



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** Community Safety Committee **Date:** November 15, 2024

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

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

### Staff Recommendation

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – October 2024”, dated November 15, 2024, from the Officer in Charge, 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> 	

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

##### *Trailer Thefts*

On October 1, 2024, the Richmond RCMP issued a warning to local businesses following three recent thefts of trailers valued at over \$60,000. The thefts involved semi-trucks, which had been stolen in Delta and Richmond. Police believe the thefts may be connected. The incidents remain under investigation.

##### *Person in Distress*

On October 3, 2024, the Richmond RCMP received a report of a woman in distress in the Fraser River. Frontline officers located the woman who was unconscious near the No 2 Road Bridge. With assistance from a civilian boat operator, police were able to pull the woman from the river, and she was taken to a local hospital but did not survive.

##### *Hit and Run*

On October 5, 2024, Richmond RCMP officers located an injured man at the intersection of Gilbert Road and River Road. The man had been riding his bicycle when struck by a vehicle,

which did not remain at the scene. The cyclist was transported to a local hospital and treated for minor injuries. The incident is under investigation.

### *Online Threats*

On October 23, 2024, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release advising that police had arrested a youth suspect for posting online threats about a school shooting. Police worked in collaboration with the Richmond School District to conduct the investigation. A risk assessment by the Police determined that there was no safety threat.

### *Halloween Safety*

On October 28, 2024, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release providing residents with safety tips for enjoying Halloween festivities. The release also advised the public that Richmond RCMP officers would be conducting high-visibility patrols throughout the city to ensure a safe and enjoyable evening.



Figure 1: Public Engagement Event

### Analysis of Police Statistics

#### *Arson*

There were eight reported arsons in October 2024, which is an increase of two incidents from the previous month. No patterns or trends have been identified.<sup>1</sup>

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

There were 21 serious assaults in October 2024, representing no change from the previous month. Year to date, serious assaults are down eight per cent compared to the same period in 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is above the average range.

The majority of incidents reported in October 2024 involved physical force. Nineteen percent of incidents involved suspects unknown to the complainants.

#### *Auto Theft*

There were 33 auto thefts in October 2024, which is a 57 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, auto thefts are up 13 per cent compared to the same period in 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is within the average range.

<sup>1</sup> 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. 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 is collected.

### *Drugs*

In October 2024, there were 16 drug offences, which is a 16 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, drug offences are down 56 per cent compared to the same period in 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is below the average range.

### *Mental Health*

There were 275 mental health-related incidents in October 2024, representing a three per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, mental health-related incidents are up three per cent compared to the same period in 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is within the average range.

This month, there were 76 police apprehensions, and the average hospital wait time was 106 minutes; these statistics are within the average range. Twenty-seven individuals were responsible for two or more calls, with one caller generating 29 incidents.

### *Residential Break and Enter*

There were 30 break and enters to residences in October 2024, representing a 25 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, residential break and enters are down 14 per cent compared to the same period in 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 October 2024, there were 26 break and enters to businesses, which is more than double the number of incidents reported the previous month. Year to date, commercial break and enters are down 22 per cent compared to the same period in 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters this month is within the average range.

### *Robbery*

There were two robberies in October 2024, representing no change from the previous month. Year to date, robberies are down 13 per cent compared to the same period in 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is within the average range.

One robbery involved a person known to the complainant, and the other was a theft involving an online marketplace transaction. Both incidents remain under investigation.

### *Sexual Offences*

In October 2024, there were 24 sexual offence files, representing a 41 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, sexual offences are up 11 per cent compared to the same period in 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sexual offences this month is above the average range.

One-third of the offences reported in October 2024 were sexual assaults, and 13 per cent involved the sharing of intimate images without consent.

### *Shoplifting*

There were 140 reported shoplifting thefts in October 2024, which is a 16 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, shoplifting thefts are up 29 per cent compared to the same period in 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is above the average range.

