

Report to Committee

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

April 29, 2016

From:

Rendall Nesset, Superintendent

File:

09-5000-01/2016-Vol

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Re:

Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment RCMP's Monthly Report - March 2016 Activities

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled "RCMP's Monthly Report – March 2016 Activities," – dated April 29, 2016 from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP, be received for information.

Rendall Nesset, Superintendent

Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment

(604-278-1212)

Att. 4

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 monthly activity report for the RCMP provides information on each of the following areas:

- 1. Noteworthy Files and Activities
- 2. Auxiliary Constables
- 3. Block Watch
- 4. Community Police Stations and Programs
- 5. Road Safety Unit
- 6. Victim Services

This report supports Council's 2014-2018 Term Goal #1 A Safe Community:

Maintain emphasis on community safety to ensure Richmond continues to be a safe community.

Analysis

Below is the RCMP's monthly report for March 2016.

1. Noteworthy Files and Activities

Arrest of Robbery Suspects

February 27, 2016 - Richmond RCMP officers responded to three robbery related incidents.

- One attempt occurred just before 7:00 a.m. near No. 4 Road and Cambie Road. A lone
 woman was waiting for a bus when a young Caucasian male approached and demanded
 her purse. The woman refused. The suspect may have been spooked by the arrival of a
 transit bus and fled in a white SUV accompanied by a second young Caucasian male
 suspect.
- Fifteen minutes later, near Railway Avenue and Blundell Road, a woman walking alone had her purse grabbed from behind. She sustained injuries after being dragged by the suspect while clutching her purse. A young Caucasian male took the purse and fled in a white SUV. The woman was subsequently transported to hospital for medical treatment. Her injuries were non-life threatening.
- At 2:30 p.m. near the 6000 block of Chelmsford Street, a young Caucasian male pulled up in a white SUV, exited the vehicle near a lone female and stole her purse. Two Caucasian males then fled the scene in the white SUV.

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In each instance descriptions of the suspects and the white SUV were similar. One of Richmond's newest patrols officers, Constable Max Levshuk spotted the vehicle near Trites Road and No. 2 Road. It was his first shift and he had written the description of the vehicle and licence plate on the back of his hand to help him identify the vehicle in the event it would be located during his shift. At the time Constable Levshuk was teamed with veteran Constable Calvin Leung. Leung was mentoring the new officer in pro-active policing habits and the streetscape of the community.

Shortly before 5:30 p.m., the white SUV was spotted near Trites Road and No. 2 Road and the vehicle was approached by Constable Levshuk and Constable Leung. One of the suspects complied with the officers and was arrested without incident. The second suspect failed to follow directions and fled. A short foot chase ensued but quickly culminated in the arrest of the second suspect in the 12000 block of Trites Road. Constable Leung sustained minor injuries, including a fractured finger, as a result of apprehending the suspect.

The three cases are currently under investigation. A 19 year old man, of Nanaimo has been charged with three counts of Robbery and two counts of Possession of Stolen Property. A 26 year old man, of Richmond has been charged with one count of Possession of Property Obtained by Crime and one count of Wilfully Resisting or Obstructing a Peace Officer.

Fatal Motor Vehicle Collision

March 6, 2016, 4:30 p.m. – Richmond RCMP officers attended Westminster Highway and Nelson Road for a motor vehicle collision. A grey Chrysler sedan struck a hydro pole and veered off the highway. Road closures were required for the investigation and damage to hydro lines. The lone occupant of the vehicle, a 59 year old female from Delta, was pronounced deceased at the scene. The Richmond RCMP's Road Safety Unit is investigating along with the assistance of the Integrated Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Service (ICARS) and BC Coroner's Service. Speed and alcohol are being considered as factors in this collision.

Charges Laid in Cyclist Fatality

March 9, 2016 – Richmond RCMP officers from the Road Safety Unit concluded their investigation into a motor vehicle collision that claimed the life of a 64 year old Richmond cyclist in 2013. The collision occurred on September 2, 2013 at 3:25 a.m. in the 4400 block of No. 5 Road where witnesses reported finding a cyclist struck by a vehicle. The 64 year old Richmond resident was found on the sidewalk by residents. Attempts to revive him were unsuccessful. Police located a license plate at the scene and were able to track the driver and vehicle involved in the crash. The 29 year old driver has been charged with one count of Dangerous Driving Causing Death and one count of Fail to stop with Intent to Escape.

