

Report to Committee

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

January 6, 2015

From:

Rendall Nesset, Superintendent

File:

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Re:

Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment RCMP's Monthly Report - December Activities

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled "RCMP's Monthly Report – December Activities", dated January 6, 2015, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP be received for information.

Rendall Nesset, Superintendent

Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment

(604-278-1212)

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE					
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER					
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	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 report supports Council's Term Goal #1 Community Safety:

To ensure Richmond remains a safe and desirable community to live, work and play in, through the delivery of effective public safety services that are targeted to the City's specific needs and priorities.

Analysis

Below is the RCMP's Monthly Report regarding December 2014 activities.

Noteworthy Files and Activities

RCMP Investigate Car Jacking

The Detachment is investigating an assault with a weapon and theft of vehicle that occurred on December 4. The victim had stopped the vehicle in the 11500 block of King Road and was approached by a male suspect who produced a weapon, struck the victim and fled with the vehicle. The victim sustained minor injuries. This incident is believed to be targeted and still under investigation. The Detachment sent out a news release on December 4 to remind the public to be observant of their surroundings and to request anyone with information to contact the Richmond RCMP.

Richmond RCMP Investigate Fatal Pedestrian Crash

The Detachment was called to Westminster Highway west of Gilbert Road just after 10:00 pm on December 8 after a 75 year old woman was struck by a car while trying to cross the road. The investigators believe bad weather and the location at which the victim attempted to cross may have been factors in the crash. The driver who hit the victim remained at the scene and the Integrated Collision Analyst Section was brought in to assist with the investigation.

Holiday Home Security Reminder

The Detachment sent out a news release on December 17 to remind residents to be vigilant in securing their homes during the holiday season as a result of an abnormally high incidence of home break-ins through-out Richmond. Home break-ins remain a high priority crime and the Detachment has increased the police presence. Some of the most common items that have been stolen include jewellery, currency, laptop computers, cell phones, iPods, iPads and video game consoles. The following tips are provided to assist with securing the home:

- Ensure the home is well lit and consider motion activated lighting or a timer activated lighting.
- Keep the doors and windows locked even while occupying the residence.

- Store valuables in a secure place and for high dollar items, utilize a security deposit box.
- Get to know the neighbours as they may be the best eyes and ears for when the home owners are away.
- Avoid updating one's status on social media when away from home.
- Keep the vehicle locked and remove the garage door opener from vehicle when entering the residence.
- Cancel the mail delivery service and have someone remove flyers or newsprint from the home while away.
- Contact the police immediately and dial 9-1-1 if any suspicious or criminal activity is seen.
- If no suspect or vehicle is present, call the police non-emergency line at 604-278-1212 to report the incident.
- To leave a tip, email Richmond RCMP at <u>Richmond_Tips@rcmp-grc.gc.ca</u> or to remain anonymous call Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

Community Policing

Block Watch

There were 122 residential and 26 business break and enter email alerts and 326 residential and 25 business letters sent during this period to registered Richmond residents and businesses. These emails and letters informed home and business owners that a break and enter had occurred, provide crime prevention information, and direct residents and business owners to the crime prevention web pages.

Stolen Auto Recovery and Lock-Out Auto Crime

Co-sponsored by ICBC, these programs involve volunteers patrolling city streets and parking lots for automobile security vulnerabilities and stolen vehicles. Under the Lock-Out Auto Crime Program notices supplied by ICBC are issued to every vehicle inspected indicating to the owner what issues, if any, need to be addressed in order to keep the vehicle and the contents safe.

Inspection criteria include:

- Does the vehicle have an anti-theft device? (e.g.: alarm, immobilizer or steering wheel-lock)
- Are there any personal belongings in plain view?
- Is the vehicle locked?
- Have all suitable steps been taken to prevent auto crime?

Volunteers focused on checking vehicles in parking lots of shopping areas during the Christmas season.

Figure 1 provides a comparison by year for the number of vehicles issued a notice.

Feb Mar Jul Jan Apr May Jun Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

Figure 1: Stolen Auto Recovery / Lock-Out Auto Crime Vehicles
Issued a Notice

Speed Watch Statistics

Speed Watch promotes safe driving habits by alerting drivers of their speed in school zones and on roadways. Trained volunteers are equipped with radar and a speed watch reader board that gives drivers instant feedback regarding their speed. The volunteers record the license plate number and the speed, and a letter is sent to the vehicle's registered owner when there is an infraction. The letter includes the date, time, location and what the penalties would be if the driver had received a violation ticket.

Figure 2 provides a comparison by year of the number of letters sent.