### *Theft from Automobile*

There were 77 thefts from automobiles in October 2024, which is a 23 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, thefts from automobiles are down 43 per cent compared to the same period in 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is below the average range.

### *Hate Crimes and Incidents*

Table 1 presents the number of hate crimes and hate incidents reported between January 1, 2020 and October 31, 2024.<sup>2</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. There were three hate incidents reported in October 2024. One incident was related to derogatory language uttered during an assault at a high school, another incident was connected to graffiti in a changing room at an elementary school, and a third event involved a suspicious YouTube video.

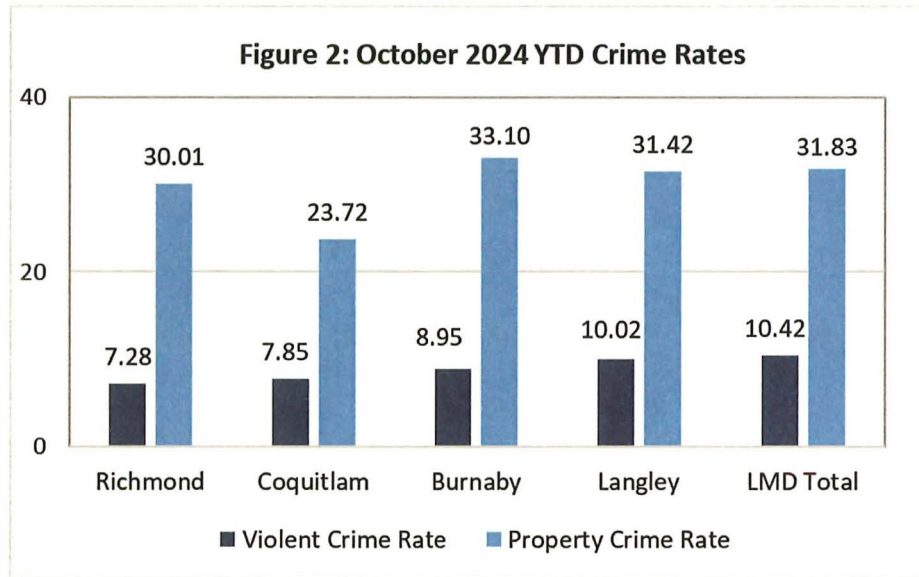
Table 1 – Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents			
Year	Hate Crime Files	Hate Incident Files	Total
2020	21	13	34
2021	21	24	45
2022	8	26	34
2023	6	19	25
2024 (TYD)	0	11	11

<sup>2</sup> The BC Hate Crimes Unit uses the terms hate-motivated crime and hate-motivated incident.



Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Figure 2 presents crime rates for October 2024 for the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD).<sup>3</sup> The property and violent crime rates in Richmond were below the LMD average.



Block Watch

At the end of October 2024, the Block Watch program had 299 groups, totalling 6,914 participants. Currently, the program includes 420 captains and co-captains. On October 29, 2024, new group participants received Block Watch training on how to spot suspicious activities.

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.

<sup>3</sup> Based on PRIME query by Richmond Crime Analysis Unit on November 6, 2024

During October, volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of four bike patrols, totalling 33 hours.
- A total of 17 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 691 information letters issued.
- There were 37 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, resulting in 480 information letters issued.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 982 vehicles, resulting in 71 information letters issued.
- 2,873 safety reflectors were distributed during pedestrian safety events.
- October 16 – Volunteers conducted community engagement activities during the Seniors Fall Immunization Clinic at the Minoru Centre for Active Living. Volunteers staffed a crime prevention information booth and distributed safety reflectors.
- October 17 – In collaboration with ICBC, volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a pedestrian safety outreach/engagement event at Lansdowne Centre. Over 1,300 safety reflectors were distributed.
- October 23 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a School Sports volleyball game at Walter Lee Elementary.
- October 26 – As part of the Richmond RCMP’s fundraising efforts for its annual Toy Drive, volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a “Supercar” photo shoot. Volunteers took photographs and provided crowd control.
- October 31—Volunteers attended Halloween/fireworks events at Minoru Park, Burkeville Village, and South Arm Community Centre, enforcing public safety exclusion zones and guiding the public out of the parks at the conclusion of the events.

