

## **Community Safety Committee**

Anderson Room, City Hall 6911 No. 3 Road Tuesday, January 15, 2013 4:00 p.m.

Pg. # ITEM

#### **MINUTES**

CS-5 Motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee held on Wednesday, November 14, 2012.

#### **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE**

Wednesday, February 13, 2013, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in the Anderson Room

### LAW AND COMMUNITY SAFETY DEPARTMENT

1. **COMMUNITY BYLAWS – OCTOBER 2012 ACTIVITY REPORT** (File Ref. No. 12-8060-01) (REDMS No. 3705969)

COMMUNITY BYLAWS – NOVEMBER 2012 ACTIVITY REPORT (File Ref. No. 12-8060-01) (REDMS No. 3722383)

CS-11 See Page CS-11 for full report

Designated Speaker: Edward Warzel

Pg. # ITEM

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- (1) That the staff report titled Community Bylaws October 2012 Activity Report (dated November 14, 2012 from the General Manager, Law & Community Safety), be received for information; and
- (2) That the staff report titled Community Bylaws November 2012 Activity Report (dated December 10, 2012 from the General Manager, Law & Community Safety), be received for information.
- 2. **RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE OCTOBER 2012 ACTIVITY REPORT** (File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 3704592)

RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE – NOVEMBER 2012 ACTIVITY REPORT (File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 3723541 v.2)

**CS-25** 

#### See Page CS-25 for full report

Designated Speaker: Fire Chief John McGowan

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- (1) That the staff report titled Richmond Fire-Rescue October 2012 Activity Report (dated November 12, 2012, from the Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue) be received for information; and
- (2) That the staff report titled Richmond Fire-Rescue November 2012 Activity Report (dated December 17, 2012, from the Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue) be received for information.
- 3. RCMP'S MONTHLY REPORT OCTOBER 2012 ACTIVITIES (File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 3699882)

RCMP'S MONTHLY REPORT – NOVEMBER 2012 ACTIVITIES (File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 3717275)

**CS-37** 

#### See Page CS-37 for full report

Designated Speaker: Supt. Renny Nesset

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

(1) That the report titled RCMP's Monthly Report – October 2012 Activities (dated November 1, 2012, from the OIC RCMP) be received for information; and Pg. # ITEM

(2) That the report titled RCMP's Monthly Report – November 2012 Activities (dated December 3, 2012, from the OIC RCMP) be received for information.

4. FORSAKEN: THE REPORT OF THE MISSING WOMEN COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

(File Ref. No.) (REDMS No. 3736901 v.4)

**CS-65** 

#### See Page **CS-65** for full report

Designated Speaker: Barbara Sage

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

#### That:

- (1) the City work collaboratively and constructively with the Honourable Steven Point's advisory committee (the "Advisory Committee") on the safety and security of vulnerable women tasked with providing community-based guidance on the recommendations and two additional proposals contained in the report entitled, Forsaken: The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (the "Report");
- (2) if the Advisory Committee is not working on regional policing, that the Province be requested to act on Recommendation 9.2 of the Report by establishing an independent expert committee to develop a proposed model and implementation plan for a Greater Vancouver police force; and
- (3) staff report back to the Community Safety Committee on the Province's progress in acting on Recommendation 9.2 of the Report (establishing an independent expert committee to develop a proposed model and implementation plan for a Greater Vancouver police force).

#### 5. FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING

(Verbal Report)

Designated Speaker: Fire Chief John McGowan

Items for discussion:

(i) Results of Movember Challenge between Richmond Fire-Rescue & Richmond RCMP

	Comm	unity Safety Committee Agenda – Tuesday, January 15, 2013
Pg. #	ITEM	
		(ii) Open Houses for Christmas Lighting Events
		(iii) Christmas Tree Chipping
		(iv) New Battalion Chief
	6.	RCMP/OIC BRIEFING (Verbal Report)
		Designated Speaker: Supt. Renny Nesset
		Item for discussion:
		(i) Update on New Years
	7.	MANAGER'S REPORT
		(i) Pacific Region Training Centre and Depot Division

**ADJOURNMENT** 





### **Community Safety Committee**

Date:

Wednesday, November 14, 2012

Place:

Anderson Room

Richmond City Hall

Present:

Councillor Derek Dang, Chair

Councillor Ken Johnston Councillor Bill McNulty Mayor Malcolm Brodie

Absent:

Councillor Linda McPhail

Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt

Also Present:

Councillor Chak Au

Call to Order:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

#### **MINUTES**

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee held on Wednesday, October 10, 2012 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

#### NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

Tuesday, December 11, 2012, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in the Anderson Room

#### INTRODUCTION

Phyllis Carlyle, General Manager, Law & Community Safety, introduced Edward Warzel, Manager, Community Bylaws and commented on Mr. Warzel's work experience.

#### LAW AND COMMUNITY SAFETY DEPARTMENT

## 1. RCMP'S MONTHLY REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2012 ACTIVITIES (File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 3654308 v.3)

Inspector Sean Maloney reviewed the Richmond RCMP's September 2012 activities. He highlighted activities at the City Centre Community Police Office and commented on cell phone thefts.

In reply to a query from the Chair, Insp. Maloney advised that as the holiday season approaches, the RCMP will be focusing on drinking and driving.

It was moved and seconded

That the report titled RCMP's Monthly Report - September 2012 Activities (dated November 12, 2012, from the OIC, RCMP) be received for information.

**CARRIED** 

## 2. RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE – SEPTEMBER 2012 ACTIVITY REPORT (File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 3679339)

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled Richmond Fire-Rescue – September 2012 Activity Report (dated October 17, 2012, from the Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue) be received for information.

CARRIED

## 3. COMMUNITY BYLAWS - SEPTEMBER 2012 ACTIVITY REPORT (File Ref. No. 12-8060-01) (REDMS No. 3688016)

In reply to a query from Committee in regards to the Grease Management Program, Wayne Mercer, Manager, Community Bylaws, advised that if a restaurant owner demonstrates an immediate effort to comply, a violation notice may be changed to warning. He stated that this process is documented and if a subsequent inspection of the same restaurant identifies the same contravention, a violation notice is issued.

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled Community Bylaws – September 2012 Activity Report (dated October 15, 2012 from the General Manager, Law & Community Safety), be received for information.

**CARRIED** 

#### 4. POLICE SERVICES MODELS

(File Ref. No.) (REDMS No. 3685832 v. 25)

Ms. Carlyle advised that staff received the RCMP report titled 'Richmond Detachment Service Delivery: The RCMP Advantage' late last Friday and as such, staff are not in a position to comment on the contents of the report.

Ms. Carlyle clarified that the findings in Table 2 of the staff report titled Police Services Models in relation to transition costs are reflective of a gradual transition. She stated that a handover of police services would be an enormous undertaking; therefore, in an effort to provide continuous service, transition time estimates are a minimum of two to three years. During this period, there would be a staffing overlap between the two agencies.

Discussion ensued and Committee commented that a breakdown and analysis of the RCMP report titled 'Richmond Detachment Service Delivery: The RCMP Advantage' is needed, in particular as it relates to one-time and transition costs.

In reply to queries from Committee, Ms. Carlyle commented on the potential police services governance models. She noted that unless all policing services are contracted out, a Police Services Board would have to be created. Council would be represented by the Mayor on this future Board; however, the Province would control the majority of appointments to this Board. Also, Ms. Carlyle commented on police services governance models outside British Columbia, noting that no police services governance model provides Council with full autonomy.

Ms. Carlyle provided background information regarding the Township of Esquimalt's police services model with the City of Victoria, noting that the Province overruled the Township of Esquimalt's choice to contract with the RCMP for policing services. Discussion ensued and it was noted that it may be beneficial for Richmond City Council to hear from members of the Township of Esquimalt's Council as it relates to their experience with establishing a new police services model. Also, it was suggested that Richmond City Council hear from a non-adjacent jurisdiction that has an independent police department and contracts out for external specialized services.

Discussion ensued and it was noted that Richmond's consideration of alternate police services models does not reflect dissatisfaction with the Richmond RCMP.

In reply to a query, Ms. Carlyle commented that the Delta Police Department provides in-house specialized services.

As a result of the discussions, the following referral was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

That:

- (1) the staff report titled Police Services Model, dated November 7, 2012 from the General Manager, Law & Community Safety, be referred back to staff to examine the finances for Option 2B (Independent Police Department with External Specialized Services) and to provide:
  - (a) a further analysis of the one-time and the transition costs for Option 2B;
  - (b) a further analysis of the Vancouver Police Department's assumptions as they relate to Option 2B;
- (2) staff analyse and comment on the RCMP report titled 'Richmond Detuchment Service Delivery: The RCMP Advantage;'
- (3) staff enter into discussions to determine the prospect of whether a regional police force would be led by the Province; and
- (4) Council hear from representatives of (i) the Township of Esquimalt, and (ii) another non-adjacent jurisdiction with an Independent Police Department with External Specialized Services.

**CARRIED** 

#### 5. FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING

(Verbal Report)

(i) Fire Prevention Week Update

Kim Howell, Deputy Fire Chief, commented on various Fire Prevention Week initiatives and highlighted that this year's national theme was to plan and to practice two ways out of each room of the house.

## 6. JOINT FIRE CHIEF & RCMP BRIEFING

(Verbal Report)

#### (iii) Pedestrian Safety Campaign

Insp. Maloney and Deputy Fire Chief Tim Wilkinson stated that a second Pedestrian Safety campaign would be launched on November 21, 2012 and would run in the morning and in the afternoon at high traffic and pedestrian areas. This joint initiative is directed at pedestrians, drivers and cyclists to promote key safety messages when crossing and using the roads.

#### (i) Remembrance Day Event Update

Insp. Maloney and Deputy Fire Chief Tim Wilkinson spoke of the City's Remembrance Day event.

#### (ii) Movember

Deputy Fire Chief Wilkinson commented on Movember, noting that there will be a shave-off event for participating Richmond Fire-Rescue members on November 29, 2012.

It was moved and seconded

That the Joint Fire Chief & RCMP Briefing verbal reports be received for information.

**CARRIED** 

Councillor McNulty left the meeting (5:06 p.m.) and did not return.

#### 7. RCMP BRIEFING

(Verbal Report)

#### (i) Halloween

Insp. Maloney commented on the number of service calls on Halloween, and stated that there were no major calls.

#### (ii) Operation Red Nose

Insp. Maloney stated that Operation Red Nose will be running from November 25, 2012 to December 21, 2012.

(iii) Awards - Queen's Jubilee, Governor General's Award, Punjabi Radio

Insp. Maloney commented on members of the Richmond RCMP receiving various awards.

#### 8. MANAGER'S REPORT

None.

#### ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (5:15 p.m.).

**CARRIED** 

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Wednesday, November 14, 2012.

Councillor Derek Dang Chair Hanieh Berg Committee Clerk



## **Report to Committee**

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

November 14, 2012

From:

Phyllis L. Carlyle

File:

12-8060-01/2011-Vol 01

Company L. Carryle

General Manager, Law & Community Safety

Re:

Community Bylaws - October 2012 Activity Report

#### Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled Community Bylaws – October 2012 Activity Report (dated November 14, 2012 from the General Manager, Law & Community Safety), be received for information.

Phyllis L. Carlyle

General Manager, Law & Community Safety

(604.276.4104)

	REPORT CONCURRE	ENCE
ROUTED TO:	Concurrence	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Budgets Engineering Parks	<u> </u>	
REVIEWED BY SMT SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS:	REVIEWED BY CAO

#### Staff Report

#### Origin

This monthly activity report for the Community Bylaws Division provides information on each of the following areas:

- 1. Parking Program
- 2. Property Use
- 3. Grease Management Program
- 4. Animal Control
- 5. Adjudication Program
- 6. Revenue & Expenses

#### **Analysis**

#### 1. Parking Program

#### Customer Service Response

The average number of daily calls for service fielded by administration staff on parking issues for October 2012 was 32, a decrease of approximately 34% when compared to the number of service calls reported for the month of September 2012 (i.e. return to historical norm following summer season).

#### Enforcement Activity

The number of parking violations that were either cancelled and/or changed to a warning for the month of October 2012 was 216, reflecting 11.33% of the violations issued in October 2012. The following list provides a breakdown of the most common reasons for the cancellation of bylaw violation notices pursuant to Council's Grounds for Cancellation Policy No. 1100 under specific sections:

Section 2.1 (a) Identity issues	17	7.90%
Section 2.1 (b) Exception specified i	in the Bylaw 1	0.40%
Section 2.1 (c) Poor likelihood of su	access at adjudication 22	10.20%
Section 2.1 (d) Contravention necess	sary - health related 1	0.40%
Section 2.1 (e) Multiple violations is	ssued for one incident 8	3.70%
Section 2.1 (f) Not in the public into	erest 110	51.00%
Section 2.1 (g) Proven effort to com	ply 57	26.40%

A total of 1907 notices of bylaw violation were issued for parking, safety and liability infractions within the City during the month of October 2012, a decrease of approximately 29% when compared to the number of violations issued during the month of October 2011.

#### Program Highlights

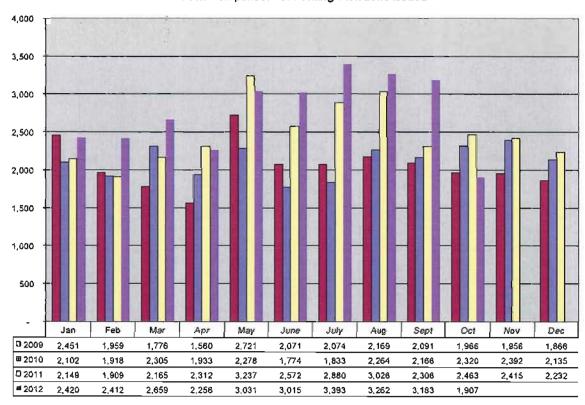
Focused enforcement within the Steveston core concluded at the end of September with laneway permit restrictions being removed on October 1, 2012. However, a post-program review concluded that permit controls within the lanes were successful, but lack of signage was a public

concern. As reflected during the entire trial period, the majority of violations issued in Steveston encompassed safety and liability infractions related to hydrants, crosswalks, bus zones and no stopping zones. Note; the City's Transportation Department is currently completing an analysis and report of the trial program (i.e. Steveston Parking Strategy).

Parking meter vandalism continues to be a recurring concern, which negatively impacts meter revenue because of downtime and repairs. In October 2012, four incidents of vandalism were reported.

Significant restrictions were recently instituted in relation to communication protocols impacting all municipalities utilizing E-Comm dispatch within B.C. ICBC implemented a no-call restriction with the majority of its' municipal partners because of overwhelming demands on this service. As a consequence, bylaw officers are no longer able to acquire timely registered owner information, vehicle insurance status and residence data, which negatively impacts enforcement efficiencies within Richmond. This has impeded the ability of the bylaw team to provide optimum customer relations within the field, as well as to make a proper assessment on certain infractions (e.g. officer's are unable to locate residents for customer service follow-up or to effectively assess the merit for escalated enforcement, such as towing a vehicle for no insurance). None the less, radio communications remain a pivotal tool for officer safety.

Following is a month-to-month comparison chart on the number of violations that have been issued for the years 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012:



2009 - 2012 Comparison for Parking Violations Issued

#### 2. Property Use

#### Customer Service Response

The average number of daily calls for service fielded by administration staff on property use issues for October 2012 was sixteen, an increase of approximately 128% when compared to the number of daily service calls reported for the month of September 2012.

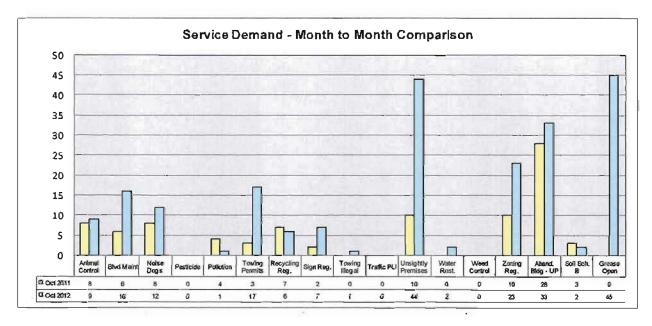
#### **Enforcement Activity**

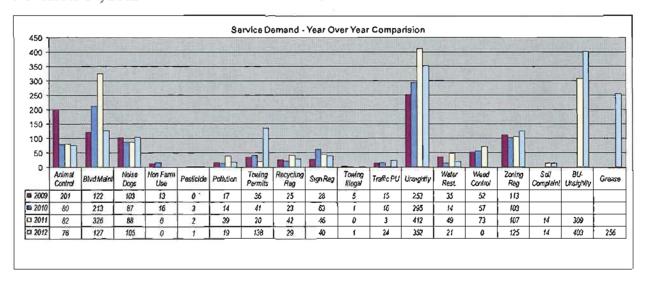
Bylaw Liaison Property Use Officers continue to be committed to the delivery of professional by-law enforcement in a timely and effective manner. The mandate is to achieve compliance with the City's regulatory by-laws through education, mediation and, as necessary, progressive enforcement and prosecution. For October 2012, 173 investigation files were created and assigned for inspection and appropriate enforcement, an increase of approximately 51% when compared to October 2011. This increase is due in part to the tow permit renewals and largely to the increase in unsightly premises complaints files addressed when compared to this same time period in 2011.

Proactive enforcement efforts continue with regard to the abandoned or vacant home Joint Operations program in concert with RCMP and Richmond Fire-Rescue that began in June 2011. There were 33 abandoned/vacant home investigation files created during the month of October 2012.

As in the past our Bylaw Officers conducted patrols to ensure public safety on Halloween night. This initiative was part of an integrated team effort with the RCMP, Richmond Fire and Rescue, and Emergency Programs. This year Community Bylaws had two vehicles with four officers on patrol from 7:00 pm to 12:00 am. The Officers reported minimal safety concerns, a large amount of illegal fireworks were surrendered and three MTIs were issued for contravention of the City's Fireworks Regulation Bylaw 7917.