Investigation of Bullet Fragments

March 20, 2016, 1:00 p.m. – Richmond RCMP investigated two bullet fragments found inside a residence in the 11000 block of Oldfield Avenue. A resident contacted the police to report the incident. Police believe that a firearm had been discharged and directed at the residence 10

hours prior to the actual report. Officers from the Richmond RCMP Serious Crimes Unit are investigating the incident.

Indecent Act Suspect

March 23, 2016 – Richmond RCMP is investigating a report of an indecent act that occurred in February 2016. During the early morning hours of February 9, 2016, a suspect exposed his genitals to an adult female at a bus stop near General Currie Road and Garden City road. Police exhausted a number of investigative leads and are asking for assistance in identifying a possible suspect from a recently obtained forensic composite sketch (Attachment 4). The suspect is described as:

- Caucasian male
- 40 years old (approximate)
- 5'9" (175 cm) tall (approximate)
- Medium build
- Yellow brown beard
- Last seen wearing a dark coat and dark coloured toque

Community assistance and information can be a critical factor in solving sexual offences.

2. Auxiliary Constables

At the end of March 2016, Richmond Detachment had a complement of 40 auxiliary constables. The auxiliary constables provided 348 volunteer hours in March. Volunteer hours declined in 2016, due to the recent directives from RCMP National HQ.

Figure 1 compares the monthly hours of service provided by month from 2012 to 2016.

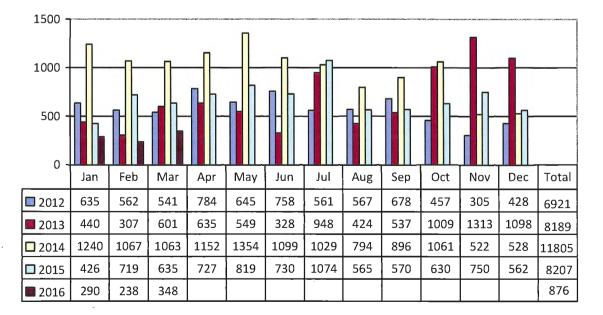


Figure 1: Auxiliary Constable Volunteer Hours

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Auxiliary Constables Activities:

- <u>Crime Watch</u> provided uniformed support to Crime Watch volunteers on weekend patrols.
- <u>Difference Makers</u> provided regular members support in developing and delivering this program. "Difference Makers" assists local students to deliver on positive community initiatives.
- <u>Distracted Driving Campaign</u> participated with Youth Section members in hosting educational events at Richmond secondary schools.
- <u>Pathways Initiative</u> provided support and positive police interactions to clients having mental health issues at Pathways Clubhouse.
- <u>Mobile Command Unit "Pop-Up Detachment"</u> participated with Youth Section members and volunteers to promote community engagement and crime reduction initiatives at Steveston Park and Lansdowne Canada Line Station.
- RevScene Car Show assisted regular members in promoting Cops for Cancer at this event.
- <u>Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.)</u> provided instruction to Grade 5 students to deliver this program to encourage positive choices and discourage drug use.
- <u>School Sports</u> participated in interactive sports events at various elementary schools.
- RCMP Youth Academy participated in this event over spring break, delivering an RCMP style training program to Richmond high school youth.

Block Watch

Block Watch Activities:

- Alerts/Letters In March 2016 there were 50 residential and 13 business burglary email alerts sent to the community as well as 242 residential and 13 business letters sent to registered Richmond residents and businesses. These emails and letters inform home and business owners that a break and enter has occurred, provide crime prevention information, and direct residents and business owners to a crime prevention web page.
- March 31, 2016 an email alert was sent to residential recipients informing them of the Community Safety Earthquake Preparedness presentations being held in April and May 2016.
- Block Watch At the end of March 2016, the Block Watch program had 416 groups containing 9,746 participants. The program contains 553 Block Watch captains/cocaptains. The program increased by 16 participants, and increased by 10 captain/cocaptain over the last month.