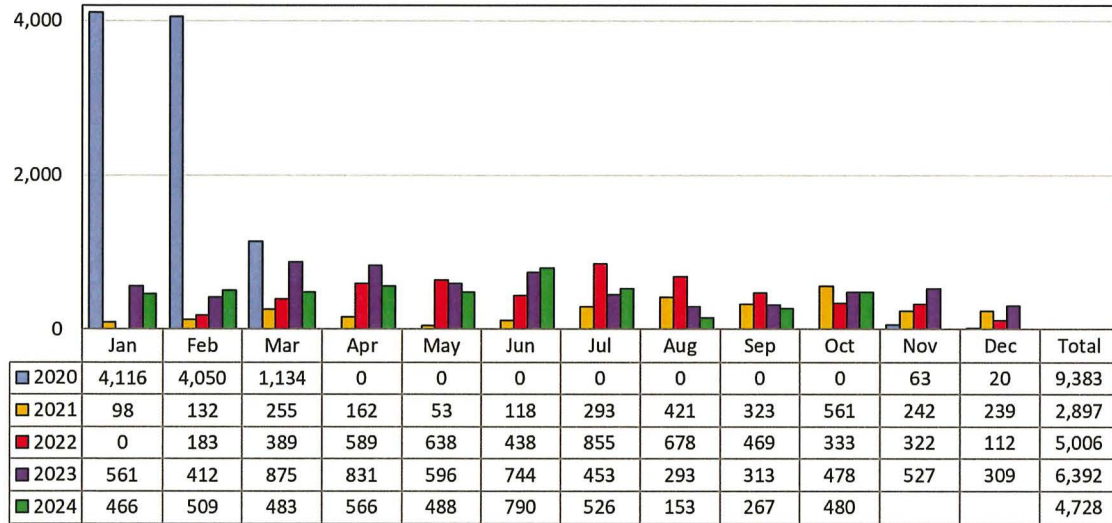


Figure 3: School Sports Event

*Lock Out Auto Crime*

Figure 4 provides a yearly comparison of the number of vehicle notices issued.<sup>4</sup>

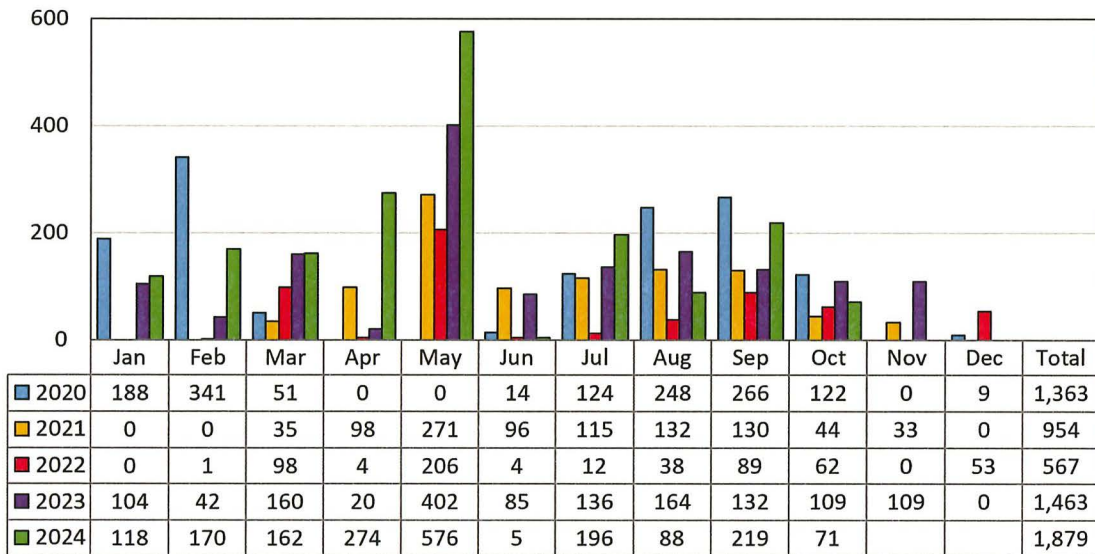
**Figure 4: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice**