The following charts delineate Property Use service demand, by type, for October 2012 with a comparison to October 2011, as well as a year-over-year running comparison:





#### 3. Grease Management Program

The Grease Management Inspector conducted sixty seven (67) regulatory visits to fifty (50) food sector establishments during the month of October 2012. There were three bylaw violation notices issued, however all three notices were switched to 'Warning Tickets' due to expedient compliance. The Grease Management Inspector also conducted three site visits to investigate a complaint regarding an oil drum abandoned along Saba Road and all problems were resolved shortly after investigation.

The Grease Management Inspector conducted two meetings with the Management of Aberdeen Centre (ie) Hazelbridge Way) to discuss their grease management and compliance with the Drainage, Dyke & Sanitary Sewer System Bylaw No. 7551. The meetings resulted in cooperation by the Management of Aberdeen Centre who agreed to increase the cleaning frequency for five of their centralised grease interceptors. In addition, leaflets and best-practice stickers were delivered to all food providers in the mall.

Finally, two cases were referred to Metro Vancouver for decisions on the installation of grease interceptors and/or traps. Of particular note, first inspections are garnering a high degree of voluntary compliance through education, issuance of warnings and the dissemination of grease management protocols.

#### 4. Dispute Adjudication Program

Adjudication Hearings were scheduled for September 25, 2012, resulting in the following outcome;

- Seventeen violations upheld (one disputant did not attend and the allegation was deemed to have occurred)
- One violation suspended

Note; the next hearing was scheduled for November 27, 2012

#### 5. Animal Control

- For the month of October 2012, there were six dog bite incidents reported resulting in an equal number of dangerous dog investigations.
- Staff issued twenty-five new dog licences during October 2012, to bring the total number of dogs licensed in Richmond for 2012 to 5,512. The number of dangerous dog licenses issued or renewed in Richmond as of October 2012 was eighty-five.
- Officers within Community Bylaws responded to sixteen requests for enforcement patrols during the month of October 2012.

#### 6. Revenue and Expenses

The following information is a month to month analysis of October 2012 compared October 2011.

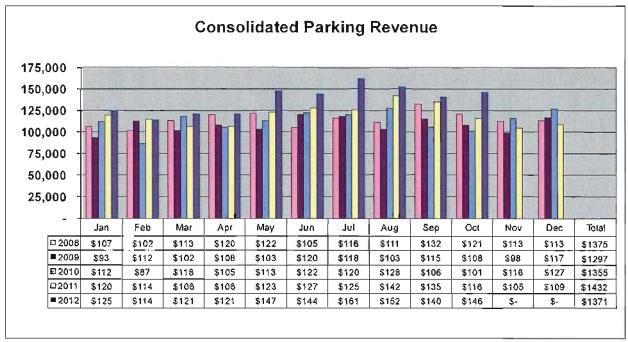
Consolidated Parking Program Revenue from parking meter, monthly permit, and enforcement revenues increased by 25.7% over the same period last year. Specifically, consolidated revenues were \$145,665 for October 2012 compared to \$115,891 for October 2011. Overall revenue figures for 2011 are consistent with the anticipated final revenue figures for 2012.

Meter Revenue increased by 12.9% over the same period last year. Specifically, meter revenue was \$44,024 for October 2012 compared to \$38,998 for October 2011.

**Permit Revenue** increased by 2.9.% over the same period last year. Specifically, permit revenue was \$13,083 for October 2012 compared to \$12,717 for October 2011.

Enforcement Revenue increased by 38.0% over the same period last year. Specifically, enforcement revenue was \$88,558 for October 2012 compared to \$64,176 for October 2011.

The following chart provides a consolidated revenue comparison with prior years:



#### Conclusion

Community Bylaw staff continue to strive to maintain the quality of life and safety of the residents of the City of Richmond through coordinated team efforts with many City departments and community partners while promoting a culture of compliance.

Wayne G. Mercer Manager, Community Bylaws

(604.247.4601)

ML:m)



## **Report to Committee**

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

December 10, 2012

From:

Phyllis L. Carlyle

File:

12-8060-01/2011-Vol 01

General Manager, Law & Community Safety

Re:

Community Bylaws - November 2012 Activity Report

#### Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled Community Bylaws - November 2012 Activity Report (dated December 10, 2012 from the General Manager, Law & Community Safety), be received for information.

Phyllis L. Carlyle

General Manager, Law & Community Safety

(604.276.4104)

REPORT CONCURRENCE					
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER			
Budgets Engineering Parks	<b>9</b> -	y ay			
REVIEWED BY SMT SUBCOMMITTEE	INVIDECS) F	REVIEWED BY CAO			

#### Staff Report

#### Origin

This monthly activity report for the Community Bylaws Division provides information on each of the following areas:

- 1. Parking Program
- 2. Property Use
- 3. Grease Management Program
- 4. Animal Control
- 5. Adjudication Program
- 6. Revenue & Expenses

#### **Analysis**

#### 1. Parking Program

#### Customer Service Response

The average number of daily calls for service fielded by administration staff on parking issues for November 2012 was forty, an increase of approximately 25% when compared to the number of service calls reported for the month of October 2012, and at par when compared to the numbers reported during the month of November 2011.

#### **Enforcement Activity**

The number of parking violations that were either cancelled and/or changed to a warning for the month of November 2012 was 223, reflecting 9.43% of the violations issued in November 2012.

The following list provides a breakdown of the most common reasons for the cancellation of bylaw violation notices pursuant to Council's Grounds for Cancellation Policy No. 1100 under specific sections:

Section 2.1 (a)	Identity issues	21	9.42%
Section 2.1 (c)	Poor likelihood of success at adjudication	42	18.83%
Section 2.1 (d)	Contravention necessary - health related	1	0.45%
Section 2.1 (e)	Multiple violations issued for one incident	7	3.14%
Section 2.1 (f)	Not in the public interest	93	41.70%
Section 2.1 (g)	Proven effort to comply	59	26.46%

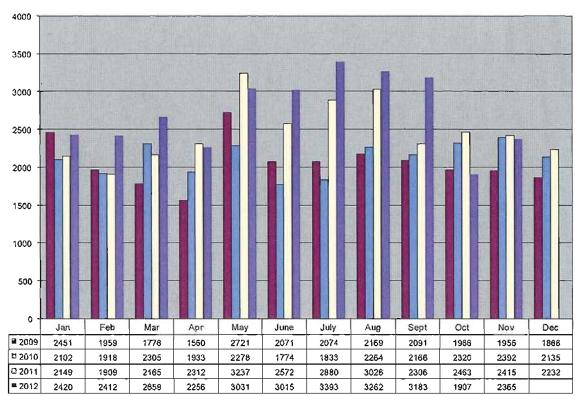
A total of 2365 notices of bylaw violation were issued for parking, safety and liability infractions within the City during the month of November 2012, a decrease of approximately 2% when compared to the number of violations issued during the month of November 2011.

#### Program Highlights

Parking meter vandalism continues to be a recurring concern that negatively impacts meter revenue due to downtime and repairs. In November 2012, two incidents of vandalism were reported. Recent Council approval of the replacement of all out-dated parking equipment is expected to abate this matter, as well as enhance parking operations and revenues.

The Parking section continues to work with the Richmond Centre for Disabilities (RCD), on a plan to implement the recently approved changes to accessible parking permit privileges. This plan will entail the distribution of special decals through RCD, a public relations and communications strategy and escalating enforcement, all to be implemented during the first quarter of 2013.

The following is a month-to-month comparison chart on the number of violations that have been issued for the years 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012:



2009 - 2012 Comparison for Parking Violations Issued

#### 2. Property Use

#### Customer Service Response

The average number of daily calls for service fielded by administration staff on property use issues for November 2012 was thirteen, a decrease of approximately 62% when compared to the

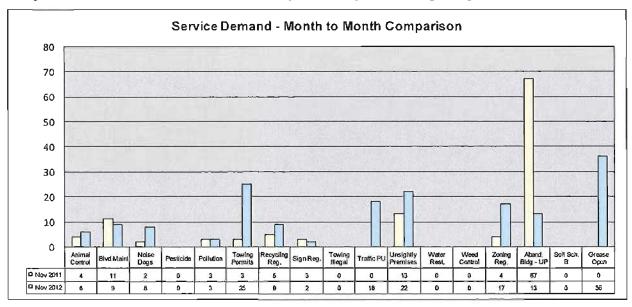
number of daily service calls reported for the month of October 2012, and an increase of 23% when compared to the numbers reported during the month of November 2011.

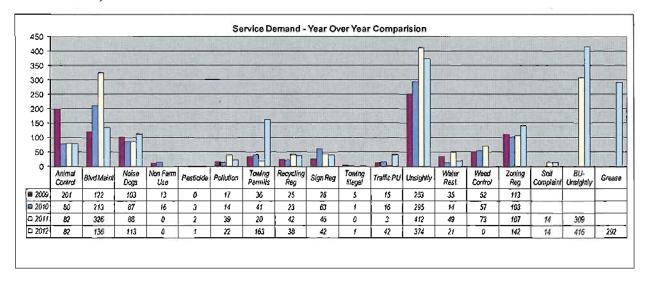
#### Enforcement Activity

Bylaw Liaison Property Use Officers continue to be committed to the delivery of professional by-law enforcement in a timely and effective manner. The mandate is to achieve compliance with the City's regulatory by-laws through education, mediation and, as necessary, progressive enforcement and prosecution. For November 2012, 132 investigation files were created and assigned for inspection and appropriate enforcement, an increase of approximately 14.80% when compared to November 2011. This increase is due, in part, to the tow permit renewals and largely to the increase in unsightly premises complaints files addressed when compared to this same time period in 2011.

Proactive enforcement efforts continue with regard to the abandoned or vacant home Joint Operations program in concert with RCMP and Richmond Fire-Rescue that began in June 2011. There were thirteen abandoned/vacant home investigation files created during the month of November 2012.

The following charts delineate Property Use service demand, by type, for November 2012 with a comparison to November 2011, as well as a year-over-year running comparison:





#### 3. Grease Management Program

The Grease Management inspector conducted eighty regulatory visits to fifty-five food sector establishments during the month of November 2012 resulting in the issuance of six bylaw violations (Twenty-seven of the fifty-five food sectors were located in the Aberdeen Centre Mall). Two of the by law violations were changed to "warnings" due to expedient compliance.

Staff met with the Lansdowne Mall engineering representative, to re-iterate the City's expectation with regard to grease management and compliance with the relative sections of the Drainage, Dyke & Sanitary Sewer System Bylaw No. 7551.

There were four cases referred to Metro Vancouver during the month of November 2012 for decisions on the installation and design of grease management devices.

#### 4. Dispute Adjudication Program

Adjudication Hearings was scheduled for November 27, 2012, resulting in the following outcome:

- Ten violations upheld (one disputant did not attend and the allegation was deemed to have occurred)
- Two violations were suspended.

The next Adjudication Hearing is scheduled for January 29, 2013.

#### 5. Animal Control

• For the month of November 2012, there were five dog bite incidents reported resulting in an equal number of dangerous dog investigations.

- The City's dog licensing program year runs November to November with the total number of dogs licensed in the City of Richmond for the 2012 dog licensing program year at 5523.
- Staff issued ninety new dog licences during the month of November 2012. The number of dangerous dog licenses issued or renewed in Richmond as of November 2012 was thirteen. This brings the total number of dogs licensed to date in Richmond for the 2013 dog licensing program year to 996.
- Officers within Community Bylaws responded to twenty-three requests for enforcement patrols during the month of November 2012.

#### 6. Revenue and Expenses

The following information is a month to month analysis of November 2012 compared November 2011.

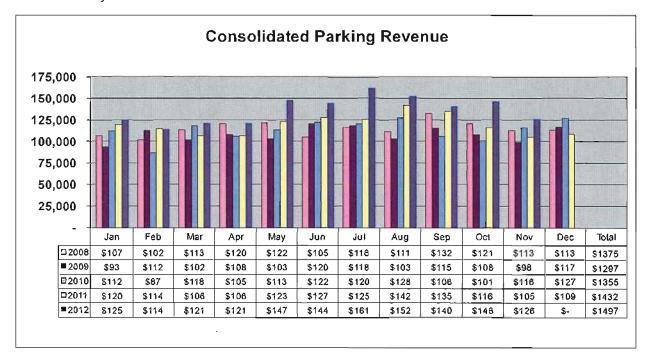
Consolidated Parking Program Revenue from parking meters, monthly permit and enforcement revenue has increased by 24.8% over the same period last year. Specifically, consolidated revenues were \$125,722 for November 2012 compared to \$100,811 for November 2011. Overall revenue figures for 2011 are consistent with the anticipated final revenue figures for 2012.

Meter Revenue increased by 36.5% over the same period last year. Specifically, meter revenue was \$39,352 for November 2012 compared to \$28,836 for November 2011.

**Permit Revenue** increased by 47.8% over the same period last year. Specifically, permit revenue was \$10,610 for November 2012 compared to \$7,177 for November 2011.

Enforcement Revenue increased by 16.9% over the same period last year. Specifically, enforcement revenue was \$75,760 for November 2012 compared to \$64,798 for November 2011.

The following chart provides a consolidated revenue comparison with prior years:



#### Conclusion

Community Bylaw staff continues to strive to maintain the quality of life and safety of the residents of the City of Richmond through coordinated team efforts with many City departments and community partners while promoting a culture of compliance.

Edward Warzel

Manager, Community Bylaws

(604.247.4601)

ML:ml



## Report to Committee

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

November 12, 2012

From:

John McGowan

File:

09-5000-01/2012-Vol

Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue

01

Re:

Richmond Fire-Rescue - October 2012 Activity Report

#### Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled Richmond Fire-Rescue – October 2012 Activity Report (dated November 12, 2012, from the Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue) be received for information.

John McGowan Fire Chief

(604-303-2734)

REPORT CONCURRENCE

CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER

REVIEWED BY SMT
SUBCOMMITTEE

REVIEWED BY CAO

INITIALS:

#### **Staff Report**

#### Origin

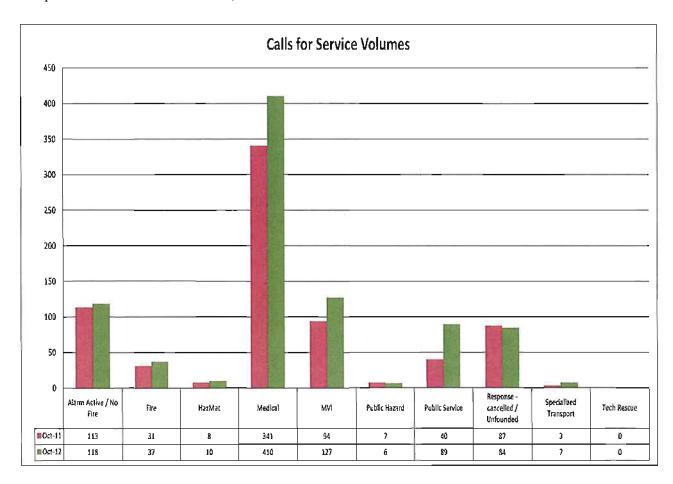
Fire-Rescue is committed to open and transparent reporting on its performance and progress. Monthly reports provide Council with current information on Richmond Fire-Rescue's activities.

#### **Analysis**

Fire-Rescue's report for October 2012 is set out below.

#### Suppression Activity

The following is a month to month comparison chart on the number of incidents that have occurred for the years 2011 and 2012. For October 2012, there were a total of 888 incidents compared to 724 in October 2011, an increase of 22.7%.



Call Type Legend:

Alarm Active/NoFire includes: accidental, malicious, equipment malfunctions

HuzMat: includes fuel or vapour; spills, leaks, or containment

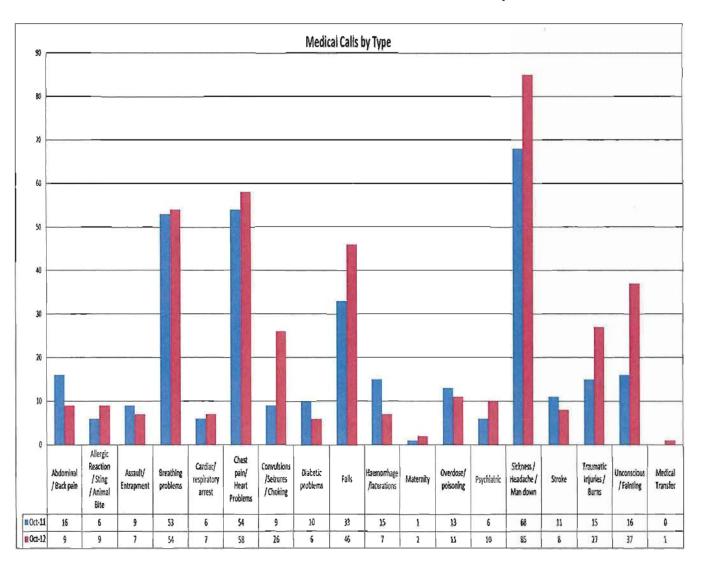
Medical includes: cardiac arrest, emergency response, home or industrial accidents

Public Hazard includes: aircraft emergency, bomb removal standby, object removal, or power lines down

Public Service includes: assisting public, ambulance or police, locked in/out, special events, trapped in elevator, water removal

#### First Responder Totals

A detailed breakdown of the medical calls for October 2011 and 2012 by sub-type is set out in the following chart and table. The medical calls comprise 46.2% of total calls for RFR. In October 2012 there was an increase in medical calls of 20.2% over the same period in 2011.



#### Incidents

Notable emergency incidents, which involved RFR for October 2012, were:

#### Medical Events

In October RFR crews responded to 400 medical calls. RFR crew regularly attend to medical assignments. For example, in October RFR crews attended a stabbing of a 17 year old female.

RFR crews also responded to report a of an imminent child birth. RFR crews assisted BCAS with the successful delivery of a healthy baby boy and mother and newborn were transported to hospital.

