

Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the
Community Safety Committee
meeting held on Tuesday, April 12,
2011.

Subject: ICBC recognizes Richmond volunteers for helping make B.C. roads safer

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ICBC recognizes Richmond volunteers for helping make B.C. roads safer

In recognition of National Volunteer Week (April 10 to 16), ICBC is thanking Richmond volunteers for their continued support in making our communities safer. In Richmond, approximately 45 volunteers work out of three community policing offices and police detachments to help deliver road safety programs including Speed Watch, Lock Out Auto Crime and the Stolen Auto Recovery program.

"The extraordinary dedication to road safety shown by these volunteers and community policing offices is remarkable and truly appreciated," said Jon Schubert, ICBC's president and CEO. "On behalf of all our customers and ICBC employees, thank you!"

"Volunteering has many benefits, both for the community and the individual," said John Yap, Richmond-Steveston MLA. "National Volunteer Week gives us the opportunity to celebrate the efforts of all our volunteers here in Richmond."

In 2010, Speed Watch volunteers in Richmond contributed approximately 320 hours to help reduce speed-related crashes in their community. With the support of volunteers, speed-related crashes have steadily decreased in B.C. over the last five years. Volunteers use radar and speed-reader boards supplied by ICBC to show drivers how fast they're actually traveling. Research shows that it works – over 70 per cent of drivers traveling 10km/h over the speed limit slow down when they see a speed-reader board.

"Richmond is a safer place thanks to the many volunteers who participate in programs such as Speed Watch," said Rob Howard, Richmond Centre MLA. "Our community truly relies on all the work done by volunteers and National Volunteer Week is a great way to recognize their efforts."

"There really is no greater way to give back to your community than through volunteerism," said Linda Reid, Richmond East MLA. "To all those volunteers making our roads safer: Thank you!"

In 2010, Lock Out Auto Crime volunteers in Richmond handed out approximately 9,200 notices to

drivers to draw attention to the risk of auto theft. Volunteers place notices resembling parking tickets on the windshields of vehicles, many with garage door openers or valuables in sight, offering the owners common sense tips for preventing auto theft.

These volunteers also operate the Stolen Auto Recovery program in Richmond, and in 2010, they scanned nearly 32,700 licence plates to help identify stolen vehicles. Each year, volunteers help to recover hundreds of stolen vehicles in B.C.

"These volunteers work tirelessly," said Karen Klein, local ICBC road safety coordinator. "Many give up their Friday evenings to go out on a cold, rainy night to try to locate stolen vehicles or spend their afternoon scanning busy parking lots for unsecured vehicles to help protect owners from becoming a victim of auto crime. With their support, we've seen an astounding 65 per cent decrease in auto crime in B.C. since 2003."

Drop by your neighbourhood community policing office to see how you can get involved and help keep your community safe.

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*Note: Many communities are also supported by local police detachments and other organizations. Details for each community available upon request.