*Speed Watch*

Figure 5 compares the number of letters sent to registered vehicle owners yearly.

**Figure 5: Speed Watch Letters Sent**



<sup>4</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.



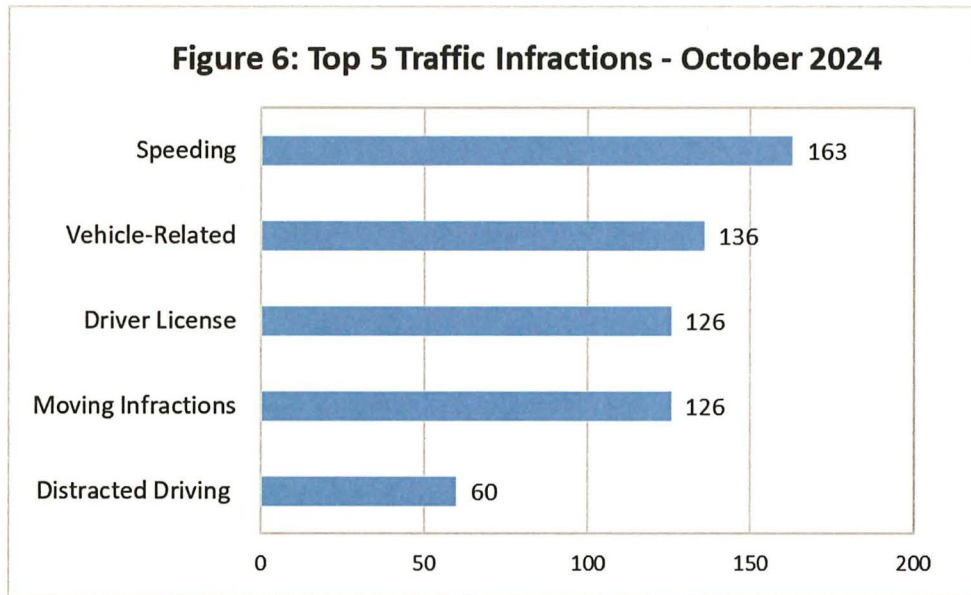
Crime Prevention Unit

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

- “Coffee with a Cop”
- Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives
- Pedestrian Safety
- Place of Worship Patrols
- School Sports
- Toy Drive

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 688 violation tickets were issued in October 2024. Figure 6 provides statistics for the top five infractions for which violation tickets were issued in October:



Victim Services

In October 2024, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 75 new clients and attended four crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 99 files. In October, Victim Services responded to several cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, motor vehicle collisions 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 October, Youth Section highlights included:

- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 57 proactive school visits at secondary schools and 86 visits at elementary schools. Police officers engaged with students during recess, lunch and morning and afternoon supervision.
- On October 23, 2024, police officers in the Youth Section participated in the first post-pandemic School Sports event at Walter Lee Elementary School.
- DARE classes continued for the first term of the 2024-2025 school year. Eighty-five students in three schools participated in the program.

### **Financial Impact**

None.

### **Conclusion**

In October 2024, the Richmond RCMP conducted several notable investigations, including a school shooting threat and a series of trailer thefts. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the average ranges, except for serious assaults, sexual assaults and shoplifting incidents, which were elevated. Drug offences and thefts from vehicles were below average.