• Crime Maps – received 1,576 views in March 2016, which averages to 50 average page views per day.

4. Community Police Station Programs

The Community Police Stations continue to enhance the Detachment's policing service by providing an array of crime prevention resources and community safety initiatives. City staff and volunteers pursued safety initiatives which enhanced crime prevention program awareness, community engagement, police accessibility, and reduced anxiety and fear levels related to crime. The demographics of the program vary from month to month based on weather conditions, seasonal initiatives, events and the availability of the volunteers.

Community Police Station Activities:

- March 1-4, City Centre had a roof leak. Clean up, repairs and replacement equipment was completed by March 4.
- March 9 Distracted Driving Blitz deployed from City Centre Community Police Station (CCCPS) and included Steveston CPS, South Arm CPS, the Road Safety Unit and ICBC. 4,389 vehicles were checked for texting, talking and other forms of distraction.
- March 9 4 City Centre volunteers went to Anderson Elementary School for the sports event with Corporal Krygier.
- March 10 Distracted Driving Blitz 8 City Centre volunteers participated in the
 Distracted Driver's Blitz that was deployed from South Arm CPS, including Road Safety
 Unit, ICBC, Auxiliary Constables and Crime Prevention members. 5,381 vehicles were
 checked at this time for texting and other distractions.
- March 17 Presentation Volunteers attended City Hall for a presentation by Crime Prevention and Drug Section on RCMP core values, professionalism and information on street drugs.
- March 18 Demonstration City Centre volunteers assisted Crime Prevention at Steveston Park for a vision goggle presentation that demonstrated the effects of alcohol through physical activities such as walking a line and shooting a basketball.
- March 24 Community Policing Command Vehicle at the Lansdowne Mall. City Centre volunteers assisted with foot patrols and Lock Out Auto Crime program in the parking lot. 1,077 vehicles were queried through the iPads with 170 notices issued to residents.
- March 29 Distracted Driver's Obstacle Course McNair Senior Secondary School –
 South Arm and City Centre volunteers participated at this event to show the students the
 effects of driving while distracted.
- Fail to Stop At prominent intersections, volunteers monitored areas where drivers were
 not completing full stops at stop signs and red lights. In March 554 information letters
 were sent to the registered owners of vehicles advising them of the fine amounts and
 anticipated consequences had police observed the offence. Areas receiving heightened
 attention were:

- Lansdowne Road/Minoru Boulevard
- Lansdowne Road/Cedarbridge Way
- General Currie Road/Heather Street
- Alexandra Road/Kwantlen Street
- Coppersmith/Horseshoe Way
- Capstan Way/Sexsmith Road
- No. 5 Road/Vulcan Way
- No. 5 Road/Cambie Road
- No. 5 Road/Bridgeport Road
- No. 5 Road/ Steveston Highway
- No. 4 Road/River Road
- No. 2 Road/Moncton Street
- No. 1 Road/Bayview Street
- Volunteer Foot/Bike/Van Patrol In March 2016 there were 19 foot/van patrols and 2 bike patrols totaling 168 hours.
- Speed Watch all three Community Police Stations participated in the Speed Watch program. 10,060 vehicles were checked and 565 letters were sent.

Distracted Drivers

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

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

Figure 2: Distracted Driver Letters Sent

Lock-Out Auto Crime

Figure 3 provides a comparison by year of the number of vehicles notices issued.

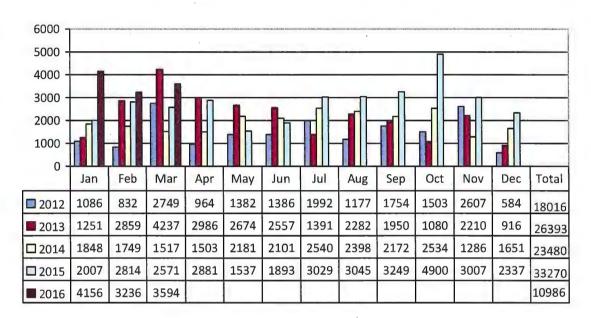


Figure 3: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice

Speed Watch

Figure 4 provides a comparison by year of the number of letters sent to registered owners.

