



To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** September 15, 2022

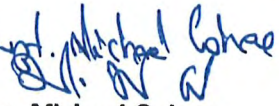
From: Dave Chauhan **File:** 09-5000-01/2022-Vol
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge 01

Re: RCMP Monthly Activity Report – August 2022




Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – August 2022”, dated September 15, 2022, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

Dave Chauhan 
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge
(604-278-1212)

A/Sgt. Michael Cohee

Insp. Michael Cohee
Operations Support Officer
Richmond RCMP
2022-09-23

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 2018-2022 Strategy #1 A Safe and Resilient City:

Enhance and protect the safety and well-being of Richmond.

Analysis

Activities and Noteworthy Files

Assault

On August 9, 2022, the Richmond RCMP released a composite sketch of a suspect involved in an assault on July 24, 2022. Two Richmond seniors sustained non-life-threatening injuries and required hospitalization following an attempted break and enter to their residence in the 7000 block of Gollner Avenue. The investigation is ongoing.

Illegal Ride-Hailing

On August 9, 2022, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release advising that police had identified and fined three illegal ride-hail operators. The joint operation with Passenger Transportation Enforcement Officers resulted in approximately \$1,800 worth of fines for each driver.¹ An additional operation on August 17, 2022, yielded similar results, with four drivers each facing violation tickets totalling nearly \$1,800, in addition to City bylaw fines.

E-Scooter Safety

On August 11, 2022, the Richmond RCMP announced that the Road Safety Unit and community policing volunteers would be working alongside the City of Richmond to provide proactive public

¹ Passenger Transportation Enforcement Officers are Peace Officers who work for the Passenger Transportation Branch and specialize in ensuring the commercial passenger transportation industry is in compliance with the *Passenger Transportation Act*.

education regarding e-scooter safety. Police and volunteers attended a variety of public engagement events and shared information on provincial *Motor Vehicle Act* regulations, City bylaws and traffic safety.

Shots Fired

On August 18, 2022, Richmond RCMP officers responded to the area of Fraserbank Place for reports of gunshots. Officers located a suspect vehicle abandoned in Surrey a short time later. No injuries were reported in the incident, which police believe was targeted. The Richmond RCMP Serious Crime Unit is investigating.

Policing Priorities in Action – “Hate Has No Place” Campaign

On August 22, 2022, the Richmond RCMP renewed its commitment with the City of Richmond to fight hate-related incidents. As part of the “Hate Has No Place” campaign, posters were displayed in City of Richmond facilities to condemn all forms of racism and discrimination. The campaign also encourages victims and witnesses to report hate-motivated incidents directly to police in order to better assist investigators in their efforts to combat these occurrences.

Analysis of Police Statistics

Arson

In August 2022, there were 16 reported arsons, which is up six incidents from the previous month and up 13 incidents from August 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of arsons this month is above the expected range.

The events reported this month included three vehicle fires. All incidents remain under investigation.

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 22 assault serious events in August 2022, which is down four per cent from the previous month and is more than double the number reported in August 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is above the expected range.

Of the events reported this month, 45 per cent occurred in private residences and approximately half were domestic in nature. To date, suspects have been charged in six incidents.

Auto Theft

In August 2022, there were 14 incidents of auto theft, which is a 13 per cent decrease from the previous month and is a 33 per cent decrease from August 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is within the expected range.

Drugs

In August 2022, there were 43 drug files, which is up 30 per cent from the previous month and is up 13 per cent from August 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is within the expected range.

Mental Health

There were 236 mental health-related incidents in August 2022, which is a four per cent increase from the previous month and is an eight per cent decrease from August 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is within the expected range.

There were 71 police apprehensions this month and the average hospital wait time was 90 minutes; both of these statistics are within the expected ranges.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 21 break and enters to residences in August 2022, which is a 24 per cent increase from the previous month and is a five per cent decrease from August 2021. No patterns or trends were identified. The number of residential break and enters this month is within the expected range.

Commercial Break and Enter

In July 2022, there were 17 break and enters to businesses, which represents a 37 per cent decrease from the previous month and is a 54 per cent decrease from August 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters this month is below the expected range.

Robbery

There were nine robbery incidents in August 2022, which is up three incidents from the previous month and up four incidents from August 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is within the expected range.

Physical force was used in three of the robberies reported this month. To date, suspects have been identified in half of the events. The incidents remain under investigation.

Sexual Offences

In August 2022, there were 20 sexual offence files, which is an 11 per cent increase from the previous month and is a 25 per cent increase from August 2021.² No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sexual offences this month is within the expected range.

² The Sexual Offences category comprises a range of offences including: sexual assault, sexual interference, making and distributing child pornography, possessing and accessing child pornography and indecent acts/exposing.

Suspects have been identified in 90 per cent of the incidents reported this month.