In October, the Community Engagement Team and volunteers continued to promote crime prevention and road safety initiatives, including a large-scale pedestrian safety campaign. 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  
4: Fourth Quarter 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.





## October 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.

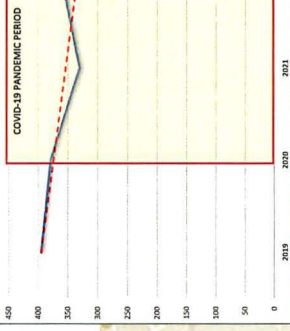
This chart identifies the monthly totals for founded Criminal Code incidents, excluding traffic-related Criminal Code incidents. Based on Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) scoring, there are three categories: (1) Violent Crime, (2) Property Crime, and (3) Other Criminal Code. Within each category, particular 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 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

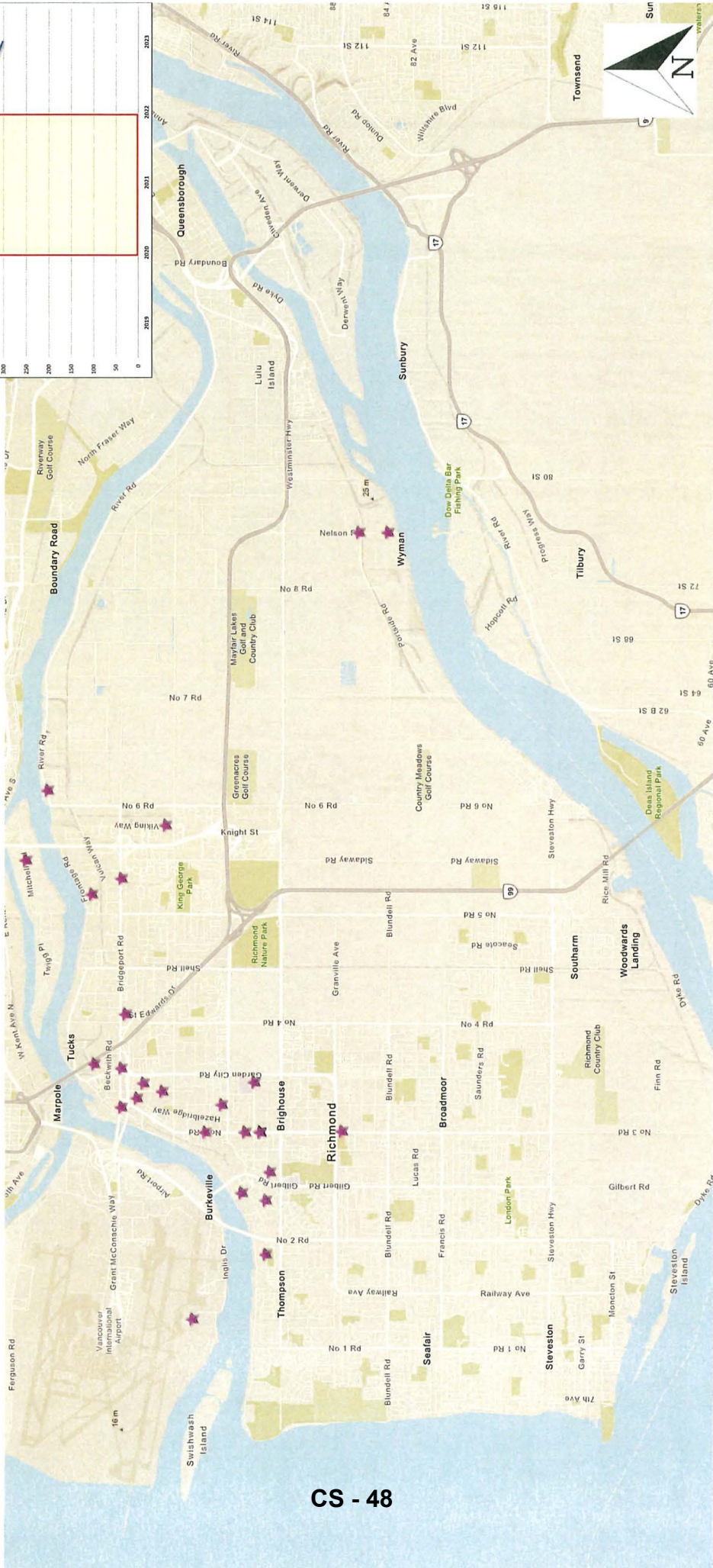
	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	Oct - 24	October		2023	2024	% Change	# Change
<b>VIOLENT CRIME</b> (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	<b>161</b>	140.6	131-150	1534	1582	3%	48
Robbery <small>UCR 1210(1-3)</small>	2	4.8	2-7	52	45	-13%	-7
Assault Common <small>UCR 1400</small>	53	48.4	45-52	492	527	7%	35
Assault Serious <small>UCR 1400(400)</small>	21	15.2	12-18	201	184	-8%	-17