#### Fires - Residential / Commercial / Outdoor

In October, RFR crews responded to 37 fire calls, including a fire in a restaurant of a two storey commercial building on Westminster Highway. There was significant fire damage to the kitchen of the restaurant and surrounding roof membrane.

Other incidents during October included: a structure fire of a salon on No 3 Road; a stove fire where the occupant suffered burns to hands; two separate incidents of car fires on St. Edwards Drive and River Road.

RFR crews also responded to other reports of outdoor fires including several incidents of bark mulch fire; a beach fire at Garry Point and a trash can fire.

For October 2012 the estimates were, for building loss \$314,097 and the content loss of \$356,300, for a total loss of \$670,397. The total building and content value at risk was \$7,701,592 and the total value preserved was \$7,031,195. The total value protected was 91%.

	Fire C	alls By Type and	I Loss Estima	tes - October		
Incident Type Breakdown	Call Volume	Estimated Building Value \$	Estimated Building Loss \$	Estimated Content Value \$	Estimated Content Loss	Estimated Total Value Preserved \$
Residential:						
- Single-family	3	1,100,000	5,000	400,000	1,000	4,494,000
- Multi-family	1 1	1,500,000	0	500,000	0	2,000,000
Fire structure total:	4					
Commercial/Industrial	3	2,945,000	280,000	1,208,000	355,300	3,517,700
Fire - Outdoor	26	5,000	0	0	0	5,000
Vehicle	4	43,592	29,097	0	0	14,495
Totals*	37	5,593,592	314,097	2,108,000	356,300	7,031,195

<sup>\*</sup>The dollar losses shown in this table are preliminary estimates. They are derived from Fire's record management system and are subject to change due to delays in reporting and confirmation of actual losses from private insurance agencies (as available).

The fire investigation statistics for October 2012 are listed below:

Total Fire Investigation Statistics - October						
	Suspicious #	Accidental	Undetermined			
Residential - Single-family	•	2	1			
Residential - Multi-family	•	1	-			
Commercial/Industrial	1	2	0			
Fire – Outdoor	9	9	8			
Vehicle	•	2	2			
Totals	10	16	11			

<sup>#</sup> Passed to RCMP for further investigation.

#### Hazmat

Crews responded to a total of 10 HazMat calls during October including two separate incidents of natural gas leaks. RFR Crews also responded to a HazMat incident located at a school on No 4 Road. RFR crews located the cause of the HazMat call which was discovered to be pepper spray. RFR crews coordinated with BCAS and RCMP to quickly mitigate the incident which did not require any long-term hazmat team deployment.

HazMat Calls By Type - October				
HazMat Calls	Details			
Natural Gas/Propane Leaks (small)	6			
Flammable/Combustible Liquids	1			
Misc. (empty containers to unknown powder)	3			
Total	10			

#### Motor Vehicle Incidents

Crews responded to a total of 127 motor vehicle incidents in October including a vehicle in a ditch.

RFR crews also responded to a motor vehicle incident northbound on Highway 99 with a single patient who had been reported unconscious. RFR crews stabilized the vehicle and removed the roof to access the patient for treatment and removal coordinated along with BCAS. An RFR member went with ambulance crews to provide assistance at the hospital.

#### Training and Education

Throughout the month of October 2012, RFR's training team led several new initiatives and continued supporting the management of regular training within RFR's current training plan.

RFR training staff and the Fire Prevention Office revised the Public Education and Fire Prevention training for recruits.

RFR training staff facilitated and continued to develop the High-Rise Firefighting / Elevator training. RFR training staff worked with shift instructors and the steering committee leads to deliver the initial training to shift trainers. The elevator program was completed and readied for delivery to all suppression members. RFR training staff worked with Worksafe BC to prepare their staff and their facility for the program. Delivery is expected to be on time for a November 6 start, with a December 17 end date.

Confined Space Technician training was facilitated by RFR training staff and six suppression staff were certified as Confined Space Technicians.

#### Community Relations / Public Education

Richmond Fire-Rescue participated in numerous events and activities for public education during October 2012. Some of the events attended by RFR crews and Prevention Officers were as follows:

- 25 car seat inspections were carried out in October at No 1 Hall with the Fire and Life Safety Educator in attendance.
- The use of the #4 Fire Hall was provided to the Royal Canadian Marine Search & Rescue for a First Aid Course with 12 adults in attendance.
- Pumper and educational visits carried out with various community and school groups, included: Cambie Fall Fair Harvest Festival, Renaissance Kids Junior Kindergarten Class, Safeway Seafair Breast Cancer Fundraiser, Wigs for Kids Fundraiser, Navy League Cadet Presentation, Grauer Elementary School.
- Fire Prevention Week events included: Canadian Tire (3 Road), South Arm Preschool, Home Depot Kids Workshop, Canadian Tire (Ironwood) and Fire Hall Open Houses.
- Training Events included: Gilmore Gardens Safety Presentation for 25 adults, Maple Residence Safety Presentation for 20 adults and the Turning Point Recovery Society Presentation for 9 guests of various age groups.
- Community events attendance included: MD Annual FF Awards & Recognition Dinner, Richmond Chinese Community Society Dinner / Dance, Sea Island Community Fireworks, West Richmond Community Centre Fireworks, Hamilton Fireworks, Richmond Halloween Fireworks Festival (Minoru) and South Arm Halloween Fireworks.

#### Financial Impact

None

#### Conclusion

Richmond Fire-Rescue continues to strive towards being a fire department that delivers services and programs through an approach that balances prevention, education and emergency response.

This direction is based on the belief that prevention, education and emergency response programs must be well established and integrated to have a positive impact on community safety along with the continued delivery and advancement of its core 911 emergency fire and rescue response services to Richmond.

John McGowan Fire Chief

(604-303-2734)

JM:js



## **Report to Committee**

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

December 17, 2012

From:

John McGowan

File:

09-5000-01/2012-Vol

Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue

01

Re:

Richmond Fire-Rescue - November 2012 Activity Report

#### Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled Richmond Fire-Rescue - November 2012 Activity Report (dated December 17, 2012, from the Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue) be received for information.

John McGowan

Fire Chief

(604-303-2734)

REPORT CONCURRENCE			
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL M.	ANAGER		
REVIEWED BY SMT SUBCOMMITTEE	Intrial e		
REVIEWED BY CAO	INITIALS:		

#### **Staff Report**

#### Origin

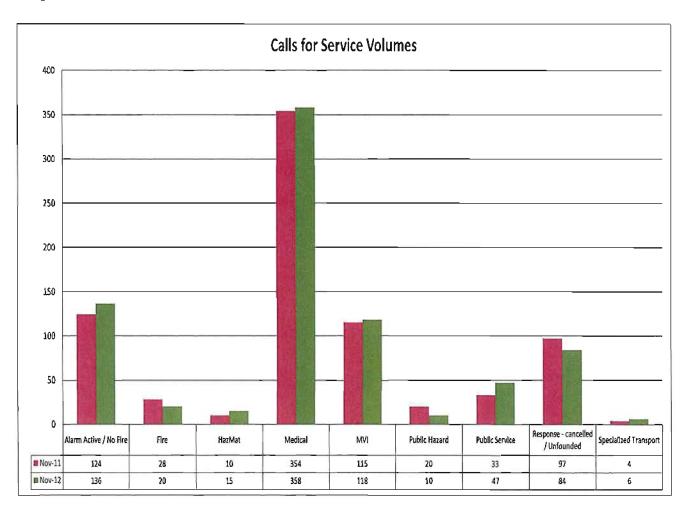
Fire-Rescue is committed to open and transparent reporting on its performance and progress. Monthly reports provide Council with current information on Richmond Fire-Rescue's activities.

#### **Analysis**

Fire-Rescue's report for November 2012 is set out below.

#### **Suppression Activity**

The following is a month to month comparison chart of the number of incidents that have occurred for the years 2011 and 2012. For November 2012, there were a total of 794 incidents compared to 785 in November 2011, an increase of 1.3%.



Call Type Legend:

Alurm Active/No Fire includes: accidental, malicious, equipment malfunctions

HazMat: includes fuel or vapour; spills, leaks, or containment

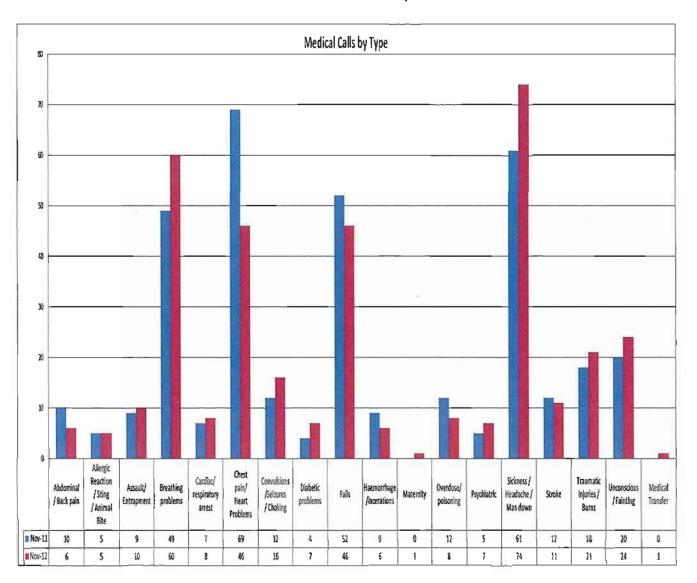
Medical includes: cardiac arrest, emergency response, home or industrial accidents

Public Hazard includes: aircraft emergency, bomb removal standby, object removal, or power lines down

Public Service includes: assisting public, ambulance or police, locked in/out, special events, trapped in clevator, water removal

#### First Responder Totals

A detailed breakdown of the medical calls for November 2011 and 2012 by sub-type is set out in the following table. Medical calls comprise 45.0% of total calls for RFR. In November 2012 there was an increase in medical calls of 1.1% over the same period in 2011.



#### Incidents

Notable emergency incidents, which involved RFR for November 2012, were:

#### Medical Events

In November, RFR crews responded to 358 medical calls. In November crews were called to two separate cardiac arrest incidents in which the patients' pulse rates were restored.

RFR crews also frequently respond to medical assignments. For example, in November RFR crews attended to a suicide incident and an assault involving pepper spray.

#### Fires - Residential / Commercial / Outdoor

In November, RFR crews responded to 20 fire calls, including a house fire in which the occupants suffered minor smoke inhalation. The occupants were later released from hospital.

RFR crews also responded to three separate incidences of car fires in November, including a car fire on Danforth Drive with heavy smoke and flames; a small car located in the middle of the road at Timore Place with flames showing from under the hood; and a car heading northbound on Highway 99.

Other incidents during November included: a deep fat fryer fire on River Road which was extinguished by the owner with an extinguisher; a thermal heating unit fire on Blundell Road inside an attached garage and a separate school fire which was confined to the room of origin.

For November 2012 the estimates were \$301,500 for building loss and \$28,540 for content loss, for a total loss of \$330,040. The total building and content value at risk was \$86,004,500 and the total value preserved was \$85,674,460, which translates to 99.99% of value protected.

	Fire Ca	lls By Type and	Loss Estimate	es - November		
Incident Type Breakdown	Call Volume	Estimated Building Value \$	Estimated Building Loss \$	Estimated Content Value \$	Estimated Content Loss	Estimated Total Value Preserved \$
Residential:						
- Single-family	4	41,008,000	150,000	1,230,000	25,020	42,062,980
- Multi-family	3	8,500,000	30,000	3,000,000	3,400	11,466,600
Fire structure total:	7					
Commercial/Industrial	4	22,000,000	5,000	10,150,000	120	32,144,880
Fire – Outdoor	3	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicle	6	116,500	116,500	0	0	0
Totals*	20	71,624,500	301,500	14,380,000	28,540	85,674,460

<sup>\*</sup>The dollar losses shown in this table are preliminary estimates. They are derived from RFR's record management system and are subject to change due to delays in reporting and confirmation of actual losses from private insurance agencies (as available).

The fire investigation statistics for November 2012 are listed below:

Total Fire Investigation Statistics - November						
	Suspicious #	Accidental	Undetermined			
Residential - Single-family	-	2	2			
Residential - Multi-family	•	]	2			
Commercial/Industrial	}	1	2			
Fire - Outdoor	2	-	1			
Vehicle	2	1	3			
Totals	5	5	10			

<sup>#</sup> Passed to RCMP for further investigation.

#### Hazmat

Crews responded to a total of 15 HazMat calls during November including an incident of a white powdery substance found on Cooney Road which was later identified as Ketamine (Special K). RFR crews coordinated with the RCMP to quickly mitigate the incident, which did not require any long-term hazmat team deployment.

During November RFR crews also responded to a ruptured Fortis gas line at a townhouse construction site. The escaping gas posed a hazard to neighbouring businesses and residents. RFR located the remote gas valve shut off, and with cooperation from Fortis turned off the gas flow.

All of the hazmat calls for November were relatively minor, quickly mitigated and did not require any long-term hazmat team deployment.

HazMat Calls By Type – November				
HazMat Calls	Details			
Natural Gas/Propane Leaks (small)	9			
Flammable/Combustible Liquids	2			
Misc. (empty containers to unknown powder)	3			
Suspicious / Criminal	1			
Total	15			

#### Motor Vehicle Incidents

Crews responded to a total of 118 motor vehicle incidents in November, including a 15 year old pedestrian hit by a car and a pedestrian who had been struck by a car on No 3 Road, who was taken to Vancouver General hospital but later succumbed to his injuries.

RFR is continuing to work with external media messaging and emergency partners to promote pedestrian and vehicle safety.

#### Training and Education

Throughout the month of November 2012, RFR's training team led several new initiatives and continued in support of managing of regular training within RFR's current training plan.

RFR training staff have also facilitated and continued to develop the High-Rise Firefighting / Elevator training. This training has been delivered to 158 staff, and is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2012.

Training was also provided to all suppression staff, for new Dragger Thermal Imaging Cameras.

#### Community Relations / Public Education

Richmond Fire-Rescue participated in numerous events and activities for public education during November 2012. Some of the events attended by the Fire Chief, Deputy Chiefs, RFR crews and Prevention Officers were as follows:

- 32 car seat inspections were carried out in November at No 1 Hall with the Fire and Life Safety Educator in attendance.
- Fire Hall Tours included: No 6 Hall for Noah's Ark School with 30 children and 5 adults, and two separate visits to No 2 Hall for the 12th Richmond Scout Group with 60 children and 24 adults.
- Pumper Truck and educational visits were carried out with various community and school groups, including: Focus learning Montessori Pre-School, Blundell Adult Learning Centre, and Little Wings Daycare.
- Training Events included: Beyond the Veil attended by the Fire Chief and Deputy Chief Howell and Richmond Wellness Clinic a Fire Prevention Presentation for seniors frequenting the clinic by F&LSE and CRO with 40 adults.
- Fundraising events attended included: the Movember 'Shave-Off' Fundraiser held at City Hall, the Bright Nights at Stanley Park VIP Night, and the Richmond Christmas Fund Drive-Thu Event held at Lansdowne Mall.
- Memorial services attended included: the Richmond Remembrance Day Ceremony, the Life of Aerial Firefighter Legend Memorial and the Regimental Funeral of Surrey's RCMP Constable held in Langley.

#### Financial Impact

None

#### Conclusion

Richmond Fire-Rescue continues to strive to deliver services and programs through an approach balancing prevention, education and emergency response.

This direction is based on the belief that prevention, education and emergency response programs must be well established and integrated to have a positive impact on community safety. Also integral is the continued delivery and advancement of RFR core 911 emergency fire and rescue response services to Richmond.

John McGowan
Fire Chief

(604-303-2734)

ЛМ: јѕ



# **Report to Committee**

To: Community Safety Committee Date: November 1, 2012

From: Rendall Nesset File: 09-5000-01/2010-Vol

01 (12.34)

Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment

RCMP's Monthly Report – October 2012 Activities Re:

# Staff Recommendation

That the report titled "RCMP's Monthly Report - October 2012 Activities" (dated November 1, 2012, from the OIC RCMP) be received for information.

(Rendall Nesset) Superintendent

Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment

(604-278-1212)

REPORT CONCURRENCE CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER REVIEWED BY SMT SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEWED BY CAO

# Origin

At the request of the Community Safety Committee, the Officer in Charge (OIC) will keep Council informed on matters pertaining to policing in the community of Richmond.

Council's Term Goals for 2011-2014 identify Community Safety as a high priority to ensure that public safety services, service delivery models and resources are effectively targeted to the City's specific needs and priorities.

# **Analysis**

Below is the RCMP's Monthly Report – October 2012 Activities.

# Community Policing

# Block Watch

Break and enter email alerts and letters are sent out to Richmond residences and businesses with information about neighbourhood break-ins. This includes tips to educate home and business owners on crime prevention techniques to help prevent future break and enters. Richmond residents and businesses are directed to the crime prevention web pages where they may register their email addresses to receive email alerts about future break and enters.

