



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** Community Safety Committee

**From:** Dave Chauhan  
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge

**Re:** RCMP Monthly Activity Report – May 2025

**Date:** June 18, 2025

**File:** 09-5350-01/2025-Vol  
01

### Staff Recommendation

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – May 2025”, dated June 18, 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. Communications Unit
6. Community Police Station Programs
7. Crime Prevention Unit
8. Road Safety Unit
9. Victim Services
10. Youth Section

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 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

##### *High Risk Driving Month*

As part of a province-wide campaign to reduce dangerous driving, the Richmond RCMP conducted enhanced enforcement targeting speeding and high-risk driving. On May 6, 2025, police conducted a full-day education and enforcement operation, resulting in 181 charges and the impounding of seven vehicles.

##### *Police Dog Injured*

On May 7, 2025, the Richmond RCMP responded to a distress call in a rural area near No. 4 Rd and Westminster Highway. With the assistance of the Lower Mainland Integrated Police Dog Service (IPDS), police located the male caller. During the encounter, the man discharged an air gun and stabbed a Police Service Dog (PSD). The PSD sustained injuries and was transported for emergency veterinary care. The suspect has been charged with seven offences.



Figure 1: High-Risk Driving Enforcement

*Stranger Sexual Assault*

On May 12, 2025, Richmond RCMP received a report of a stranger sexual assault which had occurred on May 9, 2025, in the 10,000 block of 4th Avenue. The victim reported that a stranger had approached her and that she had been sexually assaulted during their interaction. Police issued a media release, including a suspect and vehicle description. The incident is under investigation.

*Phone Spoofing Scam*

On May 14, 2025, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release warning the public that scammers had spoofed its non-emergency phone number, attempting to defraud. Spoofing makes it appear that a call is coming from a legitimate source, such as a company or government agency. In this incident, the victim was told they were being investigated and needed to deposit \$4,000 in Bitcoin to the fraudsters.

*Theft Arrests*

On May 27, 2025, Richmond RCMP officers responded to a report of multiple suspects involved in a theft at a toy store in the 6500 block of Minoru Boulevard. Police quickly located and arrested five of the suspects, four of whom were youths, in a nearby parkade. Police also recovered several pieces of stolen merchandise.

Analysis of Police Statistics<sup>1</sup>*Arson*

There were five reported arsons in May 2025, which is down two incidents from the previous month. Year to date, arsons are down 31 per cent compared to the same period in 2024.<sup>2</sup>

*Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)*

There were 25 serious assaults in May 2025, representing a 32 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, the number of serious assaults is down one per cent from the same period in 2024. The number of serious assaults this month is above the average range.

Thirty-eight per cent of serious assaults reported in May 2025 were domestic incidents. There were no unprovoked stranger assaults reported this month.

*Auto Theft*

There were 26 auto thefts in May 2025, a 30 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, auto thefts are down 26 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of auto thefts this month is within the average range.

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise noted, no patterns or trends have been identified in this month's statistics.

<sup>2</sup> In January 2024, a new Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) 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.

*Mental Health*

There were 229 mental health-related incidents in May 2025, a 16 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, mental health-related incidents are up eight per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is within the average range.

The number of police apprehensions in May 2025 was below average at 38. The average hospital wait time was 102 minutes, which falls within the average range; however, three incidents had exceptionally long wait times, exceeding 200 minutes. Twenty-four individuals were responsible for two or more calls in May, with one caller generating eight incidents.

*Residential Break and Enter*

There were 20 break and enters to residences in May 2025, double the number reported 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 May 2025, there were 37 break and enters to businesses, which is an 85 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, commercial break and enters are up 19 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of commercial break and enters this month is above the average range.

Construction sites and apartment storage lockers were the most common locations targeted, and break and enters were most common on weekdays during overnight hours. Police investigations are ongoing.

*Robbery*

Two robberies were reported in May 2025, a decrease of eight incidents from the previous month. Year to date, robberies are down 20 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of robberies this month is within the average range.

Both incidents reported this month involved the use of a weapon. One robbery occurred at a private residence, and the other was at a commercial location.

*Sexual Offences*

In May 2025, there were 23 sexual offence files, representing a 35 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, sexual offences are down three per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of sexual offences this month is within the average range.

Thirty-nine per cent of the offences reported in May 2025 were sexual assaults, and 35 per cent were indecent acts/exposing.

*Shoplifting*

There were 115 reported shoplifting thefts in May 2025, representing an eight per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, shoplifting thefts are down 24 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is above the average range.

*Theft from Automobile*

There were 83 thefts from automobiles in May 2025, a nine per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, thefts from automobiles are down 24 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. The number of thefts from automobiles is below the average range.

*Drugs*

In May 2025, there were 34 drug offences, a 79 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, drug offences are up 25 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 related to a public complaint of suspected drug use.

