



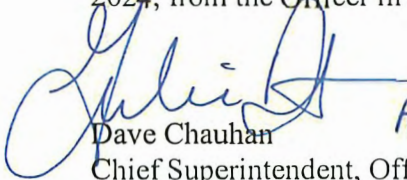
City of Richmond

Report to Committee

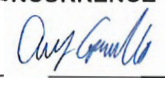

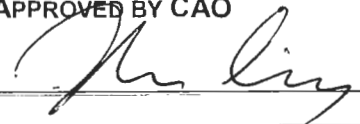
To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** December 12, 2024
From: Dave Chauhan **File:** 09-5000-01/2024-Vol
 Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge 01
Re: RCMP Monthly Activity Report – November 2024

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – November 2024”, dated December 12, 2024, from the Officer in Charge, be received for information.

 *for:*
 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. 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

Robbery Series

On November 5, 2024, the Richmond RCMP issued a public warning after six robberies occurred in the 9500 block of Williams Road. Four of the incidents occurred between October 14, 2024 and November 1, 2024. Each incident involved victims attempting to sell items through an online marketplace. Several victims reported being threatened with a weapon after meeting with a prospective buyer.

Safe Exchange Zone

On November 6, 2024, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release announcing the expanded operating hours of the Safe Exchange Zone, following an increase in thefts and robberies related to online marketplace sales. The initiative provides a secure environment to conduct transactions and aims to reduce the risk of theft, fraud, and



Figure 1: Safe Exchange Zone

confrontations that can occur in unregulated meeting spots.¹

Break and Enter Arrest

On November 16, 2024, Richmond RCMP officers attended the 13900 block of Maycrest Way after a business reported that an intruder was attempting to gain entry. Officers arrived on scene, set up containment around the premises and were able to apprehend the suspect. The accused is facing three charges, including break and enter.

Toy Drive

On November 23, 2024, the Richmond RCMP hosted its 10th Annual Christmas Toy Drive in partnership with Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives. The fundraising event was held outside of Lansdowne Centre and featured mini-donuts and tickets to a Richmond Sockeyes game for supporters who made donations. Over \$33,000 in cash and 2.5 tons in toys were collected to support the Richmond Christmas Fund.



Figure 2: Toy Drive

Impaired Driving Awareness

On November 28, 2024, the Richmond RCMP partnered with Mothers Against Drink Driving (MADD) to promote the launch of Project Red Ribbon in Richmond. The initiative encourages residents to commit to sober driving during the holiday season. The red ribbons distributed during the campaign serve as a reminder to drive sober and as a tribute to lives lost to impaired driving.

Analysis of Police Statistics

Arson

There were eight reported arsons in November 2024, which represents no change from the previous month. No patterns or trends have been identified.²

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 23 serious assaults in November 2024, representing a 10 per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, serious assaults are down five per cent compared to the same

¹ New hours - Monday to Friday: 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM, Saturday, Sunday, and statutory holidays: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

² 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.

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 November 2024 involved physical force. Approximately half the serious assaults were domestic incidents.

Auto Theft

There were 22 auto thefts in November 2024, which is a 33 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, auto thefts are up 12 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.

Drugs

In November 2024, there were 17 drug offences, which is a six per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, drug offences are down 57 per cent compared to the same period in 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is within the average range.

Mental Health

There were 272 mental health-related incidents in November 2024, representing a one per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, mental health-related incidents are up five 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 above the average range.

This month, there were 69 police apprehensions, and the average hospital wait time was 98 minutes; these statistics are within the average range. Twenty-six individuals were responsible for two or more calls, with one caller generating 25 incidents.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 26 break and enters to residences in November 2024, representing a 13 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, residential break and enters are down eight 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 November 2024, there were 14 break and enters to businesses, which is a 46 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, commercial break and enters are down 25 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 below the average range.

Robbery

There were two robberies in November 2024, representing no change from the previous month. Year to date, robberies are down 19 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 an online marketplace transaction, and another occurred at a retail location. Both incidents remain under investigation.

Sexual Offences

In November 2024, there were 16 sexual offence files, representing a 33 per cent decrease 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 within the average range.

Half of the offences reported in November 2024 were sexual assaults, and 25 per cent involved indecent acts/exposing.