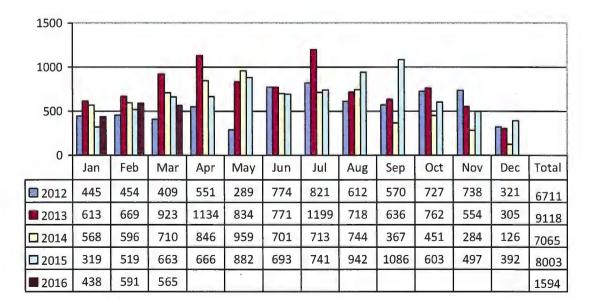


Figure 4: Speed Watch Letters Sent

5. Road Safety Unit

The Road Safety Unit provided Motor Vehicle Act enforcement. The statistics below provides March 2016 data as compared to the previous two months.

Name	Act	Example	Jan 2016	Feb 2016	Mar 2016
Violation Tickets	Provincial Act Offences	Speeding	708	980	1245
Notice & Orders	Equipment Violations	Broken Tail-light	187	289	267
Driving Suspensions	Motor Vehicle Act	24 hour driving prohibition for alcohol or drugs	39	35	33
Parking Offences	Municipal Bylaw	On or off the street Municipal parking offences	2	22	10
MTI's	Municipal Ticket Information	Any other Municipal Bylaw offence	0	1	0

6. Victim Services

- In March 2016 Richmond RCMP Victim Services provided support to 56 clients and attended 7 crime/trauma scenes. The unit maintains an active caseload of 149 on-going files.
- In addition, Victim Services provided on-going emotional support to family conflict issues, medical related sudden deaths and motor vehicle collisions. Some cases were prepared and referred for long term assistance.
- Victim Services responded to a fire scene at a multifamily complex. Emergency Social Services cared for the housing and personal needs of those evacuated while Victim Services assisted those who were emotionally affected by the event.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

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

Edward Warzel

Manager, RCMP Administration

(604-207-4767)

EW:jl

- Att. 1: Crime Prevention Programs Definitions
 - 2: Crime Statistics
 - 3: Crime Maps
 - 4: Composite Sketch

Auxiliary Constables

- The primary mandate of Richmond's Auxiliary Constables is to support community policing activities related to public safety and crime prevention.
- For more information, visit www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/auxiliary.htm

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

Difference Maker Project

 The Difference Maker Project is an off-shoot of the School Sports Programs. Elementary school students are mentored by teachers, police officers and community ambassadors.
 This activity aims to encourage social and civic responsibility amongst elementary and secondary school aged youth through community projects.

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

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.

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.



MARCH 2016 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		
	Mar-16	March		2015	2016	% Change	Change in # of Incidents
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	105	97.8	84-112	260	329	26.5%	69
Robbery	3	7.8	4-11	24	28	16.7%	4
Assault Common	40	39.0	35-43	108	127	17.6%	19
Assault w/ Weapon	11	10.4	8-13	27	27	0.0%	0
Sexual Offences	10	5.6	2-9	7	17	142.9%	10
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	774	648.8	588-710	2014	2184	8.4%	170
Business B&E	29	33.2	23-43	94	85	-9.6%	9
Residential B&E	50	61.0	51-71	222	173	-22.1%	-49
MV Theft	38	25.2	19-32	81	87	7.4%	6
Theft From MV	257	180.2	142-218	543	723	33.1%	180
Theft	99	106.0	88-124	412	315	-23.5%	-97
Shoplifting	90	64.4	53-76	136	229	68.4%	93
Fraud	63	54.6	44-65	149	150	0.7%	1
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	205	161.4	139-184	533	558	4.7%	25
Arson - Property	2	4.0	2-6	13	7	-46.2%	-6
SUBTOTAL (UCR 1000- to 3000-Series)	1084	908.0	820-996	2807	3071	9.4%	264
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	52	59.0	49-69	153	158	3.3%	5

Prepared by Richmond RCMP.

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