Sexual Offences <small>UCR 1490, 1490(100), 1490(200), 1490(300)</small>	24	16.8	13-20	187	208	11%	21
<b>PROPERTY CRIME</b> (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	<b>706</b>	654.0	558-750	6550	6306	-4%	-244
Business B&E <small>UCR 2100(1)</small>	26	36.0	24-48	257	201	-22%	-56
Residential B&E <small>UCR 2100(2)</small>	30	35.6	17-54	242	209	-14%	-33
Auto Theft <small>UCR 2100(3), 2100(300)</small>	33	27.8	22-34	211	238	13%	27
Theft from Auto <small>UCR 2100(300)</small>	77	153.8	116-192	1259	718	-43%	-541
Theft <small>UCR 2100(300)</small>	126	77.4	57-98	1132	1122	-1%	-10
Shoplifting <small>UCR 2100(300)</small>	140	83.8	53-115	1058	1368	29%	310
Fraud <small>UCR 2100(300), 2100(300)</small>	101	82.6	75-91	827	973	18%	146
<b>OTHER CRIMINAL CODE</b> (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	<b>301</b>	229.2	191-267	2698	2941	9%	243
Arson <small>UCR 3000(300)</small>	8	n/c	n/c	n/c	63	n/c	n/c
<b>SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES</b> (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	<b>1160</b>	1023.8	928-1120	10786	10889	1%	103
<b>DRUGS</b> (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	<b>16</b>	48.8	20-70	470	205	-56%	-265
<b>MHA RELATED CALLS</b> (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	<b>275</b>	271.4	217-326	2398	2469	3%	71