Shoplifting

There were 77 reported shoplifting thefts in August 2022, which is an 18 per cent increase from the previous month and is a 26 per cent increase from August 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is within the expected range.

Theft from Automobile

There were 112 theft from automobile incidents in August 2022, which is up 53 per cent from the previous month and down 25 per cent from August 2021. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is below the expected range.

Hate Crimes and Incidents

Table 1 presents the number of hate crimes and hate incidents reported between January 1, 2018 and August 31, 2022.³ 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. The incidents reported this month included racist comments, in addition to racist and homophobic graffiti, including the defacement of the rainbow crosswalk at MacNeil Secondary School.

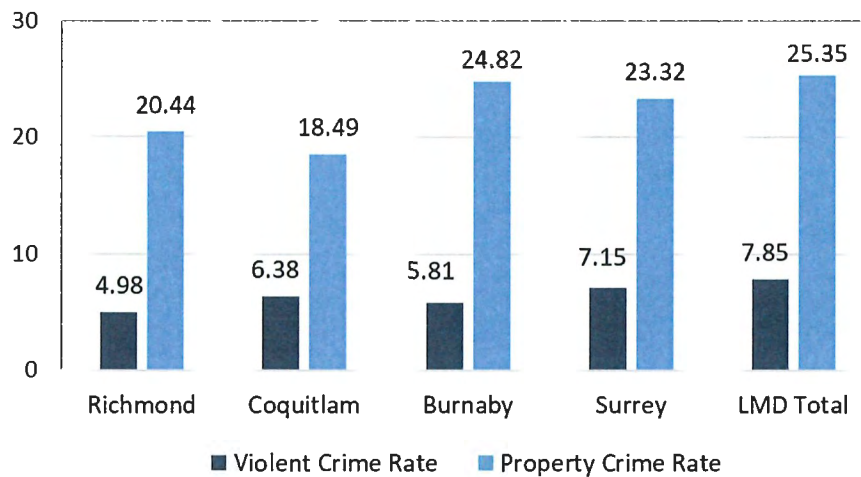
Table 1 – Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents			
Year	Hate Crime Files	Hate Incident Files	Total
2018	19	4	23
2019	11	9	20
2020	21	13	34
2021	19	29	48
2022 (YTD)	7	16	23

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Data on crime rates is presented in Figure 1.⁴ In August 2022, out of the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), Richmond had the lowest violent crime rate and the second-lowest property crime rate.

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

⁴ Crime rate is year to date (YTD) and is calculated per 1,000 people.

Figure 1: August 2022 (YTD) Crime Rates

Block Watch

At the end of August 2022, the Block Watch program had 300 groups totaling 6,955 participants. Currently, the program includes 435 captains and co-captains.

Community Police Station Programs

Community police stations continue to enhance the Detachment's policing services by providing an array of crime prevention resources and community safety initiatives. City staff and volunteers pursue safety initiatives to enhance crime prevention program awareness, community engagement and police accessibility. These initiatives help to reduce anxiety and fear related to crime. The program activities vary from month to month reflective of weather conditions, seasonal initiatives and the availability of volunteers.

During the month of August, volunteer highlights included:

- The deployment of three volunteer bike patrols, totalling 44 hours and seven volunteer foot/van patrols totalling 40 hours.
- A total of 14 Fail to Stop deployments took place, which resulted in 407 information letters.
- There were 30 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, during which 156 information letters were distributed.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 942 vehicles and 38 information letters were issued.
- Volunteers visited 35 community centres and local places of worship to distribute Hate has no Place posters.
- August 3 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with in an engagement event at the Minoru Centre for Active Living, which included crime prevention information, the

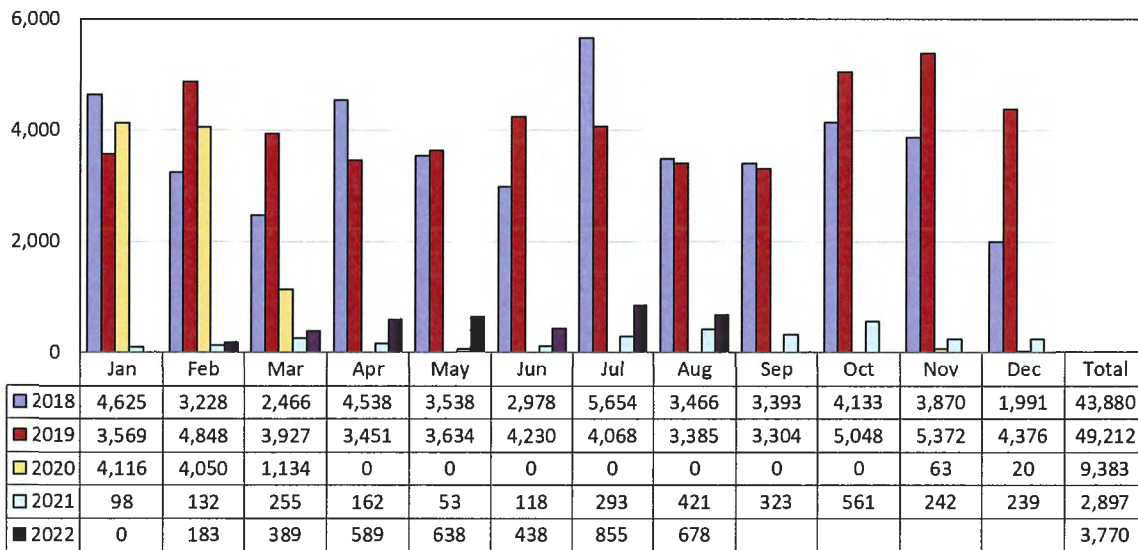
Project 529 Bike registry and e-bike/e-scooter safety awareness. A total of 13 bicycles and three e-scooters were registered.

