maintaining a proactive security environment.
6. **Illuminate the Building**—Ensure that your building is well-lit, both internally and externally. Sufficient lighting contributes to increased visibility and discourages criminal activities.

**Please report all suspicious or criminal activity to the police.**

Richmond RCMP Non-Emergency line **604-278-1212**.

If you witness a crime in progress, dial **9-1-1**.

Online reporting available at [bc.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/richmond/report](https://bc.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/richmond/report) for the following:

- Damage/mischief to property under \$5,000
- Damage/mischief to a vehicle under \$5,000
- Hit and run to an unoccupied vehicle or property
- Theft of bicycle under \$5,000
- Theft under \$5,000
- Theft from vehicle under \$5,000
- Lost property