#### Email Alerts October 2012

	Email Alerts	Letters Sent Out
Residential	66	243
Commercial	35	26

# Crime Prevention Newsletters

The Richmond RCMP Crime Prevention Newsletter for fall 2012 was sent by email to the Block Watch Participants and to the entire registered residential break and enter alert email contact addresses. It is also posted online on the Block Watch web page <a href="www.richmond.ca/blockwatch">www.richmond.ca/blockwatch</a>. (Attachment 1)

The Richmond RCMP Crime Prevention Business Watch Newsletter for 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2012 was sent by email to the registered commercial break and enter alert email contact addresses. It is also posted online on the Business Watch web page <a href="www.richmond.ca/businesslink">www.richmond.ca/businesslink</a>. (Attachment 2)

# **Community Police Stations**

# Richmond Detachment Stolen Auto Recovery and Lock Out Auto Crime Statistics

CPS	YTD	# Of Stolen Auto Recovery and Lock out Auto Crime Deployments	Vehicles Viewed For Signs Of Auto Crime Only	Vehicles Scanned Through Stolen Auto Recovery (SAR)	Vehicles Issued A Crime Prevention Notice	Patrol And Admin Hours
City Center	May- Oct	36	6,997	4,844	2,222	168
South Arm	Jan – Oct	103	22,716	15,476	8,280	500
Steveston	Jan – Oct	149	30,866	410	4,323	654
Year to Date	Totals	288	60,579	20,730	14,825	1,322

# Richmond Detachment Speed Watch Statistics

CPS	YTD	# Of Speed . Watch Deployments	Total Vehicles Checked	Over 10 Km/h	Admin Hours For Office Duties	Number of Warning Letters Issued
City Center	May – Oct	66	44,819	7,016	560	2,404
South Arm	Jan – Oct	81	40,500	4,371	584	2,208
Steveston	Jan – Oct	47	31,661	19,418	311	1,040
Year to Date	Totals	194	116,980	30,805	1,455	5,652

# Richmond Detachment Distracted Drivers Statistics

CPS YTD		Deployments	Number of Letters
			Sent
City Center	May to October	46	240
South Arm	January to October	49	375
Year to Date Totals		95	615

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> SAR equipment available just in October

#### Volunteer Bike Patrols

The main objective of the Volunteer Bike Patrol is to observe and report suspicious activity, abandoned houses, grow operations, graffiti and distracted drivers.

CPS	S YTD		Hours	
City Center	January to October	46	749	

#### Volunteer Foot Patrols

CPS	YTD	Deployments	Hours	
City Center	Opened May 22 to October	22	172	

# **Business Watch Program**

The new Volunteer Business Watch program was launched on July 12 at the City Centre Community Police Station. Volunteers go door-to-door to businesses delivering Crime Prevention information packages which include a Business Watch newsletter and brochure. Volunteers offer to install a height strip for the business and ask the business for their email address. The business email addresses are added to the Commercial Break and Enter Email Alert distribution groups and receive an email should a commercial break and enter occur in their neighbourhood.

Month	Deployments	Number of Businesses Visited	Hours
Started July 12th	10	207	44
August	2	28	9
September	6	69	40
October	4	36	18
Total	22	340	111

# Road Safety Unit

# Richmond Detachment Traffic Statistics

Name	Act	Example	Aug	Sept	Oct
	Provincial Act				
Violation Tickets	Offences	Speeding	1,169	1,300	956
Notice & Orders	Equipment Violations	Broken Tail-light	498	454	423
Driving		24 hour driving prohibition			
Suspensions	Motor Vehicle Act	for alcohol or drugs	50	44	50
		On or off the street			
Parking Offences	Municipal Bylaw	Municipal parking offences	14	26	41
	Municipal Ticket	Any other Municipal Bylaw			
MTI's	Information	offence	4	2	5

# Victim Services

In October, Richmond RCMP Victim Services provided services to 42 new clients in addition to having an active caseload of 156 ongoing files. During this period, Victim Services attended to 13 crime and trauma scenes. Robberies, assaults, family dysfunction and sudden deaths dominated the calls for service. Two of the sudden death cases involved the death of young adults as a result of alleged chronic substance abuse. Victim Services has been fortunate to find some commercially printed children's books which are very useful in supporting children in these instances.

Victim Services has been working closely with Crown to provide Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) services to those people attending the court process. This project was very active in October. Of note, Victim Services went to the Supreme Court in Vancouver for two full days to assist two families whose teen daughters died in 2010.

# Noteworthy Files and Interesting Activities:

# Richmond RCMP Road Hockey to Conquer Cancer Tournament

The Richmond RCMP ball hockey team may not have won the hockey tournament held on October 13 in Vancouver at Concord Pacific Place, but they did raise almost \$11,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society. The team consisted of a number of officers from the Richmond RCMP Detachment as well as their family members and friends.

Each team member was responsible for collecting donations and several fundraising events were hosted by the team in the months that lead up to the tournament. Five games of road hockey were played in the dawn to dusk event held on October 13, which saw the RCMP team finishing with two wins, two losses and a tie.

# Recovered Stolen Property

On July 26, a vehicle was pulled over by a Richmond RCMP Constable for an improper turn and the subsequent search of the vehicle revealed drugs and stolen property. Part of that stolen property was a camera that belonged to a family from the USA who were vacationing in BC. At the hotel their rental car's window was smashed and the digital camera was stolen. Images on the camera allowed the constable to find, and return the camera to its rightful owners.

# Cops for Cancer Bike Tour

Two Richmond RCMP Constables had the opportunity to participate in the 2012 Cops for Cancer Tour de Coast bicycle tour. This Tour included 29 riders made up of emergency services personnel from throughout the Lower Mainland. For nine straight days in September the riders rode approximately 850 kilometres throughout the Lower Mainland, the Sunshine Coast and the Sea to Sky Corridor in order to raise money for pediatric cancer and Camp Goodtimes.

Prior to the tour, all of the riders had the opportunity to attend Camp Goodtimes in Maple Ridge, which is a summer camp supported by the Canadian Cancer Society. This camp caters to children that have been affected by cancer and their families. Due to the fundraising of the Cops for Cancer Tours, all of the children attending this camp attend free of charge. Through talking to the youth at the camp, the resounding message was that Camp Goodtimes is the best place on earth and was the only place where they could go that everyone understood what they were going through and they could simply be a kid again.

While on tour the emergency service personnel attended various schools, businesses and charity events where they were treated very well with onlookers cheering the cyclists on, and thanking them for all the good work that was being done. At almost every stop the cyclists would meet a cancer survivor, someone battling cancer, or somebody with a story to tell.

By the end of the tour, the 2012 Cops for Cancer Tour de Coast had raised over a quarter of a million dollars and was one of the best experiences of the Richmond RCMP Constables' lives. Being given the opportunity to see where the money that they raised was going and how it had changed the lives of these kids was amazing and these constables hope to be given the opportunity to participate in this event again.

# **Crime Statistics**

Crime Stats – see Appendix "A". Crime Maps – see Appendix "B"

# Financial Impact

There is no financial impact associated with this report.

# Conclusion

The Officer in Charge, Richmond Detachment continues to ensure Richmond remains a safe and desirable community. The OIC will continue to provide monthly updates, which reflect the level of safety in Richmond.

Lainie Goddard

Manager, RCMP Administration

Jaini Oldara

(604) 207-4767

RICHMOND RCMP

**FALL 2012** 

# CRIME PREVENTION

**WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME** 

NEWSLETTER



# **Commonly Stolen Items**

The above photo shows items stolen from a Richmond home. Some of these items will go unclaimed as they are not engraved with the owners BCDL# (BC drivers licence number). Protect your property, engrave your possessions. You can borrow an engraver from one of the three Community Police Stations. Also record the make, model and serial number of your electronics. If your home is broken into, having your possessions engraved and the recorded information available may help to recover your stolen goods.

# **Home Security Tips**

# Doors:

Install a deadbolt with a 1 inch throw (the part that extends into the door frame) on all exterior doors.

Install a door reinforcer (a U-shaped metal sleeve that fits under the door handle and deadbolt) for additional support.



# **Sliding Glass Doors:**

If your sliding door opens on the inside of the frame, install a wooden stick in the bottom of the frame to prevent prying.

If your sliding door opens on the outside of the frame, install a patio locking bar (available at all home improvement stores) at waist level to prevent prying.



# Be a Safe Pedestrian

# Be visible

- Reflective armbands help pedestrians be seen at night.
- Wear reflective armbands on your arm, bandbag or backpack to increase your visibility out in the dark.

# **Pedestrian Safety Tips**

- Remove your headphones: don't use your cell phone or other electronics when crossing the street. Focus your full attention on what's happening around you.
- Make eye contact with drivers. Never assume the driver can see you.
- Always be cautious and pay attention to traffic.
   Drivers may not always stop or obey traffic signals.
- Dress to be seen: wear bright or light coloured clothing. In bad weather or in the dark, wear reflective clothing.

# **Street Crossing Safety Tips**

- · Look in all directions before crossing the street.
- Check vehicles have stopped before you step off the curb.
- Use crosswalks wherever possible. Do not cross on the "do not walk" signal.

Please visit a Community Police Station for a free reflective armband (while supplies last).

# Richmond Residential Break and Enters July-September 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012

	Zore 1	Zone 2	Zono 3	Zone A	Zone 5
	Tolle 1	Luile A	Lune 3	LUME 4	Luite 3
July 2009	1	9	7	2	11
July 2010	0	19	l	1	24
July 2011	0	11	10	8	18
Jul 2012	0	14	4	2	22
Aug. 2009	0	10	10	2	15
Aug. 2010	0	11	5	4	21
Aug. 2011	0	7	12	5	10
Aug. 2012	0	12	4	2	24
Sept. 2009	0	11	10	3	10
Sept. 2010	0	9	7	6	16
Sept. 2011	0	7	2	1	9
Sept. 2012	0	10	4	3	13

# Point of Entry Breakdown (Sept. 2012)

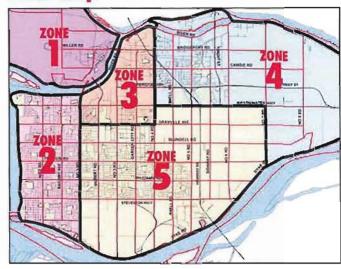
- Zone 1 0 Residential B&E
- Zone 2 10 Residential B&E including: 2 unlocked doors / 7 doors pried open / 1 thru a window
- **Zone 3** 4 Residential B&E including: 1 unlocked door / 3 thru a window
- Zone 4 3 Residential B&E, all 3 were thru a window
- Zone 5 13 Residential B&E including: 2 thru unlocked door / 4 door pried open / 2 thru unlocked windows / 2 thru windows / 1 thru unlocked patio doors & 2 thru unknown points of entry

Please visit www.richmond.ca/crime for neighbowhood crime information and www.richmond.ca/homesafety for home security tips.





# **Zone Map**



The map outlines the five zones in Richmond. The chart to the left provides details on the number of Residential B&Es that have occurred in each zone.

After a Break and Enter, if your residence/business has been broken into, do not touch anything. If a suspect is present, call 9-1-1. If no suspect is present, call the Police non-emergency number at 604-278-1212. You will be asked for a description and the serial numbers of any stolen items.

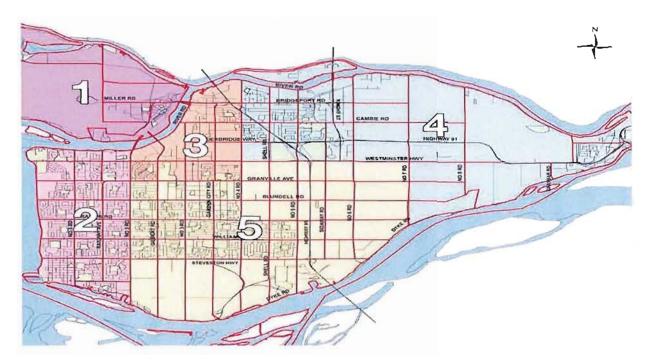


Email your name and street address to: blockwatch@richmond.ca to receive an email alert should a residential break and enter occur in your neighbourhood.



# Richmond RCMP Crime Prevention Unit Business Watch Newsletter (3rd Quarter 2012)

Commercial Break and Enters: July, August and September: 2010, 2011 and 2012



The map above outlines the five zones in Richmond.

The chart below provides details on the number of Commercial B&Es that have occurred in each zone:

Zone	July 2010	July 2011	July 2012	Aug 2010	Aug 2011	Aug 2012	Sept 2010	Sept 2011	Sept 2012
	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
2	3	2	4	3	1	3	i	2	0
3	12	11	12	13	14	15	18	12	18
4	15	7	19	13	6	16	15	5	17
.5	1	4	8	4	3	8	5	3	1

#### Point of Entry Breakdown (September, 2012):

Zone 1	1 Commercial Break and Enter where the padlock was cut
Zone 2	0 Commercial Break and Enters
Zone 3	18 Commercial Break and Enters including: 12 doors pried open / 1 window smashed/pried / 1 fence bypassed
Zone 4	17 Commercial Break and Enters including: 7 doors pried open / 4 window smashed/pried / 6 fences bypassed
Zone 5	1 Commercial Break and Enter where the padlock was cut

For information on how to improve the security of your business, please visit: www.richmond.ca/businesswatch

Report all suspicious and criminal activity to the Police. If a suspect is present, call 9-1-1. If no suspect is present, call the Police non-emergency number at 604-278-1212.

To receive email alerts of neighbourhood commercial break and enters, register your business name and street address at:

RCMP Business Watch@richmond.ca



#### **OCTOBER 2012 STATISTICS**

This chart identifies the monthly totals for all founded Criminal Code offences, 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 offences are highlighted in this chart. In addition, monthly totals for Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) offences are included.

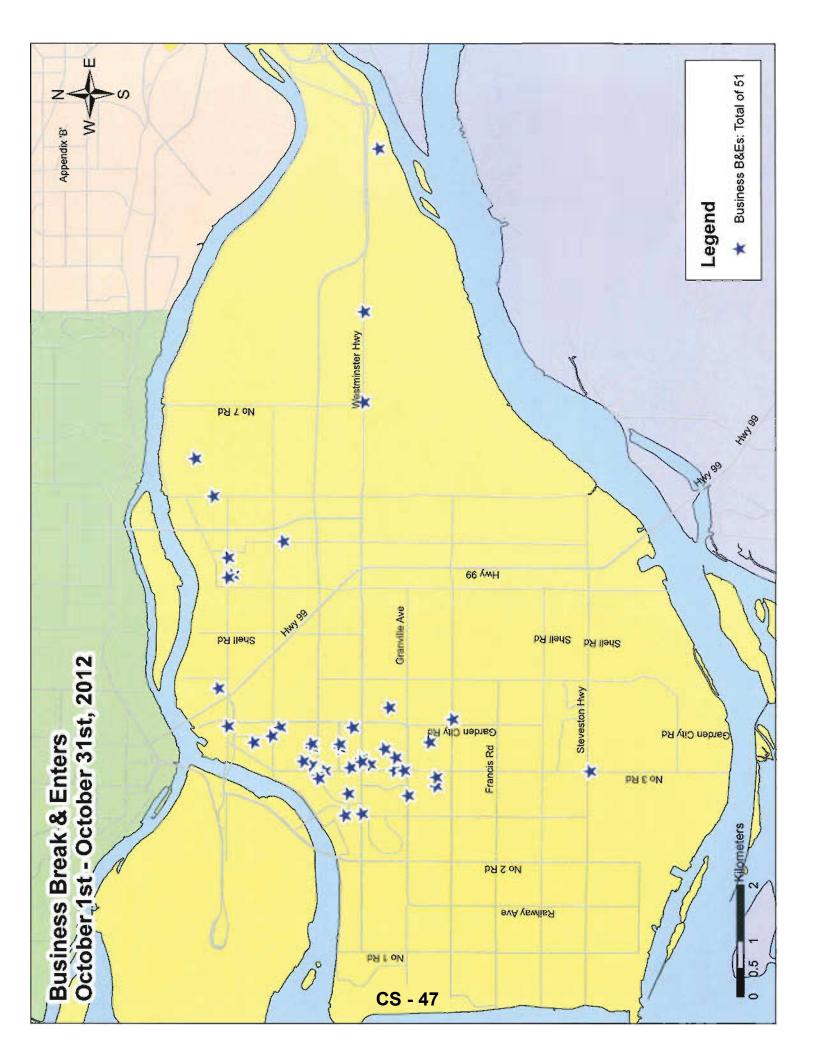
The Average Range data is based on activity in a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence is above average, it will be noted in red, while below-average numbers will be noted in blue.

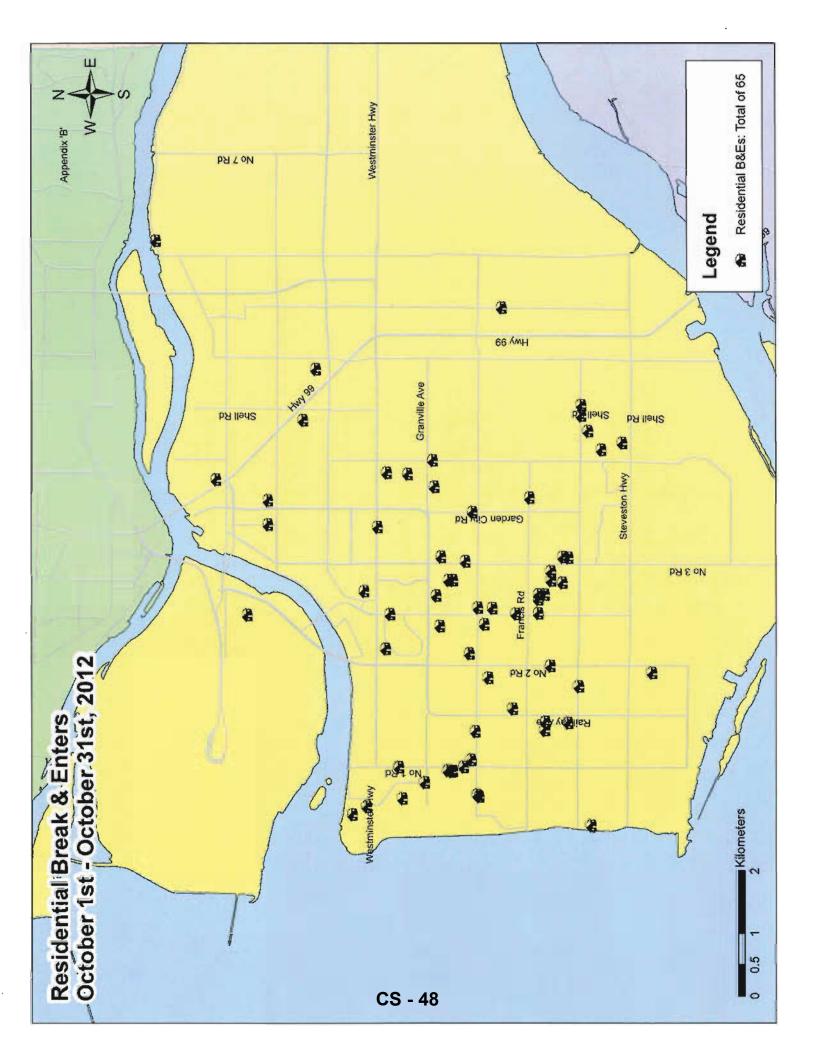
Year-to-Date percentage increases of more than 10% are marked in red, while decreases of more than 10% are blue. Please note that percentage changes are inflated in categories with small numbers (e.g.: Sexual Offences).