- August 10 – In partnership with ICBC, volunteers and RCMP officers attended CEFA Day Care and provided safety presentations and tours of a police vehicle to 32 children. Child safety seat posters and brochures were also provided for distribution.
- August 20 and 21 – A total of 19 volunteers participated in the Maritime Festival in Steveston, where they conducted foot patrols and provided information on the Project 529 bike registry. There was also an RCMP information booth at the event and volunteers shared safety information relating to e-scooters.
- August 26 – Volunteers conducted bike patrols in Hamilton and distributed Hate has no Place posters.
- August 27 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Special Post-Incident Community Engagement (SPICE) event in Hamilton. The SPICE event was in response to a recent targeted shooting in the area. Victim Services were also in attendance to offer support to community members impacted by the incident.

Lock Out Auto Crime

Figure 2 provides a comparison by year of the number of vehicle notices issued.⁵

Figure 2: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice

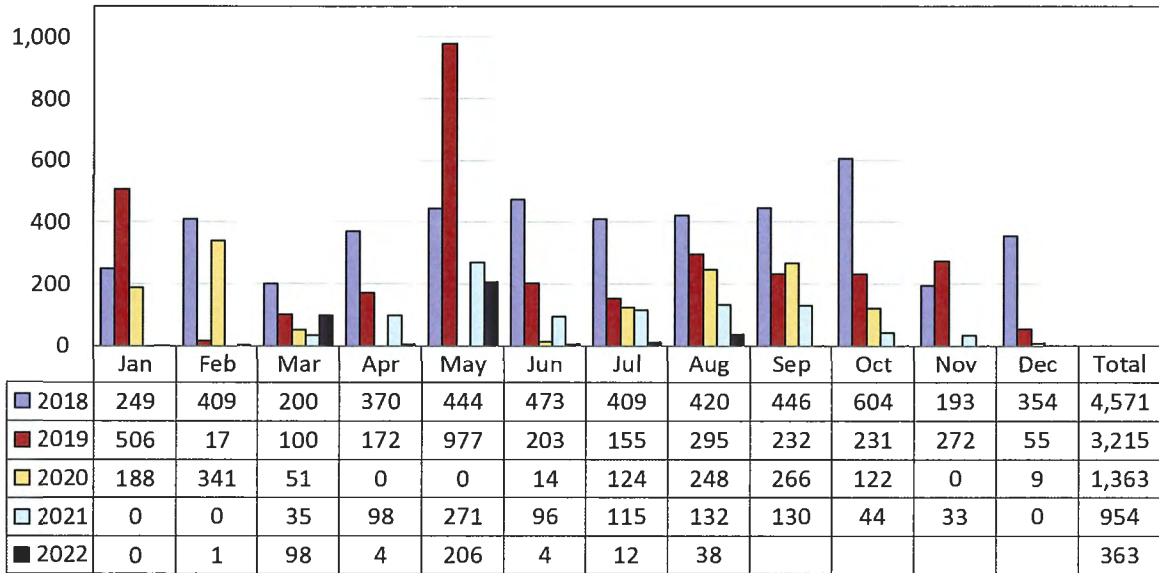


⁵ Beginning in November 2020, Lock Out Auto Crime letters were issued in place of notices due to COVID-19-related concerns. Letters are only issued to vehicles displaying security vulnerabilities; whereas previously, notices were issued to all vehicles. This has resulted in a significant reduction in the number of letters issued.

Speed Watch

Figure 3 provides a yearly comparison of the number of letters sent to registered vehicle owners.