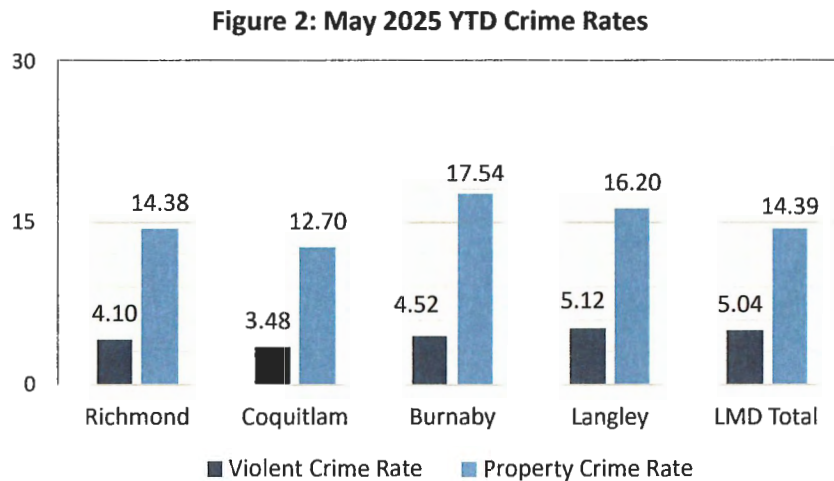
Table 1: Drug-Related Calls for Service

Month	Total Number of Drug-Related Calls	Suspected	Confirmed
January	71	42	29
February	38	23	15
March	49	31	18
April	58	41	17
May	57	36	21

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

### Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Figure 2 presents crime rates in May 2025 for the four largest municipalities in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), which the RCMP polices.<sup>3</sup> The property and violent crime rates in Richmond were below the LMD average.



### Block Watch

At the end of May 2025, the Block Watch program had 301 groups, totalling 6,725 participants. Currently, the program includes 423 captains and co-captains. On May 3, 2025, Block Watch staff and police officers in the Economic Crime Unit participated in a Fraud Awareness Outreach event at Lansdowne Centre.

### Communications Unit

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

- An education campaign for Safe Boating Week was launched, featuring media releases and social media posts highlighting water safety videos and enforcement regulations on local waterways.
- 22 media releases were issued, including three related to missing persons.
- 56 social media posts were made on X, including road safety messaging about traffic enforcement and distracted driving.



Figure 3: Safe Boating Awareness

<sup>3</sup> Based on PRIME query by Richmond Crime Analysis Unit on June 10, 2025



### 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 May, volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of three bike patrols, totalling 28 hours.
- A total of 14 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 489 information letters issued.
- There were 36 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, resulting in 734 information letters issued.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 3,585 vehicles, resulting in 69 information letters issued.
- May 1 – In partnership with ICBC, Richmond Fire-Rescue and City Works Yard, volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Speed Demonstration for City Staff. The event focused on safe stopping distances across vehicle types and road conditions.
- May 8 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with Think of Me deployments at Tomsett Elementary and Kingswood Elementary.<sup>4</sup> Drivers were handed 130 Think of Me cards. Police issued two warnings and one violation ticket.
- May 10 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with the Works Yard Open House, managing the Crime Prevention booth *and engaging with members of the public. They promoted crime prevention programs and the Community Safety App.*
- May 17 – Volunteers attended the Safe and Secure Living Fair at Aberdeen Mall, distributing crime prevention resources and participating in community engagement activities. Over 500 attendees visited the Crime Prevention booth.
- May 22 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with Road Safety Day at Richmond Secondary School, in partnership with ICBC, Richmond Fire-Rescue, BC Ambulance, and Metro Vancouver Transit Police. Students engaged with first responders and participated in an educational demonstration with Fatal Vision goggles.<sup>5</sup>



Figure 4: Road Safety Day

<sup>4</sup> The Think of Me Campaign uses cards illustrated by children, which depict what children would like drivers to think about when they are driving in school zones and in the community.

<sup>5</sup> Fatal Vision goggles simulate the effects of impairment.

### Crime Prevention Unit

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

- A total of 99 Place of Worship patrols were conducted.
- On May 8, 2025, RCMP Officers participated in McHappy Day at four McDonald's locations in Richmond.
- Police Week was held from May 11 to 17. It included various community engagement events, including "Mocha with a Mountie" on May 12, 2025, and "Meet your Mounties" at the Minoru Centre for Active Living on May 14, 2025.