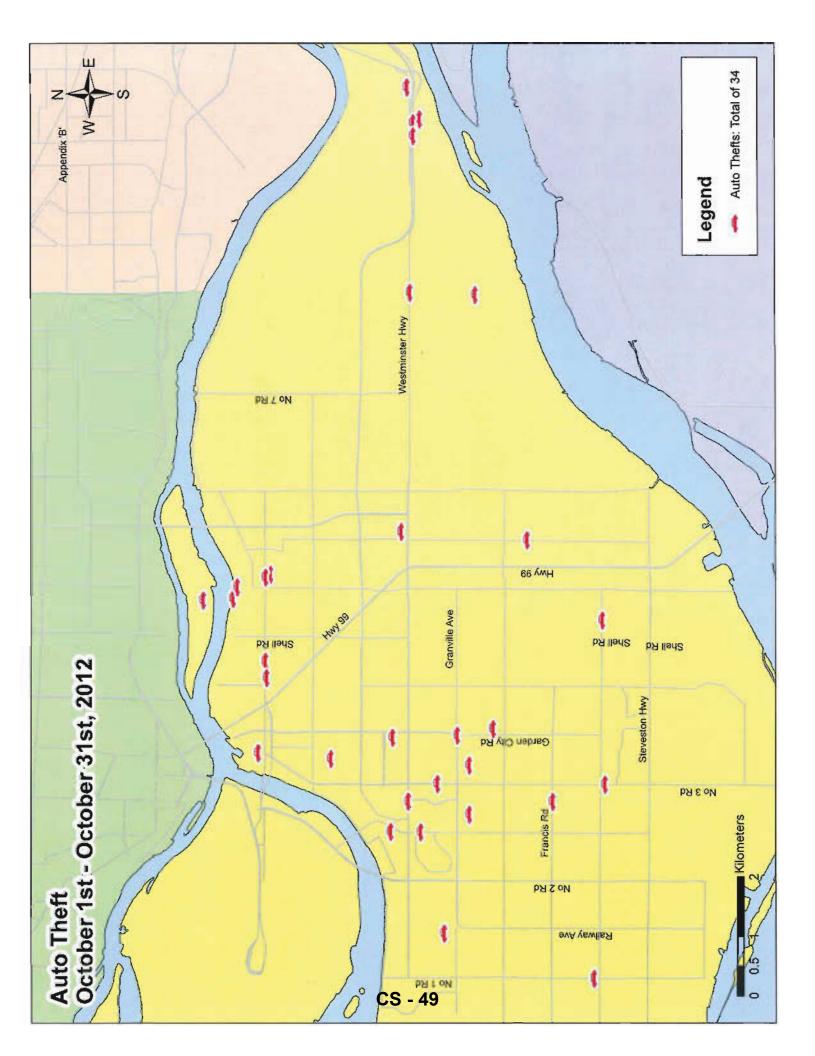
	CURRENT MONTH	5-YR AVERAGE RANGE		YEAR-TO	DATE TOTA	LS
	Oct-12	October	2011 YTD	2012 YTD	% Change	Change In #
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	119	134-151	1304	1117	-14.3%	-187
Robbery	9	8-17	110	118	7.3%	8
Assault	38	40-55	461	394	-14.5%	-67
Assault w/ Weapon	10	10-18	128	108	-15.6%	-20
Sexual Offences	2	3-5	65	49	-24.6%	-16
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	796	603-915	6395	6411	0.3%	16
Business B&E	51	44-61	311	386	24.1%	75
Residential B&E	65	40-73	586	536	-8.5%	-50
MV Theft	34	27-57	264	231	-12.5%	-33
Theft From MV	252	134-271	1607	1715	6.7%	108
Theft	143	87-139	1146	1232	7.5%	86
Shoplifting	62	40-65	596	607	1.8%	11
Metal Theft	1	2-18	35	19	-45.7%	-16
Fraud	40	43-62	473	415	-12.3%	-58
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	176	167-214	1937	2039	5.3%	102
Arson - Property	3	9-12	56	36	-35.7%	-20
SUBTOTAL (UCR 1000- to 3000-Series)	1091	929-1256	9636	9567	-0.7%	-69
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	70	96-122	931	760	-18.4%	-171

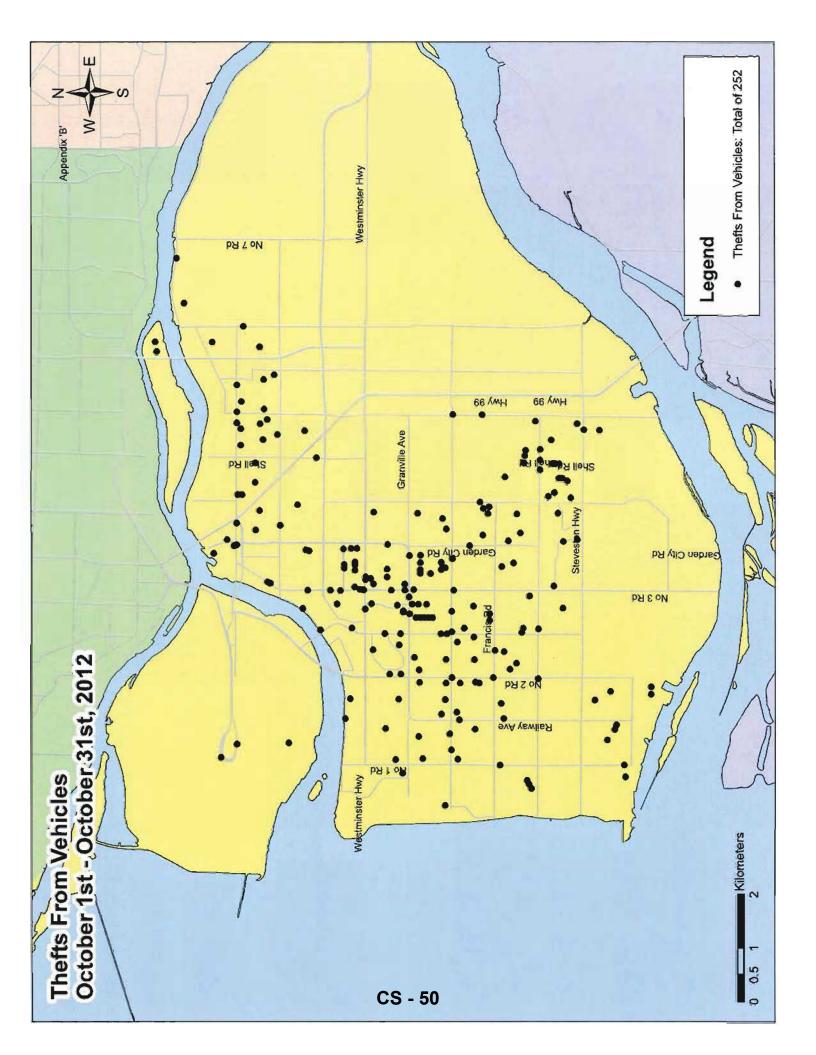
Data collected from PRIME on 2012-11-14. Published 2012-11-14.

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# **Report to Committee**

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date: December 3, 2012

From:

Rendall Nesset

File:

09-5000-01/2012-Vol

Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment

01 (12.36)

Re:

RCMP's Monthly Report - November 2012 Activities

# Staff Recommendation

That the report titled "RCMP's Monthly Report – November 2012 Activities" (dated December 3, 2012, from the OIC RCMP) be received for information.

Willenet (Rendall Nesset) Superintendent

Officer In Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment

(604-278-1212)

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
REVIEWED BY SMT SUBCOMMITTEE	
REVIEWED BY CAO	INITIALS:

# Staff Report

# Origin

At the request of the Community Safety Committee, the Officer in Charge (OIC) will keep Council informed on matters pertaining to policing in the community of Richmond.

Council's Term goals for 2011-2014 identify Community Safety as a high priority to ensure that public safety services, service delivery models and resources are effectively targeted to the City's specific needs and priorities.

# **Analysis**

Below is the RCMP's Monthly Report – November 2012 Activities.

# Community Policing

# Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

On November 30, 2012, the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held at the Delta Airport Hotel in Richmond. Mayor Malcolm Brodie, Inspector Eric Hall, Sergeant Hooper and Crime Prevention officers along with the volunteers attended this event. The Volunteer Appreciation dinner recognizes the dedication of the volunteers who commit their time to give back to the community. The volunteers assist in the Community Police offices, helping with public enquiries and participating in initiatives such as Speed Watch, Lock Out Auto Crime, Distracted Drivers, bike and foot patrols and Business Watch. These volunteers make initiatives such as these successful and help to reduce the crime in Richmond. In total the number of volunteers at the Detachment is 250, which includes the Airport, Auxiliary Constables, Victim Services and volunteers from the three Community Policing offices. The total number of hours that the volunteers for the City of Richmond contributed from October 2011 to October 2012 is 26,246 hours.

# Block Watch

Break and enter email alerts and letters are sent out to Richmond residences and businesses with information about neighbourhood break-ins. This includes tips to educate home and business owners on crime prevention techniques to help prevent future break and enters. Richmond residents and businesses are directed to the crime prevention web pages where they may register their email addresses to receive email alerts about future break and enters.

# **Email Alerts November 2012**

	Email Alerts	Letters Sent Out
Residential	46	240
Commercial	44	46

# **Community Police Stations**

# Richmond Detachment Stolen Auto Recovery and Lock Out Auto Crime Statistics

CPS	YTD	# Of Stolen Auto Recovery and Lock out Auto Crime Deployments	Vehicles Viewed For Signs Of Auto Crime Only	Vehicles Scanned Through Stolen Auto Recovery (SAR)	Vehicles Issued A Crime Prevention Notice	Patrol And Admin Hours
City Center	May- Nov	51	10,528	6,856	3,741	251
South Arm	Jan – Nov	113	24,444	16,443	9,041	540
Steveston	Jan – Nov	163	33,208	410	4,650	716
Year to Date	Totals	327	68,180	23,709	17,432	1,507

# Richmond Detachment Speed Watch Statistics

CPS	YTD	# Of Speed Watch Deployments	Total Vehicles Checked	Over 10 Km/h	Admin Hours For Office Duties	Number of Warning Letters Issued
City Center	May – Nov	80	49,702	8,261	670	2,978
South Arm	Jan – Nov	85	43,006	5,368	619	2,347
Steveston	Jan – Nov	48	32,093	19,633	315	1,065
Year to Date	Totals	213	124,801	33,262	1,604	6,390

# Richmond Detachment Distracted Drivers Statistics

CPS	YTD	Deployments	Number of Letters Sent
City Center	May to November	51	268
South Arm	January to November	53	403
Year to Date Totals		104	671

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>SAR equipment available in October only

# Volunteer Bike Patrols

The main objectives of the Volunteer Bike Patrol is to observe and report suspicious activity, abandoned houses, grow operations, graffiti and distracted drivers.

CPS YTD	Deployments	Hours
City Center January to November	50	795

# Volunteer Foot Patrols

CPS	YTD	Deployments	Hours
City Center	Opened May 22 to November	30	220

# **Business Watch Program**

The new Volunteer Business Watch program was launched on July 12 at the City Centre Community Police Station. Volunteers go door-to-door to businesses delivering Crime Prevention information packages which include a Business Watch newsletter and brochure. Volunteers offer to install a height strip for the business and ask the business for their email address. The business email addresses are added to the Commercial Break and Enter Email Alert distribution groups and receive an email should a commercial break and enter occur in their neighbourhood.

	Deployments	Number of Businesses Visited	Hours
Started July 12	10	207	44
August	2	28	9
September	6	69	40
October	4	36	18
November	2	14	5
Total	24	354	116

# Road Safety Unit

#### Richmond Detachment Traffic Statistics

Name	Act	Example	Sept	Oct	Nov
Violation Tickets	Provincial Act Offences	Speeding	1,300	956	732
Notice & Orders	Equipment Violations	Broken Tail-light	454	423	451
Driving Suspensions	Motor Vehicle Act	24 hour driving prohibition for alcohol or drugs	44	50	34
Parking Offences	Municipal Bylaw	On or off the street Municipal parking offences	26	41	18
MTI's	Municipal Ticket Information	Any other Municipal Bylaw offence	2	5	0

# Victim Services

In November, Richmond RCMP Victim Services provided services to 32 new clients in addition to having an active caseload of 133 ongoing files. During this period, Victim Services attended to 12 crime and trauma scenes. Robberies, threats, assaults and family dysfunction dominated the calls for service.

# Noteworthy Files and Interesting Activities:

# Richmond RCMP Officers Receive Ministry of Justice Award

On November 2, Constables Jagmeet Dandiwal and Harbir Sangha received this year's Ministry of Justice Community Safety and Crime Prevention Media Award for their efforts in promoting crime prevention and community safety programs to the Punjabi and South Asian communities.

Since June 2011, the two officers have been appearing regularly on Sher-E-Punjab Radio AM 1550's show Lok Sath with host Hanjit Singh Gill. The talk show is conducted in the Punjabi language and is broadcast live to thousands of listeners in British Columbia and parts of the United States. It is also broadcast live on the internet and is very well received among the Punjabi speaking communities throughout the world.

This initiative is unique to Richmond Detachment and nothing like this exists anywhere in the Lower Mainland. The focus of each show has been the various crime prevention programs and initiatives found at the Detachment. Topics of discussion have included youth gangs, bullying, identity theft and pedestrian safety. Both officers have been providing this valuable information on a voluntary basis, in addition to fulfilling their regular duties.

The two officers began this initiative in order to engage the Punjabi and South Asian communities to build partnerships within the community and do everything they can to keep the community safe. The two officers also wanted to dispel police related stereotypes within the community in order to strengthen the relationship with the Punjabi community.

Both officers were born and raised in India and offer a very unique perspective to listeners. Cst. Dandiwal immigrated to Canada in 2001 at the age of 19. He completed his Bachelors of Applied Arts (Honours) Degree in Psychology from Kwantlen University College and joined the RCMP in 2007.

Cst. Sangha immigrated to Canada in 2000 at the age of 20. He completed his Engineering Certification from the British Columbia Institute of Technology and became an Auxiliary Constable with the Surrey RCMP in 2005 and was sworn in as a regular member in 2008.

This crime prevention initiative will be continuing into 2013.

# Three Charged in Armed Robbery

On November 6, at approximately 6:00 pm, the Detachment received a report of a robbery in progress at Ben Moss Jewellers in the Richmond Center Mall. According to witnesses, two suspects entered the mall, smashed the display cases at Ben Moss and fled with an undisclosed amount of jewellery. Once outside, one of the suspects, armed with a gun, attempted to carjack a vehicle but was unsuccessful. In his attempt to carjack a second vehicle, the suspect was apprehended by bystanders. A scuffle ensued in which the suspect fired a shot. No one was injured. One of the bystanders was bit by the suspect and received medical treatment. Police have recovered the handgun. The other two suspects were later located and arrested by officers from the Vancouver Police Department. Two of the males have been charged with armed robbery and wearing a disguise with the intent to commit an indictable offence. The third male was also charged with armed robbery and possession of a prohibited or restricted firearm.

# **Pedestrian Fatality**

On November 14, at approximately 6:00 pm, the Detachment received a report that a pedestrian had been struck in the 2800 block of No. 3 Road. When police arrived on scene Richmond Fire Rescue and BC Ambulance Services were tending to the male who they found lying on the roadway. The male did not appear to have crossed the street in a crosswalk and was struck by a southbound vehicle. The male sustained serious injuries and was transported to the Vancouver General Hospital for surgery but succumbed to his injuries.

The Lower Mainland District Integrated Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Services assisted officers from Richmond's Road Safety Unit with the investigation. At this point investigators believe that the collision occurred at a fairly low speed. It does not appear that alcohol or drugs were factors in this collision. The investigation is continuing and it is unknown whether or not charges will be laid.

# Man Injured in Shooting

On November 15, at approximately 5:00 pm the Detachment received reports of shots fired in the area of Garden City and Capstan Way. Witnesses reported that one person had been shot and that suspects had fled in a vehicle. Upon arrival police located the victim and determined that he had been shot once in the leg. The victim was transported to hospital for treatment and is in stable condition. The Detachments' Serious Crimes Unit is continuing with the investigation.

# Fall Pedestrian Safety Campaign

On November 21, the fall pedestrian safety campaign commenced in Richmond at the Lansdowne Canada Line Station. Pedestrians in the area were greeted by officers and volunteers from the Detachment along with officers from the Transit Police and ICBC. Pedestrian safety brochures and reflective arm bands were given to the pedestrians with the ultimate goal of saving lives. The concern for pedestrian safety rises with the increased rainfall and reduced daylight hours making it harder for drivers to see.

This initiative included each Community Policing Office in Richmond: City Center, South Arm and Steveston, to target high density pedestrian traffic locations and hand out a pamphlet educating citizens on pedestrian safety as well as reflective arm bands. When the arm band is worn it makes the pedestrian more visible, especially at night. The safety event occurred between 8:00 and 9:00 in the morning and a total of 921 arm bands were handed out.