Prepared by Richmond RCMP CAU. Data collected from PRIME on 2024-11-04. Published 2024-11-08. 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).

RMD: Commercial B&E



# Commercial Break & Enter October 2024

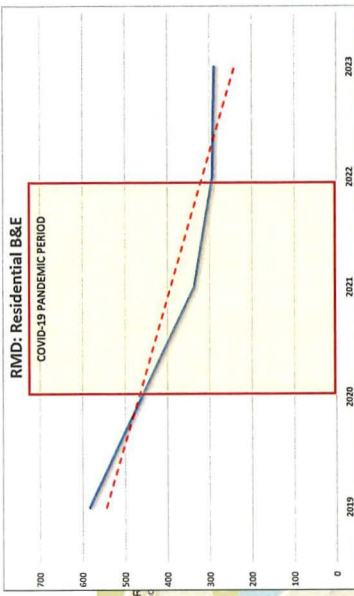


CS - 48

Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2024-11-06

Commercial B&E  
N=26





# Residential Break & Enter October 2024



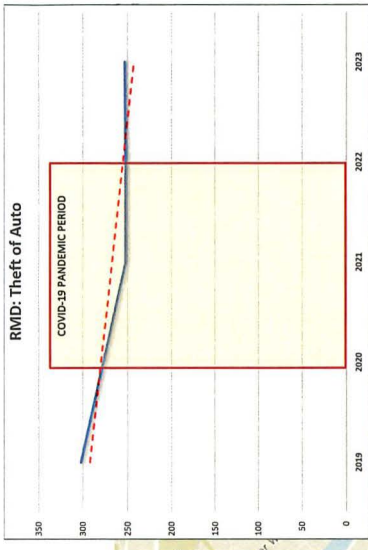
CS - 49

# Residential Break & Enter N=30

Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2024-11-06



# Auto Theft October 2024



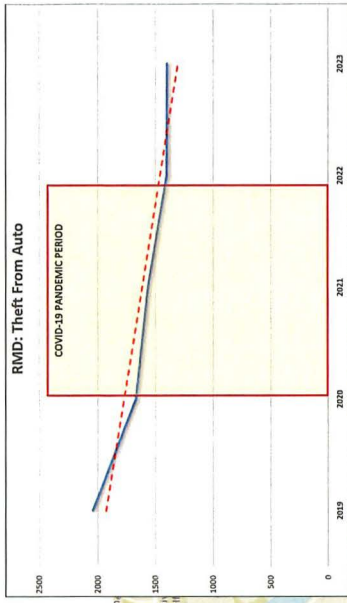
CS - 50

# Auto Theft N=33

Richmond RCMP  
 Crime Analysis Unit  
 2024-11-06



# Theft From Auto October 2024



CS - 51

Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2024-11-06

Theft From Auto  
N=77



# CRIME PREVENTION

WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME

NEWSLETTER

## Shopping Spree

Have you ever been in any of these scenarios? There is a sale at the mall. You go and buy a brand new laptop and different clothing items from the mall. You put it in the back seat and decide to do a quick trip to the supermarket. Within five minutes, you return from the grocery store and your window is smashed and your brand new laptop and clothing are stolen.

In another scenario, you come across a heavily discounted electronic item online. Feeling excited, you contemplate buying it from a website you've never heard before. With timers counting down on the page, you don't want to miss out on this deal, so you decide to purchase the item. The item never arrives and you start to see unauthorized payments on your credit card statement.

There are necessary steps you can take to avoid these situations as they will only lead to disappointment. Autumn sales, Black Friday, and Boxing Day are all coming in the next few months. Whether you are shopping in-store or online, stay vigilant and remind yourself of the following tips.

## In-Store Shopping

When you're shopping at the mall and your hands are full, it might seem convenient to drop off the bags to the car and return to the stores. However, this approach is not effective in preventing theft. An observant thief could notice you putting items in the car, providing them with an opportunity to steal. It is safer to finish your shopping before stowing away your purchases. If you are coming from another location and you have items in the car already, make sure they are out of sight before you head to your next destination. Commonly stolen items include personal electronics, backpacks, cash, keys, garage remotes, wallets, and jackets. Losing these items could lead to more serious crimes like break-ins, identity theft, or fraud.

## Online Shopping

During holiday seasons, phishing attempts through social media and emails increase significantly. To protect yourself, start by researching and comparing prices on reputable websites. Always be skeptical of deals that seem too good to be true. Scammers often create ads that look similar to legitimate websites, using countdown timers or phrases like "limited time offer" to create a false sense of urgency. This is to capture your sense of excitement and eagerness, and limit your time to research. If you fall for their trap, they could steal your personal information and/or money.



Additionally, strengthen your online security by creating unique passwords, activating multifactor authenticators, and adjusting your privacy settings. Always use a secure connection and avoid using public WiFi for online shopping, as tech savvy thieves may be lurking on public connections.



## CITY OF RICHMOND CRIME PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

### Reduce Crime in Your Apartment Community

Thieves are targeting apartment buildings due to several factors: easy access, hidden spots, blurred lines between public and private spaces, poor lighting, and landscaping that offers concealment. To mitigate these risks, a comprehensive risk assessment needs to be done to identify, analyze, and evaluate potential threats. Once identified, follow up by implementing targeted physical security measures. The goal extends beyond protecting properties from theft; it also includes deterring unwanted visitors and preventing illegal occupation of spaces.