Figure 3: Speed Watch Letters Sent



Crime Prevention Unit

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

- Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives
- Lock Out Auto Crime
- Maritime Festival
- Place of Worship Patrols
- Road Safety Enforcement
- SPICE Event

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. Table 2 compares statistics for August 2022 to both June 2022 and July 2022. Violation tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Table 2: Violation Tickets Issued

Infraction	June 2022	July 2022	August 2022
Distracted Driving	100	71	51
Driver License	145	172	162
Impaired	35	47	44
Intersection Offences	26	56	46
Moving Infractions ⁶	73	71	76
Speeding	130	103	83
Seatbelts	16	31	20
Vehicle Related ⁷	49	100	51
Other ⁸	9	5	2
Total	583	656	535

Victim Services

In August 2022, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 117 new clients and attended nine crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 119 files. In August, Victim Services responded to a number of cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, family conflict and mental health issues.

Youth Section

The Richmond RCMP Detachment's Youth Section focuses on strategies that contribute to safe and healthy behaviours essential to the development of productive and civic-minded adults. During the month of August, Youth Section highlights included:

- The Youth Section participated in multiple engagement activities at local community centers where youth camps were in session. This included speaking with youth and their parents, distributing stickers and offering tours of police vehicles.
- RCMP officers in the Youth Section participated in a youth camp for newcomers to Canada. They provided internet safety presentations as well as a discussion on the role of police in the community.

⁶ Moving infractions refers to unsafe lane change and unsafe passing.

⁷ Vehicle related refers to vehicle defects, for example no lights and no insurance.

⁸ Other refers to miscellaneous charges including failing to remain at the scene of an accident and failing to stop for police.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

In August 2022, the Richmond RCMP promoted a number of noteworthy public education and engagement projects, including the Hate Has No Place campaign and e-scooter safety. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the expected ranges, with the exception of serious assaults and arsons, which were elevated and commercial break and enters and thefts from vehicles, which were below the expected ranges.

In August, the Community Engagement Team and volunteers continued to promote crime prevention and road safety initiatives. The Officer in Charge of the Richmond RCMP Detachment will continue to ensure that Richmond remains a safe and desirable community.



Edward Warzel
Manager, 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.

AUGUST 2022 STATISTICS

RICHMOND RCMP

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 range data is based on activity within a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the expected average range (using one standard deviation) due to crime trends, patterns, or spikes, it will be noted in **red**. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the expected average range due to primarily non-operational reasons such as the new UCR standards or other scoring issues, the total will be noted in **purple**. Below expected numbers will be noted in **blue**.


Mental Health file query has been updated to capture all types of mental health study flags versus one type. Mental health study flag file numbers have been updated for the last five years. This change does not impact mental health apprehension numbers or hospital wait times.

	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	Aug - 22	August		2021	2022	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	170	138.8	123-154	1166	1123	-4%	-43
Robbery <small>UCR 15.0 (1-3)</small>	9	5.8	4-8	38	46	21%	8
Assault Common <small>UCR 430</small>	65	47.6	39-57	364	400	10%	36
Assault Serious <small>UCR 430, 432</small>	22	11.8	8-15	129	143	11%	14
Sexual Offences <small>UCR 131.5, 130, 156, 131, 3850, 56/58</small>	20	17.0	13-21	163	140	-14%	-23
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	588	624.4	590-659	4270	4474	5%	204
Business B&E <small>UCR 2120-1</small>	17	34.2	29-39	220	245	11%	25
Residential B&E <small>UCR 2120-2</small>	21	42.0	28-56	224	218	-3%	-6
Auto Theft <small>UCR 2135 (1-10), 2178</small>	14	26.2	18-35	167	159	-5%	-8
Theft from Auto <small>UCR 2132, 2142</small>	112	159.4	153-166	1097	921	-16%	-176
Theft <small>UCR 2130, 2140</small>	105	80.0	62-98	448	694	55%	246
Shoplifting <small>UCR 2133, 2143</small>	77	69.6	55-84	483	528	9%	45
Fraud <small>UCR 2110 (10), 2105, 2105</small>	57	68.6	58-79	586	532	-9%	-54
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	315	231.4	198-265	1972	1927	-2%	-45
Arson <small>UCR 1029, 2100</small>	16	3.4	3-4	51	59	16%	8
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	1073	994.6	967-1022	7411	7530	2%	119
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	43	51.2	37-65	294	382	30%	88
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	236	249.6	228-271	2005	1882	-6%	-123

Prepared by Richmond RCMP Crime Analysts. Data collected from PRIME on 2022-09-05. Published 2022-09-06. These data are operational and 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).

Residential Break & Enter August 2022



 Residential Break & Enter - 21

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2022-09-06

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

CS - 44



Business Break & Enter August 2022



Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2022-09-06

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

CS - 45

★ Business Break & Enter - 17



Theft from Auto August 2022



Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2022-09-06


0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

CS - 46



Auto Theft August 2022



 Auto Theft - 14

Richmond RCMP
Crime Analysis Unit
2022-09-06

0 1 2 3 4 Kilometers

CS - 47