The pedestrian safety campaign is an annual event the Detachment participates in, partnering with the City of Richmond, Richmond Fire Rescue and ICBC to increase education, enforcement and initiatives in an effort to save lives. Driving in winter weather conditions increases the need to slow down, increase following distance and allow extra travel time. Pedestrian safety tips include the following:

- Remove headphones and refrain from using cell phones and other electronics when crossing the street. A pedestrian's full attention is required to see, hear and respond to what is happening around them.
- Make eye contact with drivers and pedestrians should keep their head up and look where they are walking. Pedestrians should not assume drivers see them.
- Be cautious and pay attention to traffic because drivers may not always stop or obey traffic control devices.
- Wear bright or light coloured clothing especially in bad weather or in low light wear reflective clothing.
- Walk facing traffic if there are no sidewalks and use the outside edge or shoulder of the roadway so that oncoming vehicles can be seen.
- When crossing the street look in all directions including over the shoulder checks for any vehicles that may be turning and approaching.
- Listen for vehicles that may not be visible but could be approaching from a driveway or corner or from a hill.
- Use crosswalks and do not cross on the "do not walk" signal.

#### Crime Statistics

Crime Stats – see Appendix "A" Crime Maps – see Appendix "B"

# Financial Impact

There is no financial impact associated with this report

# Conclusion

The Officer in Charge, Richmond Detachment continues to ensure Richmond remains a safe and desirable community. The OIC will continue to provide monthly updates, which reflect the level of safety in Richmond.

Lainie Goddard

Manager, RCMP Administration

Laini Obddara

(604-207-4767)



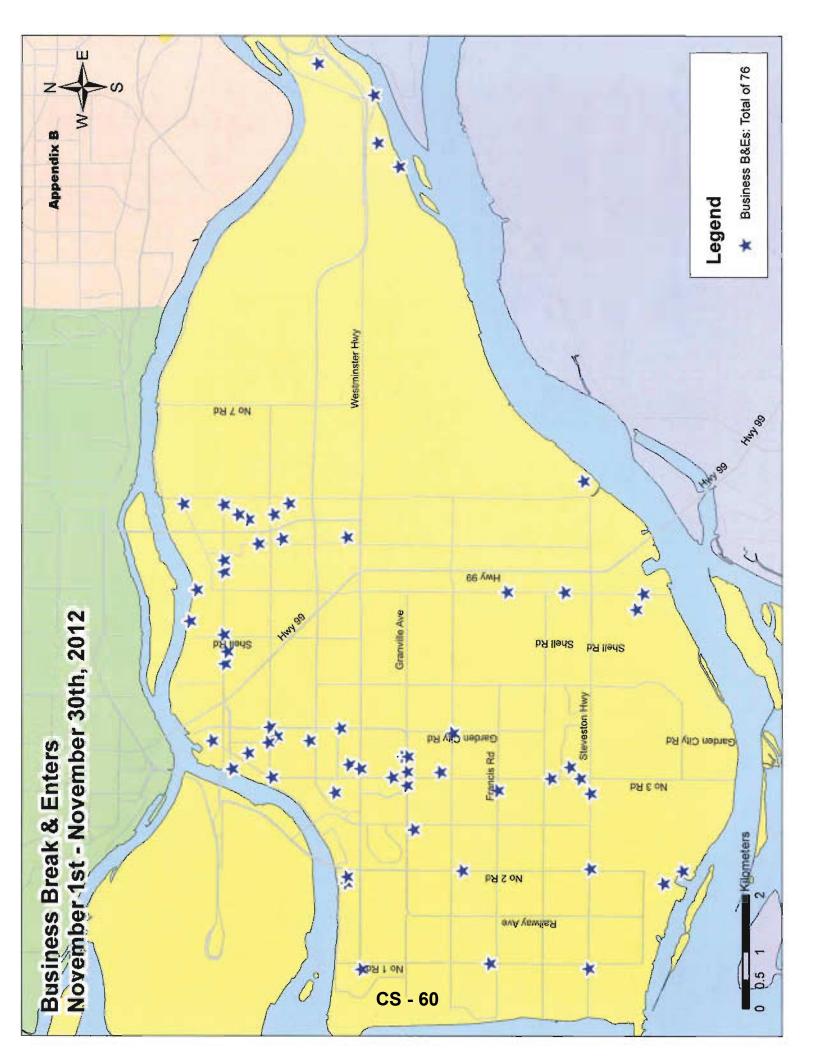
#### **NOVEMBER 2012 STATISTICS**

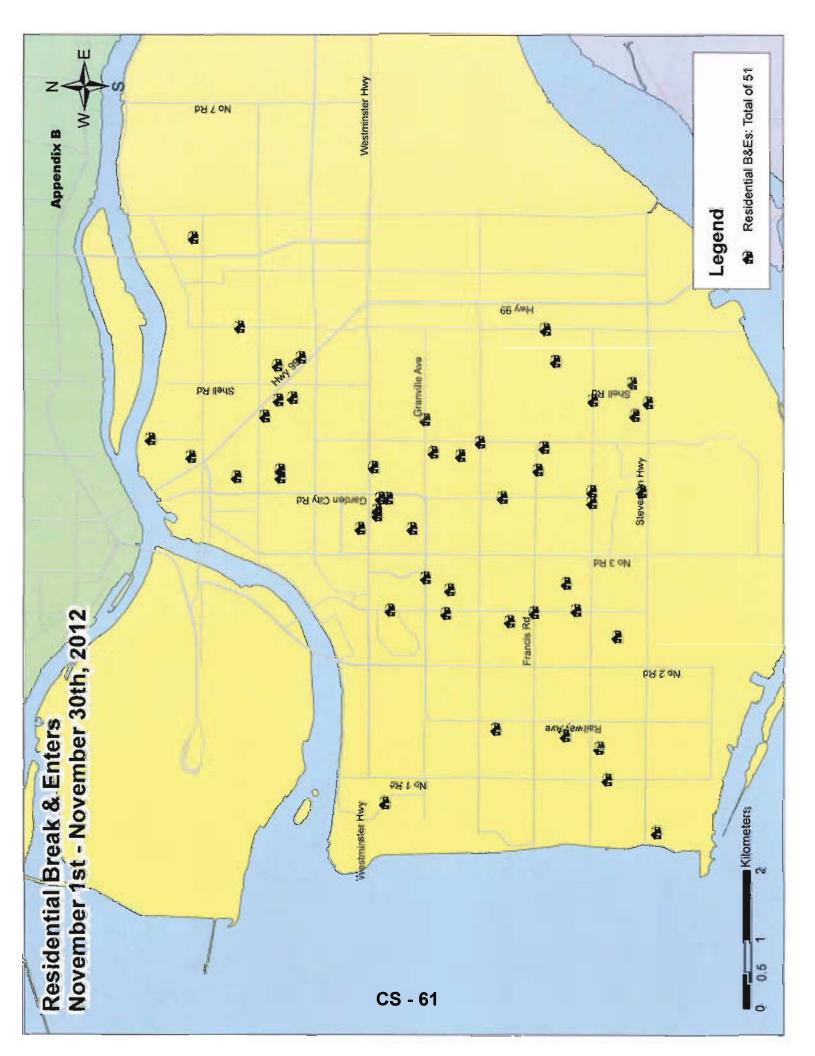
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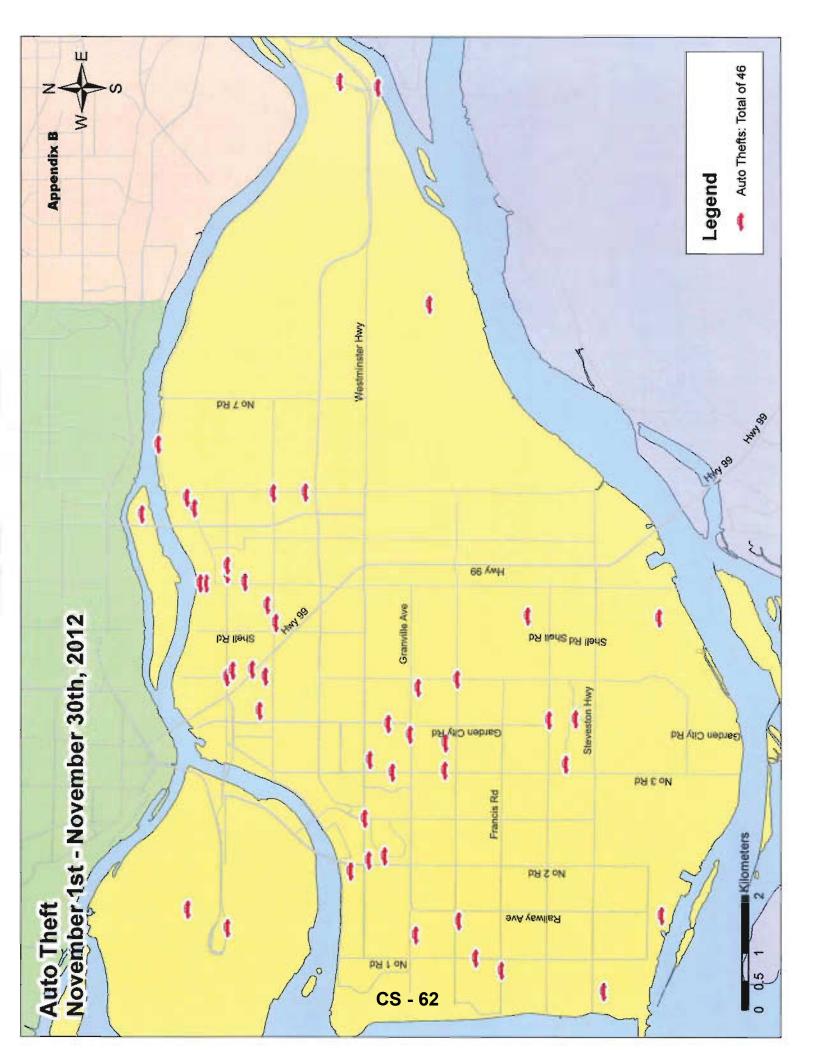
The Average Range data is based on activity in a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence is above average, it will be noted in red, while below-average numbers will be noted in blue.

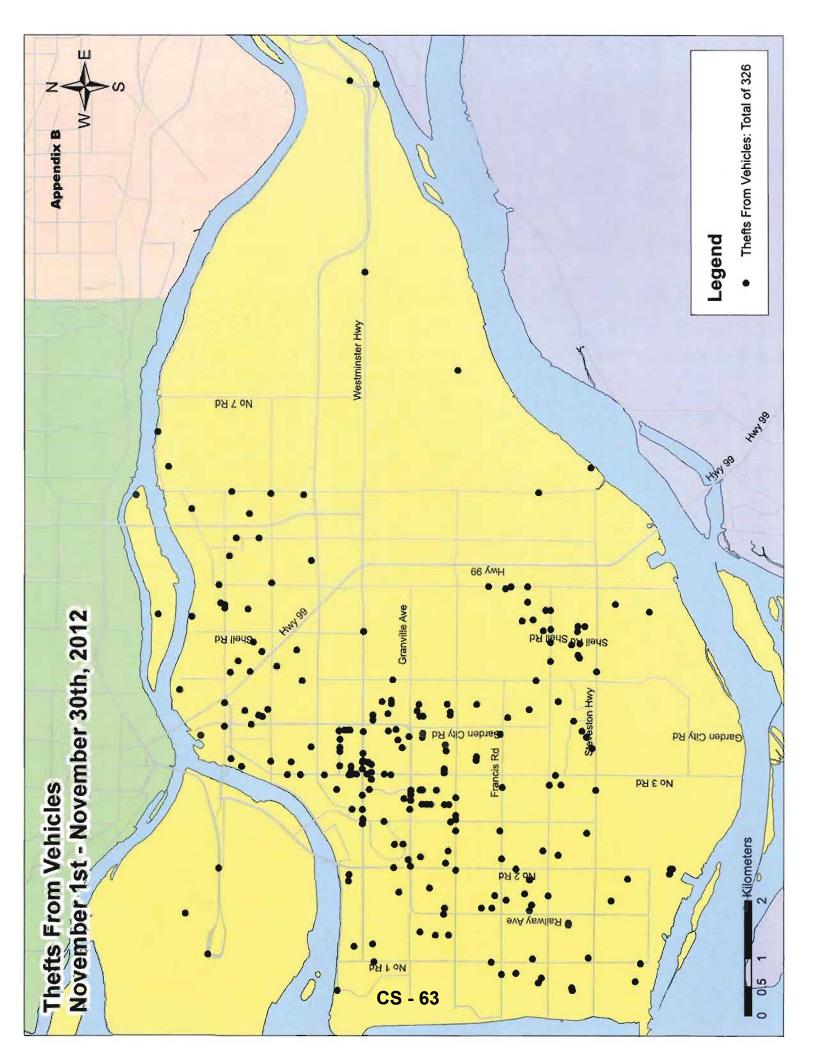
Year-to-Date percentage increases of more than 10% are marked in red, while decreases of more than 10% are blue. Please note that percentage changes are inflated in categories with small numbers (e.g.: Sexual Offences).

	CURRENT MONTH	5-YR AVERAGE RANGE		YEAR-TO	-DATE TOTA	LS
	Nov-12	November	2011 YTD	2012 YTD	% Change	Change in # of Offenses
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	111	123-156	1417	1228	-13.3%	-189
Robbery	6	8-14	124	124	0.0%	0
Assault	45	42-59	505	439	-13.1%	-66
Assault w/ Weapon	12	5-16	136	120	-11.8%	-16
Sexual Offences	3	4-8	74	52	-29.7%	-22
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	865	564-741	6982	7276	4.2%	294
Business B&E	76	35-57	335	462	37.9%	127
Residential B&E	51	40-86	678	587	-13.4%	-91
MV Theft	46	19-41	277	277	0.0%	0
Theft From MV	324	120-234	1724	2039	18.3%	315
Theft	132	81-120	1254	1364	8.8%	110
Shoplifting	59	41-59	652	666	2.1%	14
Metal Theft	0	2-14	39	19	-51.3%	-20
Fraud	37	34-49	523	452	-13.6%	-71
OTHER CRIMINAL GODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	170	155-197	2142	2209	3.1%	67
Arson - Property	5	6-10	64	41	-35.9%	-23
SUBTOTAL (UCR 1000- to 3000-Series)	1146	867-1070	10541	10713	1.6%	172
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	62	83-117	1059	822	-22.4%	-237











# Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee

Date:

January 7, 2013

From:

Phyllis L. Carlyle

File:

General Manager, Law & Community Safety

Re:

Forsaken: The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry

#### Staff Recommendation

# That:

- 1. the City work collaboratively and constructively with the Honourable Steven Point's advisory committee (the "Advisory Committee") on the safety and security of vulnerable women tasked with providing community-based guidance on the recommendations and two additional proposals contained in the report entitled, Forsaken: The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (the "Report");
- 2. if the Advisory Committee is not working on regional policing, that the Province be requested to act on Recommendation 9.2 of the Report by establishing an independent expert committee to develop a proposed model and implementation plan for a Greater Vancouver police force; and
- 3. staff report back to the Community Safety Committee on the Province's progress in acting on Recommendation 9.2 of the Report (establishing an independent expert committee to develop a proposed model and implementation plan for a Greater Vancouver police force).

Phyllis L. Carlyle

General Manager, Law & Community Safety

(604-276-4104)

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
REVIEWED BY SMT SUBCOMMITTEE	INTIALS:
REVIEWED BY CAO	INITIALS:

# Staff Report

# Origin

On November 14, 2012, the Community Safety Committee resolved, in addition to other matters:

That:

(3) staff enter into discussions to determine the prospect of whether a regional police force would be led by the Province.

On November 28, 2012, Mayor Brodie wrote to the Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, advising that the Community Safety Committee had referred back to staff Resolution (3) above as well as a request to analyse the costs involved in pursuing an independent police department with contracted external specialized services and advised that the City of Richmond looked forward to working collaboratively with the Province on these important issues. Mayor Brodie asked that the Minister assign some of her staff to work with City of Richmond staff regarding these two referrals. To date the Minister has not formally responded and her staff continue to work with City representatives.

On December 17, 2012, Forsaken: The Report of the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (the "Report") was released. A preliminary review of the Report is set out below. The purpose of this report to Committee is to inform it of the contents of the Report which seem most applicable to the November 14, 2012 referral (3) referred to above.

# The Inquiry

The Inquiry was tasked with inquiring into and making findings of fact respecting the conduct of the investigations conducted between January 23, 1997 and February 5, 2002, by police forces in B.C. respecting women reporting missing from the Downtown Eastside of the City of Vancouver "DTES"). The Commission heard 93 days of evidence and 86 witnesses. There were 256 exhibits entered encompassing over 27,000 pages. There were public hearings, written submissions, public policy forums and input from community engagement forums throughout the province.

#### The Report

The 1,448 page Report was released on December 17, 2012. The 63 recommendations and two additional proposals are set out in Attachment 1.

The Report's recommendations fall into five major themes:

- 1. Healing and reconciliation, and legacy.
- 2. Policing reforms.
- 3. Crown policy and practices.
- 4. Missing persons' response and community engagement.
- 5. Services and supports.

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# **Report Conclusions**

The Report's conclusions most relevant to the City of Richmond's issues relating to policing models including regionalization are set out in Attachment 2.

# Progress since 2002

The Report acknowledges that both the VPD and the RCMP have taken "meaningful steps" to improve their practices in light of the experience and Commissioner Oppal commends them for these efforts.

# Independent Advisor

Recommendations 12.1 and 12.2 recommend that the Provincial Government appoint an independent advisor to serve as a champion for the implementation of the Commission's recommendations and to work collaboratively with representatives of Aboriginal communities, the DTES, and the victims' families in the implementation process.

# Provincial Reaction to the Report

On the day of the Report's release, Minister Bond advised:

"I want to assure you, as well as all British Columbians, that our government will use these recommendations as a blueprint for building a legacy of safety and security for vulnerable women over the coming years." <sup>2</sup>

In addition, the Province took the following steps:

- 1. The Honourable Steven Point, former Lieutenant Governor, was appointed as the champion to provide advice to government as it implements the recommendations and to chair a new advisory committee on the safety and security of vulnerable women. His committee is to provide community-based guidance on the Report's 63 recommendations and two additional proposals.
- 2. The Minister Responsible for Housing committed \$750,000 to the WISH Drop-In Centre to allow them to expand the hours in which they provide services to women.
- 3. The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is developing a targeted consultation plan to address the commissioner's recommendation for safer transportation opportunities along the Highway 16 corridor.