When formulating a security strategy, it is essential to recognize that the design of the built environment can shape residents' perceptions of crime risk, often amplifying feelings of fear beyond actual threat levels. Incorporating Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles foster ongoing improvements in community safety, protection, and quality of life. It encourages the establishment of spaces that allow residents to assert control over their surroundings and enhance the sense of security within residential areas, making potential offenders more conscious of the likelihood of being observed or confronted.

A CPTED-informed residential security strategy combines modifications to the physical environment with community engagement, fostering social cohesion and participation for a safer living environment.



By working together, neighbours can increase the security and safety of their homes and neighbourhood, by following these tips:

- Do not let anyone you don't know into your building.
- Always confirm who is calling from the intercom before buzzing someone into the building.
- Watch the parking garage gate close completely before driving off when you are entering or leaving.
- Get to know other residents so you know who belongs. Start by just saying hi to people inside the elevator or when walking past one another in the parkade.
- Do not put your full name on the intercom panel.
- Let the property manager know immediately if you lose your key fob so they can deactivate it.
- Lock up your bike even if it is stored inside a secured bike room.
- Always lock your storage unit. If your storage unit is cage-style and your building permits, use sheets or panels to obscure what is inside.
- Meet delivery person downstairs, do not just buzz them into the building.





## Preparing for Festivities

This quarter is filled with holidays and festive seasons. You may be using this time to celebrate with friends and family or you may be putting up decorations in preparation of the festivities. While you are preparing for festivities, make improvements to your home, and remind friends and family to take precautions to prevent crime. These improvements can make a huge difference in crime prevention and safety.



- ◆ Make sure all doors and windows are locked and closed properly. Do not run wires from the interior to exterior decorations.
- ◆ When putting up decorations, trim the trees and hedges in front of your house to remove hiding spots and increase natural surveillance.
- ◆ Improve lighting around your home. Add motion sensor lights and pair them with working security cameras.
- ◆ Remind guests to not leave items in their vehicles and to lock the door when entering your home.
- ◆ If you are not home, turn on your alarms and add timers for your lights. Ask a neighbour to look after your home by picking up mail or packages and clearing the leaves from the driveway.

## 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 community 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 has 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 the 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

### Steps for Reporting

It is an intimidating sight when you return to your business and see that it has been broken into. Many thoughts could be going through your head such as “Who do I call?” and “What can I do?”. Different businesses have their own protocols in regards to break and enter, but the common practice when arriving to a crime scene is the same. Review the proper protocols with your workplace, learn what numbers to call, and what to do in this situation. Below we answer these tough questions so you won't panic if ever faced with this situation.



### Who do I call?

The first call is to report the incident to the police. The number to call depends on when you discover the break-in. For example, if you find out about it the day after it happened, you should call the non-emergency line, however, if the alarm or camera alerts notify you while the crime is in progress, you should call 911. If you're an employee, you may also need to contact the business owner or manager, as they have access to serial numbers, camera footage, and other valuable information for investigations or follow-ups.

### What can I do?

Your first instinct might be to clean up the property, but doing so can disturb the scene and contaminate evidence. Avoid walking in areas the suspect may have accessed and do not touch anything, as there may be footprints or fingerprints present. After you report the crime, ask the call taker to clarify your next steps such as what can be cleaned. Make a list of the stolen items and find serial numbers associated with the stolen items if applicable. If a manager or business owner has inventory documents, ask them to provide it as it may help with identification. Provide the police with both the surveillance footage and the list of stolen items. Afterward, evaluate the security of the business; the assigned officer can offer valuable advice on enhancing security measures.

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

Richmond RCMP Non-Emergency line [604-278-1212](tel: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