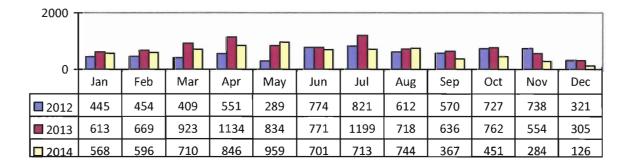


Figure 2: Speed Watch Letters Sent

Distracted Drivers Statistics

While volunteers are performing bike/foot patrols or Speed Watch duty, they note drivers that are on their cell phones; talking or texting, using other electronic devices, reading a newspaper, shaving or putting on makeup. The registered owner of the vehicle is sent a letter with the date, time and location. Also included in the letter is the type of driving infraction and amount the fine would be had the driver received a violation ticket. The continuous media messages from

ICBC on the radio and television regarding distracter drivers seem to be reaching the population as the volunteers are not observing as many drivers per volunteer shift.

Figure 3 provides a comparison by year for the number of letters sent.

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec □ 2014

Figure 3: Distracted Driver Letters Sent

Volunteer Foot/Van Patrol Program

In December 2014, there were 16 foot/van patrols totaling 123 hours. The volunteers assisted the public with directions and general questions, as well as witnessed minor vehicle collisions and offered assistance. They also reminded jaywalkers to use the crosswalks, noted any distracted drivers and used palm pilots to run license plates to see if any vehicles were stolen. During the patrols, the volunteers visited local parks and schools to make sure these areas were safe and looked for possible grow ops and abandoned houses.

Volunteer Highlights include:

- 13 volunteers attended a free all-day workshop hosted by Vancouver Police Department called Project Griffin. Topics included: E-Comm, how to identify suspicious persons; gangs, Block Watch and community policing.
- Volunteers gave out 527 reflectors to pedestrians while out doing Lock-Out Auto Crime and foot patrols.
- Volunteers were requested by Lansdowne Mall security to do extra patrols for the month of December which was added to the Crime Watch, van and foot patrol list.
- While out on van patrol the volunteers observed expired insurance decals on licence plates of vehicles and left a notice on the cars as well as informing Bylaws.
- Volunteers did van patrols at Lions Park Condos at 5133 Garden City Road as a result of a referral that was received after several break-ins occurred.

Road Safety Unit

Name	Act	Example	Oct	Nov	Dec
Violation Tickets	Provincial Act Offences	Speeding	820	756	713
Notice & Orders	Equipment Violations	Broken Tail-light	336	291	346
Driving Suspensions	Motor Vehicle Act	24 hour driving prohibition for alcohol or drugs	24	20	58
Parking Offences	Municipal Bylaw	On or off the street Municipal parking offences	13	4	7
MTI's	Municipal Ticket Information	Any other Municipal Bylaw offence	6	0	0

Victim Services

- From December 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014, Richmond RCMP Victim Services provided services to 56 new clients and attended 13 crime and trauma scenes, in addition to maintaining an active caseload of 200 on-going files.
- Victim Services provided on-going emotional support to help victims of robberies, family dysfunction, homicide and property crime. Referrals are provided for long term help.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

The Officer in Charge, Richmond Detachment continues to ensure Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.

Lainie Goddard

Manager, RCMP Administration

(604-207-4767)

LG:jl

Att. 1: Crime Statistics

2: Crime Maps



DECEMBER 2014 STATISTICS

This chart identifies the monthly totals for all founded Criminal Code incidents, excluding Traffic Criminal Code. 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 are included.

The Average Range data is based on activity in a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence is above average, it will be noted in red, while below-average numbers will be noted in blue.

Year-to-Date percentage increases of more than 10% are marked in red, while decreases of more than 10% are blue. Please note that percentage changes are inflated in categories with small numbers (e.g.: Sexual Offences).

	CURRENT MONTH	5-YR AVERAGE	5-YR AVERAGE RANGE	YEAR-TO-DATE TOTALS			
	Dec-14	December		2013	2014	% Change	Change in # of Incidents
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	112	112.6	88-138	1221	1225	0.3%	4
Robbery	17	12.6	8-17	88	79	-10.2%	-9
Assault Common	43	39.6	30-49	459	429	-6.5%	-30
Assault w/ Weapon	7	10.2	6-14	123	121	-1.6%	-2
Sexual Offences	6	5.2	1-9	54	94	74.1%	40
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	815	659.6	602-718	6991	8424	20.5%	1433
Business B&E	42	36.8	21-53	360	405	12.5%	45
Residential B&E	158	59.8	50-70	699	981	40.3%	282
MV Theft	39	28.8	23-35	230	345	50.0%	115
Theft From MV	192	214.2	162-267	1802	2487	38.0%	685
Theft	124	106.4	92-120	1238	1348	8.9%	110
Shoplifting	55	59.6	54-65	798	662	-17.0%	-136
Fraud	53	44.2	40-48	509	577	13.4%	68
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	192	159.2	144-175	1968	2259	14.8%	291
Arson - Property	5	5.6	4-7	51	65	27.5%	14
SUBTOTAL (UCR 1000- to 3000-Series)	1119	947.0	878-1016	10180	11947	17.4%	1767
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	46	62.2	48-77	781	649	-16.9%	-132

Prepared by Richmond RCMP.

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