#### Minister Bond also advised:

"We're in the process of discussing a 10-year policing plan for British Columbia, and I think the concept of what that model might look like deserves further discussion." She did not say which model her government would prefer.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Part 12 Vol III p. 212

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> BC Government On-line News Room Release December 17, 2012

In addition she stated:

"We heard from Commissioner Oppal that it is important that we have a discussion about regional policing with mayors and leaders and I think the recommendations is very timely. Certainly, I've always been willing to sit down and discuss with local mayors in the Vancouver area to talk about that (regional policing) as an option." <sup>4</sup>

# **Analysis**

The Province's detailed analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of a Greater Vancouver police force is not publicly available if it has been done. In order to perform this analysis, Provincial leadership is required to establish an independent expert committee to develop a proposed model and implementation plan for a Greater Vancouver police force (as set out in Recommendation 9.2).

At the moment, it is unknown whether the Province will agree to the Report's recommendation to establish a Greater Vancouver police force or if the Province will seriously consider an application by the City of Richmond to establish its own police force while using an external service provider for some functions. Clearly the creation of an independent police force is completely at odds with the regionalization recommendation. What does seem apparent however is that the Province will not agree to either a Greater Vancouver police force or to an independent City of Richmond Police force until the Province has completed its BC Policing Plan and until Mr. Point's committee has completed its review of the Report and provided community-based guidance on the report's 63 recommendations and two additional proposals.

# Financial Impact

There is no financial impact associated with this report.

# Conclusion

Staff recommend the City work collaboratively and constructively with Mr. Point's advisory committee on the safety and security of vulnerable women tasked with providing community-based guidance on the recommendations and two additional proposals contained in the Report, and if Mr. Point's committee is not working on regional policing, that the Province be requested to act on Recommendation 9.2 of the Report by establishing an independent expert committee to develop a proposed model and implementation plan for a Greater Vancouver police force.

Staff further recommend that staff report back to the Community Safety Committee on the Province's progress in acting on Recommendation 9.2 of the Report.

Barbara Sage Staff Solicitor (604-247-4636)

373690) v4 CS - 68

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Times-Colonist December 18, 2012

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Province newspaper December 17, 2012

# Attachment 1

Part Thirteen Volume 3, Conclusion and Summary of Recommendations.

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# PART THIRTEEN

CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

# PART 13 – CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

# A. Conclusion

As stated earlier, the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry has concluded that the police investigations into the missing and murdered women were blatant failures. I have reviewed in great detail the evidence that the critical police failings were manifest in recurring patterns of error that went unchecked and uncorrected over several years. Given the history of unlearned lessons of serial killer investigations, I delved further into the underlying causes of these failures and found that the causes were themselves complex and multi-faceted. I have framed my recommendations to address these complexities within the context of four overarching themes: equality, community engagement, collaboration and accountability. It should come as no surprise that I have made a large number of recommendations to address these complexities: 63 in total. The recommendations dovetail one with another, each provides an additional tool, an additional check or counterbalance, an additional collaborative mechanism, all geared toward the central goals of enhancing the safety of vulnerable women and improving the initiation and conduct of investigations of missing persons and suspected multiple homicides.

I have found that the missing and murdered women were forsaken twice: once by society at large and again by the police. There is no mirroring concept of "unforesaken," but together we can work toward this end by protecting and supporting vulnerable women. Together, we can and we must, build a legacy of safety to honour the missing and murdered women who are remembered and missed. In doing so, we can provide the only right answer to the question posed by Sarah de Vries' quote at the beginning of my report:

"Will they remember me when I am gone, or would their lives just carry on?"

It is only together that we can ensure that, while the women are gone, they are not forgotten.

#### B. Summary of Recommendations

I urge the Provincial Government to commit to these two measures immediately upon receipt of this report:

- To provide funding to existing centres that provide emergency services to women engaged in the sex trade to enable them to remain open 24 hours per day.
- To develop and implement an enhanced public transit system to provide a safer travel option connecting the Northern communities, particularly along Highway 16.

Please note that points 1 and 2 are not formal recommendations.

#### Restorative Measures

Please note that recommendations are numbered according to the Part of the Report in which they are introduced. (Example: Part 3 begins with 3, Part 4 begins with 4, and so on.)

I make the following recommendations in order to lay the foundation for effective change through acknowledging the harm and fostering healing and reconciliation;

- 3.1 That Provincial Government appoint two advisors, including one Aboriginal Elder, to consult with all affected parties regarding the form and content of the apologies and other forms of public acknowledgement required as a first step in the healing and reconciliation process.
- 3.2 That Provincial Government establish a compensation fund for the children of the missing and murdered women.
- 3.3 That Provincial Government establish a healing fund for families of the missing and murdered women. These funds should be accessed through an application process pursuant to established guidelines.
- 3.4 That Provincial Government appoint two advisors, including one Aboriginal Elder, to consult with all affected parties regarding the structure and format of this facilitated reconciliation process and to consider mechanisms for funding it. These consultations and recommendations could be undertaken together with recommendation 3.1.

#### **Equality-Promoting Measures**

I make the following recommendations in order to renew our commitment to equal protection of the law through practical measures:

- 4.1 That the Minister of Justice direct the Director of Police Services to undertake equality audits of police forces in British Columbia with a focus on police duty to protect marginalized and Aboriginal women from violence. These audits should be carried out by an external agency and with meaningful community involvement.
- 4.2 That Provincial Government set a provincial standard establishing that police officers have a general and binding duty to promote equality and to refrain from discriminatory policing.
- 4.3 That Provincial Government amend the BC Crown Policy Manual to explicitly include equality as a fundamental principle to guide Crown Counsel in performing their functions.
- 4.4 That Provincial Government develop and implement a Crown

- Vulnerable Women Assault Policy to provide guidance on the prosecution of crimes of violence against vulnerable women, including women engaged in the sex trade.
- 4.5 That Provincial Government adopt a policy statement in the BC Crown Policy Manual requiring that a prosecutor's evaluations of how strong the case is likely to be when presented at trial should be made on the assumption that the trier of fact will act impartially and according to the law.
- 4.6 That Provincial Government direct the Director of Police Services to consult with the BC Association of Municipal Chiefs of Police, the RCMP and community representatives to recommend the wording of a statutory provision on the legal duty to warn and a protocol on how it should be interpreted and applied.
- 4.7 That police forces work with local communities to develop communication strategies for the issuance of warnings that ensure the message is conveyed to community members who are most at risk of the specific threat.
- 4.8 That Provincial Government fund three law reform research projects on aspects of the treatment of vulnerable and intimidated witnesses:
  - The effects of drug and alcohol use on memory and how to support those experiencing dependency or addiction to provide testimony;
  - Police, counsel and the judiciary's bias and perceptions of credibility of people with drug additions or who are engaged in the survival sex trade; and
  - Potential changes to the law of evidence to better allow vulnerable witnesses, including those who have been sexually assaulted, those suffering from addictions, and those in the sex industry, to take part in court processes.
- 4.9 That Provincial Government develop guidelines to facilitate and support vulnerable and intimidated witnesses by all actors within the criminal justice system based on the best practices identified by the Commission through its review of protocols and guidelines existing in other jurisdictions.
- 4.10 That police forces integrate into training, performance standards, and performance measurement the ability of police officers to develop and maintain community relationships, particularly with vulnerable members of the community who are often at risk of being treated unequally in the delivery of public services.
- 4.11 That the BC Association of Municipal Chiefs of Police and the RCMP establish a working group to develop a best practices guide for the establishment and implementation of formal discussion mechanisms to facilitate communication and collaboration that transcends the institutional hierarchy within a police agency.

- 4.12 That police officers be required to undergo mandatory and ongoing experiential and interactive training concerning vulnerable community members:
  - Active engagement in overcoming biases, rather than more passive sensitivity training (sometimes called anti-oppression training):
  - More intensive and ongoing training in the history and current status of Aboriginal peoples in the province and in the specific community, particularly with respect to the ongoing effects of residential schools and the child welfare system;
  - Training and resources to make prevention of violence against Aboriginal women a genuine priority;
  - Training to ensure an understanding of violence against women in a range of settings including family violence, child sexual exploitation and violence against women in the sex trade; in particular, the scenarios used in police training should incorporate issues of cultural sensitivity and violence against women; and
  - Training in recognizing the special needs of vulnerable individuals and how to meet those needs, including recognition of a higher standard of care owed by the police to these individuals.
- 4.13 That the Police Complaint Commissioner, working with police forces across the Province, take steps to develop, promote and refine informal methods of police discipline, particularly in marginalized communities such as the DTES and with Aboriginal communities.
- 4.14 That Provincial Government engage with the RCMP in order to bring them into the provincial complaints process.

#### Measures to Enhance the Safety of Vulnerable Urban Women

I make the following recommendations in order to enhance the safety of vulnerable women in the DTES and other urban settings, including by listening to and learning from vulnerable women and responding to their needs:

- 5.1 That SisterWatch be evaluated to provide a basis for further refinements and with a view to establishing best practices for meaningful police-community partnerships; and that these best practices be shared with other police forces to encourage them to develop and maintain ongoing, collaborative community forums.
- 5.2 That all entities with proposed responsibilities under the Living in Community Action Plan commit to these priority actions that together form a strong basis for enhancing the safety of women engaged in the survival sex trade.
- 5.3 That other communities be encouraged to undertake the type of collaborative community engagement strategy employed by Living



- in Community to develop an integrated strategy for enhancing the safety of women engaged in the survival sex trade.
- 5.4 That Provincial Government fund additional full-time Sex Trade Liaison Officer positions in the Lower Mainland.
- 5.5 That the City of Vancouver create and fund two community-based liaison positions to be filled by individuals who have experience in the survival sex trade.
- 5.6 That Provincial Government undertake a community consultation, needs assessment and feasibility study concerning the reestablishment of an independent society comparable to the former Vancouver Police Native Liaison Society.
- 5.7 That the VPD establish a position of Aboriginal Liaison Officer whose responsibilities would include assisting Aboriginal persons in their interactions with the Missing Persons Unit.
- 5.8 That all police forces in British Columbia consider developing and implementing guidelines on the model of the Vancouver Police Department's Sex Work Enforcement Guidelines in consultation with women engaged in the sex trade in their jurisdiction.
- 5.9 That the City of Vancouver and the Vancouver Police Department take proactive measures to reduce the number of court warrants issued for minor offences by:
  - Reducing the number of tickets issued and charges laid for minor offences;
  - Developing guidelines to facilitate greater and more consistent use of police discretion not to lay charges; and
  - Increasing the ways in which failures to appear can be quashed early in the judicial process.
- 5.10 That courts consider making increased use of diversionary or alternative measures to deal with bench warrants and breaches of conditions. This is in light of the barriers that outstanding warrants have on the ability of vulnerable women who are victims of violent crime to access police services. And that proactive steps be taken to assist women to clear outstanding warrants.
- 5.11 That the Minister of Justice consult with the judiciary, police and community representatives to develop a protocol providing the police with the discretion not to enforce a warrant in a circumstance where a sex trade worker is attempting to report a violent crime.
- 5.12 That the Minister of Justice establish a working group to develop options for enhanced legislative protection for exploited women. The working group should include representatives of sex workers, community-based organizations providing support to and advocacy for women engaged in the sex trade, Aboriginal women's organizations, police agencies and the Crown Counsel Association.

5.13 That the BC Association of Municipal Police Chiefs and the RCMP, with support from the Director of Police Services, should develop a protocol containing additional measures to monitor high-risk offenders, including recommendations for the efficient and timely sharing of information.

## Measures to Prevent Violence Against Aboriginal and Rural Women

I respond to the call to stand together and move forward and make the following recommendations in order to prevent violence against Aboriginal and rural women:

- 6.1 That Provincial Government fully support the implementation of The Highway of Tears Symposium action plan, updated to the current situation and in a manner that ensures involvement of all affected communities along Highway 16.
- 6.2 That Provincial Government fund a community consultation process led by Aboriginal organizations to develop and implement a pilot project designed to ensure the safety of vulnerable Aboriginal youth during the rural-urban transition.
- 6.3 That Provincial Government provide additional funding to Aboriginal women's organizations to create programs addressing violence on reserves, so that fewer women and youth are forced to escape to urban areas.
- 6.4 That Provincial Government provide additional funding to Aboriginal women's organizations to provide more safe houses and counselling programs run for and by Aboriginal women and youth.
- 6.5 That Provincial Government fund a collaborative action research project on the entry of young women into the sex trade, especially Aboriginal women who are often homeless during the transition from reserves or foster homes to urban centres, and to develop an action plan to facilitate and support exiting the survival sex trade.

### Improved Missing Person Policies and Practices

I make the following recommendations for the improvement of missing person policies and practices including by fostering innovation and standardization:

7.1 That the provincial standards be developed by the Director of Police Services with the assistance of a committee consisting of representatives of the BC Association of Municipal Police Chiefs, the RCMP, representatives of community and Aboriginal groups, and representatives of families of the missing and murdered women.



- 7.2 That proposed provincial missing persons standards include at least 15 components:
  - Definition of "missing person;"
  - Criteria for the acceptance of reports;
  - Jurisdiction;
  - Missing Person Risk Assessment Tool;
  - Provincial Missing Person Reporting Form;
  - Standards related to interaction with family/reportees;
  - Initial steps background information;
  - Supervisory responsibility/quality control;
  - Forensic evidence standards;
  - · Coroners' Liaison;
  - Monitoring outstanding missing person cases;
  - Automatic annual review of unsolved cases;
  - Closing missing person files;
  - · Prevention and intervention; and
  - The role and authority of the BCPMPC.
- 7.3 That the provincial standards require a proactive missing persons process whereby police must take prevention and intervention measures including "safe and well" checks when an individual is found.
- 7.4 That best practice protocols be established for (1) enhanced victimology analysis of missing persons, (2) investigative steps in missing person cases, (3) collaborative missing person investigations collection, (4) storage and analysis of missing persons data, and (5) training specific to missing person investigations.
- 7.5 That Provincial Government establish a provincial partnership committee on missing persons to facilitate the collaboration of key players in the ongoing development of best practice protocols for missing person cases. The committee should be chaired by a senior government official and include representatives of the missing and murdered women's families, Aboriginal organizations, community groups, service providers, police, and Victim Services.
- 7.6 That Provincial Government establish an agency independent of all police agencies with the purposes to include co-ordinating information, identifying patterns, establishing base rates, checking on police investigations, ensuring accountability for linked interjurisdictional series, and warning the public. It should provide oversight and analytic functions, but it should not be an investigating entity.
- 7.7 That provincial authorities create and maintain a provincial missing person website aimed at educating the public about the missing persons process and engaging them in proactive approaches to prevention and investigation.
- 7.8 That provincial authorities establish a provincial 1-800 phone number for the taking of missing person reports and accessing case

information.

- That provincial authorities develop an enhanced, holistic, comprehensive approach for the provision of support to the families and friends of missing persons. This should be based on a needs assessment carried out in consultation with the provincial partnership committee on missing persons.
- 7.10 That representatives of the media be invited to be members of the provincial partnership committee and that the committee should develop a protocol on issues related to the role of the media in missing person investigations.
- 7.11 That the provincial partnership committee develop a proposal for either an enhanced BCPMPC to meet additional responsibilities relating to the needs of members of the public and, in particular, reportees; or to create an independent civilian-based agency for this purpose.

#### **Enhanced Police Investigations**

I make the following recommendations to enhance police investigations of missing persons and suspected multiple homicides:

- 8.1 That Provincial Government enact missing persons legislation to grant speedy access to personal information of missing persons without unduly infringing on privacy rights. I recommend the adoption of single purpose legislation, as in Alberta and Manitoba, with a provision for a comprehensive review of the operation of the Act after five years.
- 8.2 That Provincial Government mandate the use of Major Case Management (MCM) for major crimes and that the Director of Police Services develop these MCM standards in consultation with the police community and through a review of best practices in other jurisdictions.
- 8.3 That the Director of Police Services mandate accountability under the MCM standards by requiring that police forces:
  - Provide an explanation as to why MCM was not used for a "major crime" in an annual report to the Director of Police Services;
  - Notify the Director of Police Services of all "major crime" investigations that are not under active investigation and have remained open for more than one year. Upon receipt of such notification, the Director will appoint another police department to conduct an independent audit of the prior investigation and conduct such additional investigatory steps as it deems necessary, and report its finding to the Director and the originating police agency; and



- Conduct annual internal audits of a statistically valid random selection of MCM investigations to ensure proper compliance with the model.
- 8.4 That issues related to a single electronic MCM system for British Columbia, as well as compatibility with cross-Canada systems, be reviewed as part of the consultation on MCM standards set out above.
- 8.5 That Provincial Government take active steps to support the development of a National DNA Missing Persons Index and to assist in overcoming the impasse on outstanding concerns over its creation and operationalization.

#### Regional Police Force

I make the following recommendations respecting a regional police force:

- That Provincial Government commit to establishing a Greater Vancouver police force through a consultative process with all stakeholders.
- 9.2 That Provincial Government establish an independent expert committee to develop a proposed model and implementation plan for a Greater Vancouver police force.

## Effective Multi-Jurisdictional Policing

I make the following recommendations for effective multi-jurisdictional policing relating to the investigation of missing persons and suspected multiple homicides:

- 10.1 That the Director of Police Services mandate provincial standards for multi-jurisdictional and multi-agency investigations to be incorporated into the provincial MCM standards referred to in recommendation 8.2.
- 10.2 That the Director of Police Services consult with the BC Association of Police Chiefs and the RCMP to create a protocol or framework for multi-jurisdictional major case investigations to ensure the timely and seamless implementation of multi-agency teams, including a provision for an independent panel to resolve disputes regarding when the protocol should be triggered.
- 10.3 That Provincial Government commit to moving expeditiously to implement a regional Real Time Crime Centre.