Shoplifting

There were 117 reported shoplifting thefts in November 2024, which is a 16 per cent decrease from the previous month. Year to date, shoplifting thefts are up 27 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 79 thefts from automobiles in November 2024, which is a three per cent increase from the previous month. Year to date, thefts from automobiles are down 40 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

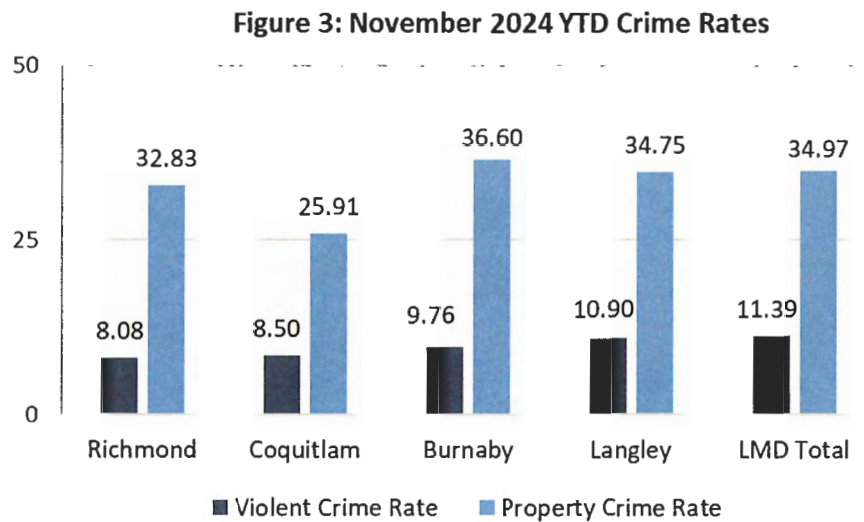
Table 1 presents the number of hate crimes and hate incidents reported between January 1, 2020 and November 30, 2024.³ A “hate crime” refers to any criminal offence targeting an identifiable group. The criteria for an offence to be considered a hate crime, as per the *Criminal Code*, carries a higher 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 was one hate incident reported in November 2024, which involved the discovery of a swastika and hate speech carved into a picnic table.

³ The BC Hate Crimes Unit uses the terms hate-motivated crime and hate-motivated incident.

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 (YTD)	0	12	12

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Figure 3 presents crime rates for November 2024 for the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD).⁴ The property and violent crime rates in Richmond were below the LMD average.



Block Watch

At the end of November 2024, the Block Watch program had 301 groups, totalling 6,723 participants. Currently, the program includes 424 captains and co-captains. On November 5, 2024, new group participants received Block Watch training on how to spot suspicious activities.

⁴ Based on PRIME query by Richmond Crime Analysis Unit on December 5, 2024

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 November, volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of two bike patrols, totalling 12 hours and two van patrols totalling four hours.
- A total of 17 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 529 information letters issued.
- There were 21 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, resulting in 211 information letters issued.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 5,479 vehicles, resulting in 284 information letters issued.
- November 5 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a pedestrian safety outreach and engagement event at the Brighthouse Canada Line station. This joint operation featured the collaboration of multiple partner agencies, including ICBC and Metro Vancouver Transit Police. Over 3,000 safety reflectors were distributed.
- November 8 – Volunteers attended the South Arm Community Centre for a Wellness Clinic and provided safety reflectors to participants. Community Safety App cards were also distributed
- November 11 – Volunteers provided support at the Remembrance Day ceremony at Richmond City Hall and conducted foot patrols and assistance with dismantling barricades and stands.
- November 23 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with the annual Richmond RCMP Toy Drive by helping set up tents, tables and chairs as well as managing two booths promoting DARE and come prevention.
- November 29 – Volunteers were deployed to four different shopping centre parking lots on Black Friday to provide education and awareness to patrons on how to prevent collisions while in parking lots.