Figure 5: McHappy Day

### 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. A total of 599 violation tickets were issued in May. Figure 6 provides statistics for the top five infractions for which violation tickets were issued in May:

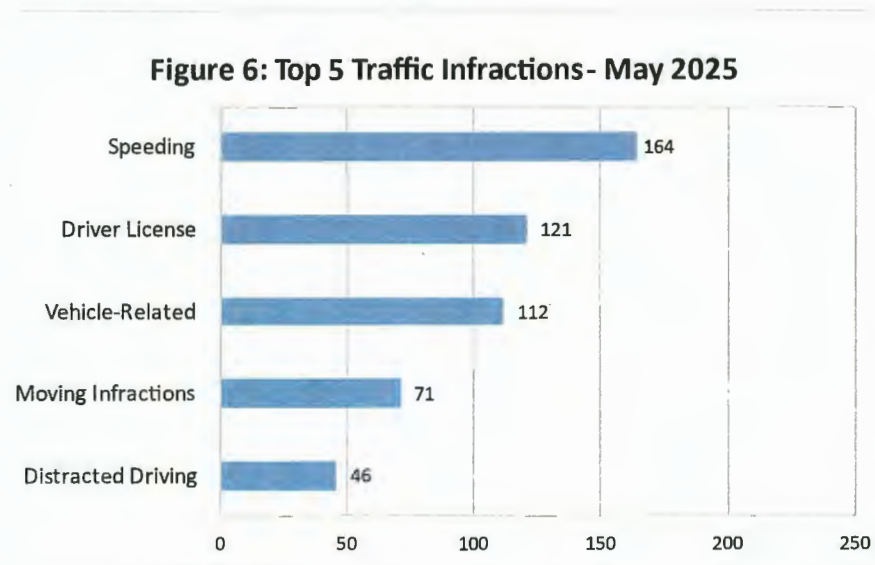




Table 2 presents the number of motor vehicle collisions involving injuries and fatalities reported between January 1, 2021, and May 31, 2025.

Table 2 – Motor Vehicle Collisions		
Year	Collisions with Non-Fatal Injuries	Fatalities
2021 <sup>6</sup>	355	4
2022	406	1
2023	436	3
2024 <sup>7</sup>	455	2
2025 (YTD)	170	0

### Victim Services

In May 2025, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 65 new clients and attended five crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 82 files. In May, Victim Services responded to several cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, family conflict, and fraud.

### 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 May, Youth Section highlights included:

- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 69 proactive school visits at secondary schools and 158 visits at elementary schools. Police officers engaged with students during recess, lunch and morning and afternoon supervision.
- DARE classes continued for the third term of the 2024-2025 school year. A total of 495 students in 17 classes participated in the program.

### **Financial Impact**

None.

### **Conclusion**

In May 2025, the Richmond RCMP conducted several notable investigations, including a stranger sexual assault and a distress call that resulted in injuries to a police dog. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the average range, except for commercial break and enters, serious assaults and shoplifting, which were elevated, and thefts from vehicles were below average.

<sup>6</sup> Motor Vehicle collisions decreased during the pandemic due to changes in behaviour patterns and fewer vehicles on the roads.

<sup>7</sup> The last fatal collision occurred on October 12, 2024.

June 18, 2025

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In May, the Richmond RCMP and volunteers continued to promote crime prevention and road safety initiatives, including high-risk driving enforcement. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment will continue to ensure that Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "E. Warzel".

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](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.

## May 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			
	May - 25	May		2024	2025	% Change	# Change
<b>VIOLENT CRIME</b> (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	<b>192</b>	153.4	135-172	780	886	14%	106
Robbery	2	4.6	2-7	30	24	-20%	-6
Assault Common	64	54.6	51-58	253	305	21%	52
Assault Serious	25	18.2	12-24	87	86	-1%	-1
Sexual Offences	23	19.6	14-26	99	96	-3%	-3
<b>PROPERTY CRIME</b> (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	<b>674</b>	568.2	466-671	3218	3044	-5%	-174
Business B&E	37	25.2	21-29	96	114	19%	18
Residential B&E	20	21.0	18-24	122	87	-29%	-35
Auto Theft	26	21.4	11-32	122	90	-26%	-32
Theft from Auto	83	113.0	98-128	279	347	24%	68
Theft	135	90.6	57-124	561	612	9%	51
Shoplifting	115	70.8	31-110	771	584	-24%	-187
Fraud	92	78.2	64-92	501	492	-2%	-9
<b>OTHER CRIMINAL CODE</b> (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	285	239.0	193-285	1443	1407	-2%	-36
Arson	5	5.8	2-9	29	20	-31%	-9
Cause Disturbance	189	171.0	138-204	1071	1007	-6%	-64
Collisions - all	173	131.0	107-155	818	821	0%	3
<b>SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES</b> (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	<b>1151</b>	962.4	813-1111	5493	5337	-3%	-156
<b>DRUGS</b> (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	34	40.0	29-51	106	133	25%	27
<b>MHA RELATED CALLS</b> (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	229	244.4	215-274	1182	1278	8%	96

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Residential Break & Enter  
May 2025



Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2025-06-05



Auto Theft  
May 2025



Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2025-06-05

**Theft From Auto  
May 2025**



**CS - 47**