## Increase Police Accountability to Communities

I make the following recommendations to increase police accountability to the communities they serve:

- 11.1 That the accountability structure for the Greater Vancouver police force incorporate a holistic approach that provides oversight on both an individual and systemic level and is fully responsive and responsible to the communities it serves.
- 11.2 That the Police Act be amended to provide that the Mayor is an ex officio member of the Board, but has no voting authority.
- 11.3 That additional steps need to be taken to ensure representation of vulnerable and marginalized members and Aboriginal peoples on police boards.
- 11.4 That police boards have access to greater resources from the Division of Police Services to gather and analyze information to enable them to better carry out their oversight functions.

#### Measures to Assure the Women's Legacy

I recommend that the following measures be taken to assure the women's legacy through the implementation of all of this Report:

- 12.1 That Provincial Government appoint an independent advisor to serve as a champion for the implementation of the Commission's recommendations. This appointment should take effect within 12 weeks of release of the report.
- 12.2 That the independent advisor work collaboratively with representatives of Aboriginal communities, the DTES, and the victims' families in the implementation process.

#### Attachment 2

## The Report's Conclusions

"I have concluded that the police investigations into the missing and murdered women from the DTES from 1997 to 2002 were a blatant failure," states the Commissioner.

At the same time, he states that we as a community must all share in the blame for the failed missing women investigations. He explains:

"The police failures in this case mirror the general public and political indifference to the missing women."  $^6$ 

unchecked tragedy of the failed missing women investigations." 7

"While the police have a legal duty to overcome systemic biases and ensure equal protection of the law, they cannot do it alone. The lack of prioritization of the missing women investigations never became a matter of public importance. At some level, we all share the responsibility for the

"While this report focuses on police failures to investigate their disappearance, none of us can escape responsibility for what happened to the missing and murdered women. It is my hope and conviction that this report will contribute to a lasting legacy of increased safety and the saving of lives "8

"The story of the missing women is a tragedy of epic proportions. The women were forsaken: first, by society in general in failing to provide them with the basic conditions of safety and security to which every human being is entitled; second, by the police who are entrusted with the responsibility of protecting all members of society, particularly the vulnerable, and for solving crimes perpetrated against everyone. While this Inquiry focuses on the police failure to fully and effectively investigate the disappearances of the women from the DTES, ultimately all of society shares the responsibility for allowing this tragedy to unfold."

"While I appreciate and accept the limitations on my mandate, I cannot completely ignore the broader social, political and legal context of this Inquiry. As I noted at the outset, the story of the missing women is shaped by their marginalization, which is synonymous with conditions of endangerment and vulnerability to predation. Three overarching social and economic trends contribute to the women's marginalization: retrenchment of social assistance programs, the ongoing effects of colonialism, and the criminal regulation of prostitution and related law enforcement strategies. The outcome of these combined marginalization processes was that the missing women, as a group, were abandoned by society as a whole. This tenuous status was reinforced by police failings that further discounted and discarded the women. As a result, they were forsaken.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Part 12 Vol III p. 212

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Part 4 Vol 10B p. 237

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Executive Summary p. 96

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Executive Summary p. 5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Executive Summary p. 108

It is not police's responsibility to address the conditions of marginalization.. As a society, we must take action to directly address these underlying causes that contribute to women's vulnerability to violence and serial predation. All of the police resources, the best organizational structures, and the best policing practices cannot do that. Moreover, it is heartless, unfair and wrong-headed to ask the police to do better without concurrently ensuring that we, as a society, do better." <sup>10</sup>

#### Critical Police Failures or Patterns of Error

The Report concludes the following were critical police failures, or patterns of error, that had a detrimental impact on the outcomes of the missing and murdered women investigations:

- I. Poor report taking and follow up on reports of missing women;
- II. Faulty risk analysis and risk assessments;
- III. Inadequate proactive strategy to prevent further harm to women in the DTES;
- IV. Failure to follow Major Case Management ("MCM") practices and policies;
- V. Failure to consider and properly pursue all investigative strategies;
- VI. Failure to address cross-jurisdictional issues and ineffective coordination between police forces and agencies; and
- VII. Failure of internal review and external accountability mechanisms. 11

#### Reasons for the Police Failures

The Report identifies the following reasons for these police failures:

# I. Discrimination, systemic institutional bias, and political and public indifference

Commissioner Oppal concludes that the systemic bias against the missing women contributed to the critical police failures in the missing women investigations.

"Bias is an unreasonable departure from the police commitment to providing equitable services to all members of the community. The systemic bias operating in the missing women investigations was a manifestation of the broader patterns of systemic discrimination within Canadian society and was reinforced by the political and public indifference to the plight of marginalized female victims." <sup>112</sup>

Commissioner Oppal concludes that the police did not consciously decide to under-investigate the missing women or to deny protection to women in the DTES, but the effect of the policing strategies employed by them resulted in exactly those outcomes. <sup>13</sup>

"Ultimately, many assumptions made by the police worked against the interests of the women and allowed the violence to continue, despite the valiant efforts of the individual members of the investigative teams.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Executive Summary p. 111

<sup>11</sup> Executive Summary pp. 27-28

<sup>12</sup> Part 4 Vol LIB p. 217

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Part 4 Vol IIB p. 238

"I conclude that there was systemic bias in the police response to the missing women investigations. In particular, I find that systemic bias:

- Allowed faulty stereotyping of street-involved women in the DTES to negatively impact missing women investigations;
- Resulted in the failure to take the lives of the women into account in the policing strategies, particularly in failing to recognize the duty to protect an endangered segment of our community; and
- Contributed to a failure to prioritize and effectively investigate the missing women cases."

## II. A want of leadership

Under this heading, Commissioner Oppal concludes:

"The missing women investigations suffered from a want of leadership. This lack of oversight resulted in investigations without sufficient direction, staffing or resources. Ineffective leadership affected all phases of the investigation: from the delays in confirming women missing, to the breakdown of the initial Pickton investigation, to the delay in setting up a JFO, to the misguided operational plan for Project Evenhanded.

"Witnesses provided me with a range of explanations for the want of leadership. I conclude that the pattern of disengaged leadership was due to a combination of lack of interest and understanding. Early opinions that this was a low priority issue as the women were merely missing were stubbornly persistent, reinforced by the outdated belief of "no body, no crime." This led to a disinterest in newer analytical approaches, such as Det. Insp. Rossmo's statistical analysis. There was also a lack of political pressure. Leadership required someone in a senior position to go out on a limb, but everyone chose to play it safe. All of these things meant that there was no champion for the missing women when one was needed and richly deserved." <sup>15</sup>

## III. Poor systems, limited and outdated policing approaches and standards

Commissioner Oppal states that in his view,

"five limitations in policing systems and approaches contributed to the failed missing women investigations:

- I. Inadequate missing person policies and practices:
- II. The unacceptably slow adoption of MCM systems:
- III. A parochial and silo-based approach to policing;
- IV. Failure to develop and apply policing standards;
- V. Poor or non-existent integration of community-based policing principles in the approaches taken to the investigations." 16

<sup>14</sup> Part 4 Vol IIB p. 238

<sup>15</sup> Part 4 Vol IIB p. 251-252

## IV. Fragmentation of policing

On this topic, Commissioner Oppal comments:

"One of this Commission's stark conclusions is that the fragmentation of policing in the Lower Mainland materially contributed to the failures of the missing women investigations. The Greater Vancouver area is the only major center in Canada without a regional police force. It is clear from the evidence that a regional police force stood a good chance of apprehending Robert Pickton much earlier.

"Without doubt, one of the critical police failures in the missing women investigations was the failure to address cross-jurisdictional issues and the ineffective coordination between police forces and agencies." 17

## V. Inadequate resources and allocation issues

On this topic, Commissioner Oppal comments:

"There is a wide chasm between the views of the investigators on their lack of access to resources and the perspective of senior management. Most of the senior managers told the Commission that despite the general context of tight resources, resources could be found when necessary. The erroneous view from the top was that there were no additional investigative steps to be taken.<sup>18</sup>

. . .

"Resources were not made available because of the lack of priority assigned to the missing women and Pickton investigations by the VPD and the RCMP. Requests from the most involved investigators and their supervisors were largely ignored or received only partially in response. The case was simply not compelling enough to shift management's perception about its importance."

# VI. Police force structure and culture, personnel issues and inadequate training

After identifying certain issues relating to the foregoing, Commissioner Oppal makes the following recommendations:

4.10 That police forces integrate into training, performance standards, and performance measurement the ability of police officers to develop and maintain community relationships, particularly with vulnerable members of the community who are often at risk of being treated unequally in the delivery of public services.

<sup>16</sup> Part 4 Vol IIB p. 253

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Part 9 Vol III p. 188

<sup>18</sup> Part 4 Vol IIB p. 266

<sup>19</sup> Part 4 Vol IIB p. 267

- 4.11 That the BC Association of Municipal Chiefs of Police and the RCMP establish a working group to develop a best practices guide for the establishment and implementation of formal discussion mechanisms to facilitate communication and collaboration that transcends the institutional hierarchy within a police agency.
- 4.12 That police officers be required to undergo mandatory and ongoing experiential and interactive training concerning vulnerable community members:
- Active engagement in overcoming biases, rather than more passive sensitivity training (sometimes called anti-oppression training);
- More intensive and ongoing training in the history and current status of Aboriginal peoples in the province and in the specific community, particularly with respect to the ongoing effects of residential schools and the child welfare system;
- Training and resources to make prevention of violence against Aboriginal women a genuine priority;
- Training to ensure an understanding of violence against women in a range of settings including family violence, child sexual exploitation and violence against women in the sex trade; in particular, the scenarios used in police training should incorporate issues of cultural sensitivity and violence against women; and
- Training in recognizing the special needs of vulnerable individuals and how to meet those needs, including recognition of a higher standard of care owed by the police to these individuals.
- 4.13 That the Police Complaint Commissioner, working with police forces across the Province, take steps to develop, promote and refine informal methods of police discipline, particularly in marginalized communities such as the DTES and with Aboriginal communities.
- 4.14 That Provincial Government engage with the RCMP in order to bring them into the provincial complaints process.

#### Regionalization

Commissioner Oppal makes the following recommendations respecting a regional police force:

- 9.1 That Provincial Government commit to establishing a Greater Vancouver police force through a consultative process with all stakeholders.
- 9.2 That Provincial Government establish an independent expert committee to develop a proposed model and implementation plan for a Greater Vancouver police force.

Commissioner Oppal sets out three options for regionalization:

### 1. Single Police Service Model

This model" involves creating a single provincial police service, governed by a semi-independent police authority, overseen by a Provincial Government ministry. ... Dr. Gordon refuted the concern that a provincial service would be detached from the community: this is simply not so, as long as the service is properly set up. A large police service, properly constructed and administered with community advisory boards, will ensure proper community priority setting and oversight. The main advantages are massive economies of scale; a single set of standards; a single government authority calling the shots without interference with operations; single recruitment, training, and complaint systems; and so on."

## 2. Multi-Region Policing Model

According to the Report, this model "would have some of the benefits of shared provincial standards and training but would be organized along regional lines. Dr. Gordon did not believe that this model was appropriate for British Columbia at present." <sup>21</sup>

#### 3. Model that combines Provincial and Regional Policing

This model "combines Provincial and Regional Policing. Dr. Gordon expressed the view that this model is the most viable option for the province and a very effective model. The regional policing bodies would be similar to regional health authorities. Dr. Gordon was of the view that it was important not to extrapolate too much from Ontario, which has city, regional and provincial police services: that model is not readily adaptable to our province."

Commissioner Oppal does not express support for any particular model at this time. "I include this overview here only for the purpose of showing that the commitment to a regional police force is simply a new, effective starting point for the discussion. It is not intended to foreclose a thorough canvassing of the cost and benefits of options for a Greater Vancouver police force." 23

He cites the main reasons for supporting a Greater Vancouver police force are:

- •"Co-operative enforcement and improved effectiveness in providing safety and security;
- Improved communication, access to information and accountability;
- Improved capacity to deliver specialized services;
- Financial benefits;
- Enhanced professional and career development; and
- Community relations and law enforcement equity." 24

Commissioner Oppal states that a regional, accountable police force that maintains adequate links to communities within the region can be created if sufficient resources are devoted to this change process or it will not happen. "Provincial leadership is key," he states.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Part 9 Vol [[] p. 196

<sup>21</sup> ibid.

<sup>22</sup> ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Executive Summary p. 151

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Part 9 Vol III p. 197

## Developing the optimal model for a regional police force

The independent expert committee referred to in Recommendation 9.2 would facilitate a consultation process involving stakeholders from the community perspective, the municipal leadership perspective, and police institutions, all with a goal of developing the optimal model for a Greater Vancouver police force. As part of this process, information would be gathered relating to:

- "A current analysis of what is working well now and what is not;
- A review of both successes and failures;
- An economic analysis of the costs of the current system, including the costs to public safety, and any proposed models;
- Data gathered within an analytical framework to ensure insightful questions are asked, and the appropriate data is gathered and understood properly;
- An apolitical process through which to hear community views; and
- Independent performance and financial audits." 26

## Commissioner Oppal comments:

"I recognize that there are outstanding questions as to the best model to employ and how to efficiently manage the transition. I underscore that the barriers to a regional police force for Greater Vancouver are political; they have nothing to do with better policing. This is not a new debate and the divisions are clearly drawn between advocates and detractors of a regional police force. The challenge is to find a balance between local control and input while getting the benefits of regional policing.

"In light of the clear findings of this Inquiry, this situation of a stalemate cannot be allowed to continue to prevail. It is time for the Province of British Columbia to commit to the creation of a unified police force and to set up an independent evaluation and consultation process to develop the best model and implementation plan for a Greater Vancouver police force. As Dr. Rossmo stated, history tells us there will be another serial killer, and in those circumstances there must be a strong effective response. Let's not wait for the next Robert Pickton to strike."

## Transitioning to new policing model

The Report refers to a number of issues and challenges relating to any transition to a new policing model:

- "Cost implications;
- Need for clearer economic data on the costs of various models and transition costs;
- Organizing and managing the transition;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Part 9 Vol III p. 197

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Part 9 Vol III p. 198

- Timing of transition must be gradual;
- Funding start-up/transition;
- Personnel issues, such as negotiating collective agreements and benefits, the loss of senior positions and the impact on promotional opportunities;
- Changing the physical infrastructure, equipment, etc.;
- Training, retraining, transfer and recruitment;
- Domination of smaller forces by larger ones;
- Deciding who will continue to do the policing;
- Accountability issues are key;
- Loss of community control;
- Reduction in service levels;
- Effectiveness issues, such as miscommunication, isolation, and lack of cooperation;
- Confidence and trust in police is critical."28

#### Integration

Commissioner Oppal rejects the integrated teams system. He said that the majority of participants in the Policy Forums believe that the integrated team system is an attempt to get around the politics of police reform and to avoid the issue of regionalization. Suggestions for integration are merely suggestions to prop up a broken system.<sup>29</sup> He adds that:

"The greatest concern about integration, and one that can only be fully overcome through the establishment of a regional police force, is the lack of regional leadership and the ability to set and pursue regional policing priorities. I accept the position taken by the VPD that without a unified command structure, there are many people in charge, and when there are many people in charge, no one is in charge. In the words of Retired Chief Constable Bob Stewart, where there are a half a dozen leaders, "the buck stops nowhere" — no one is accountable."

## Inter-Jurisdictional Cooperation

The Report comments on some difficulties with inter-jurisdictional cooperation between the various police agencies. The Report found three barriers to effective investigation of individual missing women:

- 1. "some reportees found it difficult to make a report because it was unclear which police agency they should go to.
- 2. "there was reluctance or hesitancy to take over the investigations because it was difficult to determine in some of the missing women investigations where they were last seen because no one had observed them going missing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Part 9 Vol III p. 197

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Part 9 Vol ПІ р 190

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Part 9 Vol III p. 191

3. "in some cases there was no meaningful investigation undertaken because one police force deferred to the other or thought the other was taking the lead." "

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## Facilitating Effective Multi-Jurisdictional Responses to Crime

To facilitate an effective multi-jurisdictional response to crime, and in particular, to major crimes, the Report recommends:

10.1 That the Director of Police Services mandate provincial standards for multi-jurisdictional and multi-agency investigations to be incorporated into the provincial MCM standards referred to in recommendation 8.2.

10.2 That the Director of Police Services consult with the BC Association of Police Chiefs and the RCMP to create a protocol or framework for multi-jurisdictional major case investigations to ensure the timely and seamless implementation of multi-agency teams, including a provision for an independent panel to resolve disputes regarding when the protocol should be triggered.

10.3 That Provincial Government commit to moving expeditiously to implement a regional Real Time Crime Centre.

## Ensuring Police Accountability to the Communities they Service Including Police Board Issues

The Report concludes that the Vancouver Police Board was "ineffective in carrying out its oversight mandate." 32

The Report makes a number of recommendations relating to Police Boards:

- 11.2 That the Police Act be amended to provide that the Mayor is an ex officio member of the Board, but has no voting authority.
- 11.3 That additional steps need to be taken to ensure representation of vulnerable and marginalized members and Aboriginal peoples on police boards.
- 11.4 That police boards have access to greater resources from the Division of Police Services to gather and analyze information to enable them to better carry out their oversight functions.

If these recommendations are adopted, it is likely that municipalities with Police Boards will have less control than they do now over their police forces.

The Report also makes a recommendation with respect to the accountability structure of the Greater Vancouver police force:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Part 3 Vol IIB p. 63

<sup>32</sup> Executive Summary p. 92

11.1 That the accountability structure for the Greater Vancouver police force incorporate a holistic approach that provides oversight on both an individual and systemic level and is fully responsive and responsible to the communities it serves.