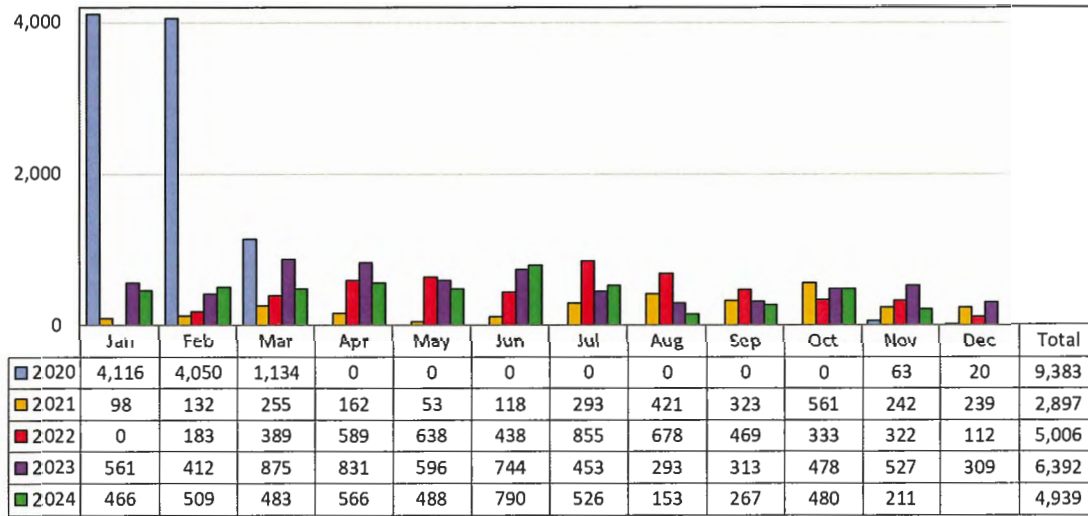


Figure 4: Pedestrian Safety

Lock Out Auto Crime

Figure 5 provides a yearly comparison of the number of vehicle notices issued.⁵

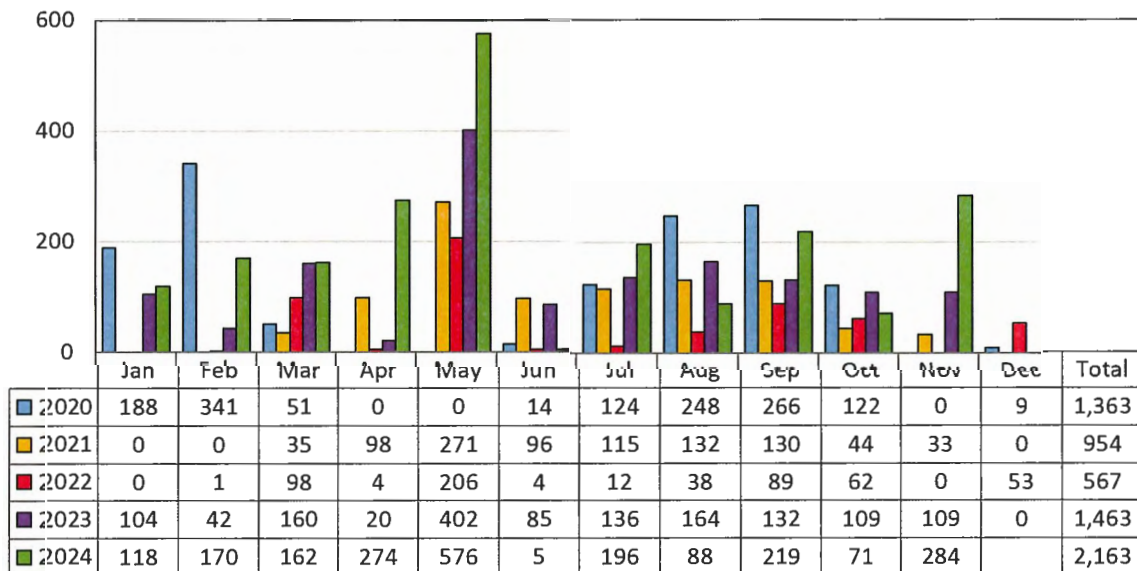
Figure 5: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice



Speed Watch

Figure 6 compares the number of letters sent to registered vehicle owners yearly.

Figure 6: Speed Watch Letters Sent



⁵ 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.

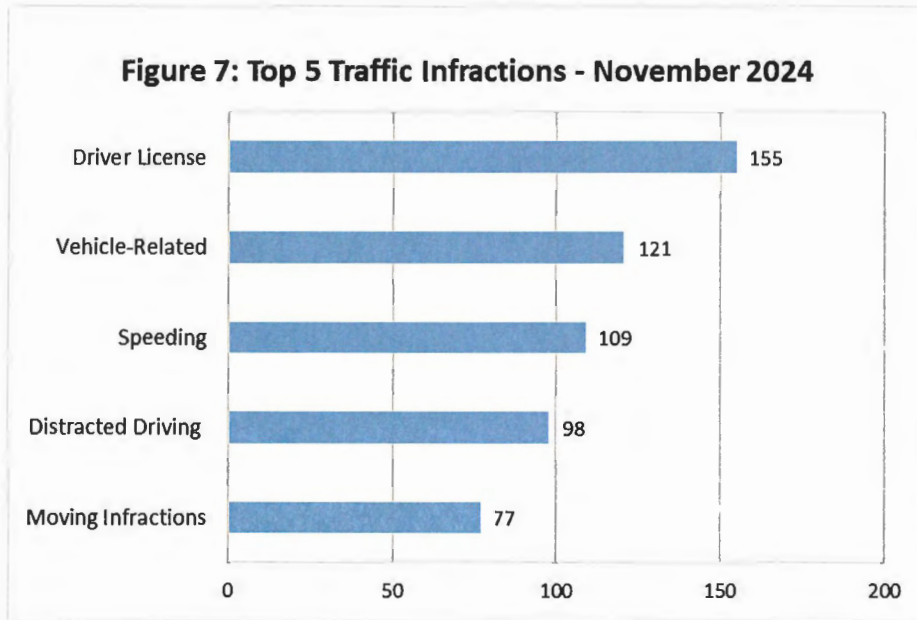
Crime Prevention Unit

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

- Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives
- Impaired Driving Awareness
- Pedestrian Safety
- Place of Worship Patrols
- Remembrance Day
- 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 631 violation tickets were issued in November 2024. Figure 7 provides statistics for the top five infractions for which violation tickets were issued in November:



Victim Services

In November 2024, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 71 new clients and attended six crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 100 files. In November, 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 November, Youth Section highlights included:

- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 68 proactive school visits at secondary schools and 109 visits at elementary schools. Police officers engaged with students during recess, lunch and morning and afternoon supervision.
- DARE classes continued for the first term of the 2024-2025 school year. There were 461 students in 17 classes.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

In November 2024, the Richmond RCMP conducted several notable investigations, including a series of robberies and a break and enter arrest. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the average ranges, except for serious assaults, mental health-related incidents and shoplifting thefts, which were elevated. Commercial break and enters, and thefts from vehicles were below average.

In November, the Community Engagement Team and volunteers continued to promote crime prevention and road safety initiatives, including pedestrian safety education. The Richmond RCMP also hosted its 10th Annual Toy Drive. 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

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
- For more information, visit 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

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

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.



November 2024 STATISTICS

RICHMOND RCMP

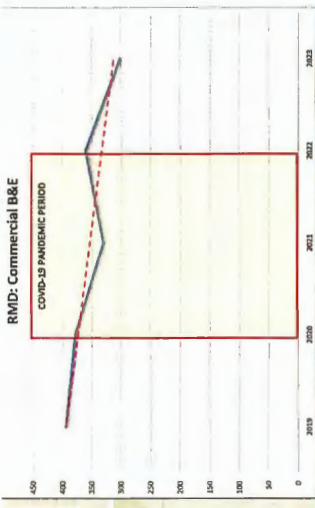
The following information is a limited list of select crime-type samples, which does not comprise the entirety or assortment of all crimes captured by the RCMP. The statistics in this chart should be considered independently of the analysis provided as the data is unrelated to the research provided earlier 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			
	Nov - 24	November		2023	2024	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	168	145.0	136-154	1689	1750	4%	61
Robbery	2	4.8	2-7	58	47	-19%	-11
Assault Common	73	53.2	38-55	546	600	10%	54
Assault Serious	23	15.2	14-16	217	207	-5%	-10
Sexual Offences	16	17.2	13-21	202	224	11%	22
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	606	582.6	513-652	7214	6912	-4%	-302
Business B&E	14	27.0	19-35	286	215	-25%	-71
Residential B&E	26	32.0	15-49	255	235	-8%	-20
Auto Theft	22	22.0	18-26	232	260	12%	28
Theft from Auto	79	127.2	92-162	1339	797	-40%	-542
Theft	115	86.8	66-108	1253	1237	-1%	-16
Shoplifting	117	73.0	53-93	1170	1485	27%	315
Fraud	87	77.4	62-93	927	1060	14%	133
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	288	219.2	187-251	2946	3229	10%	283
Arson (UCR 4000-Series)	8	n/c	n/c	n/c	71	n/c	n/c
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	1062	947.0	877-1017	11853	11951	1%	98
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	17	51.2	25-78	514	222	-57%	-292
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	272	240.8	226-256	2611	2741	5%	130

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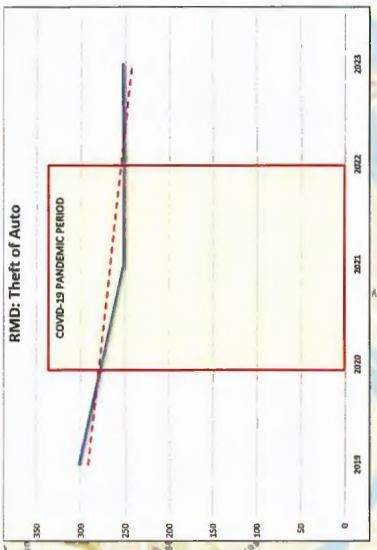


**Commercial Break & Enter
November 2024**

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2024-12-05

**Commercial B&E
N=14**



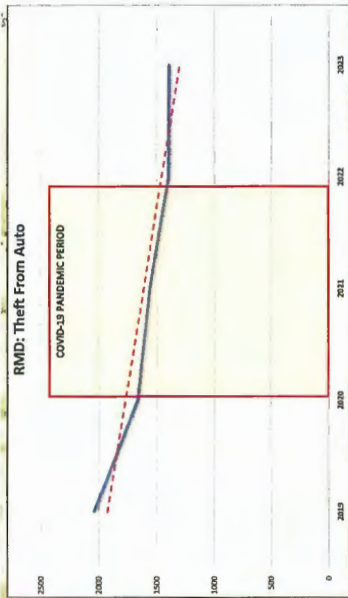


Auto Theft
November 2024

CS - 46

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2024-12-05

Theft From Auto November 2024



Theft From Auto N=79

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2024-12-05