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**Community Safety Committee  
Electronic Meeting**

**Council Chambers, City Hall  
6911 No. 3 Road**

**Tuesday, March 12, 2024  
4:00 p.m.**

Pg. #      ITEM

MINUTES

CS-5      *Motion to adopt the **minutes** of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee held on February 13, 2024.*



NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

April 9, 2024, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

1. **PROPERTY USE AND PARKING ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – JANUARY 2024**

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-02) (REDMS No. 7581639)

CS-11

**See Page CS-11 for full report**

*Designated Speaker: Mark Corrado*

Pg. # ITEM

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

*That the staff report titled “Property Use and Parking Enforcement Monthly Activity Report – January 2024”, dated February 12, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.*



2. **ANIMAL PROTECTION SERVICES MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – JANUARY 2024**

(File Ref. No. 12-8060-01) (REDMS No. 7579289)

CS-19

[See Page CS-19 for full report](#)

*Designated Speaker: Geoffrey Bramhill*

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

*That the staff report titled “Animal Protection Services Monthly Activity Report – January 2024”, dated February 12, 2024 from the General Manager, Community Safety, be received for information.*



3. **RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – JANUARY 2024**

(File Ref. No. 09-5140-01) (REDMS No. 7573577)

CS-24

[See Page CS-24 for full report](#)

*Designated Speaker: Fire Chief Jim Wishlove*

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

*That the staff report titled “Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – January 2024”, dated February 12, 2024, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.*



4. **FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING**

(Verbal Report)

*Designated Speaker: Fire Chief Jim Wishlove*

Items for discussion: None.

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5. **RCMP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – JANUARY 2024**  
(File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 7548636)

CS-38

See Page CS-38 for full report

*Designated Speaker: Chief Supt. Dave Chauhan*

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

*That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – January 2024”, dated February 13, 2024, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.*



6. **RCMP/OIC BRIEFING**  
(Verbal Report)

*Designated Speaker: Chief Supt. Dave Chauhan*

Items for discussion:

- (i) *Launch of Community Safety Initiative – Safe Sale Exchange Program*
- (ii) *Launch of Crime Reduction Initiative – “You Etch It. We Catch it” Program*
- (iii) *Bike Patrols*

COUNCILLOR LAURA GILLANDERS

7. **POLICIES AND BYLAWS RELATING TO BODY RUB STUDIOS**  
(File Ref. No.)

CS-58

See Page CS-58 for background materials

MOTION

*That staff research and review our current policies and bylaws relating to body rub studios by consulting with agencies such as SWAN, PACE Society, Living in Community, Pivot Legal Society, and VCASE, as well as compare ours to bylaws in other municipalities; that staff report back to Community Safety Committee with findings and/or options to ensure our policies are aligned with current best practices.*



**Community Safety Committee Agenda – Tuesday, March 12, 2024**

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Pg. #

ITEM

8. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

ADJOURNMENT





Community Safety Committee

- Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024
- Place: Council Chambers  
Richmond City Hall
- Present: Councillor Alexa Loo, Chair  
Councillor Andy Hobbs  
Councillor Laura Gillanders  
Councillor Kash Heed  
Councillor Bill McNulty
- Also Present: Councillor Michael Wolfe (by teleconference)
- Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

The Chair recessed the meeting at 4:01 p.m. for the Closed Community Safety Committee meeting.

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The meeting reconvened at 4:23 p.m. following the Closed Community Safety Committee Meeting with all members of Committee present, including Councillor Wolfe (by teleconference).

MINUTES

It was moved and seconded  
*That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee held on January 16, 2024, be adopted.*

CARRIED

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

1. **ANIMAL PROTECTION SERVICES ACTIVITY REPORT – 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW**

(File Ref. No. 12-8060-01) (REDMS No. 7543918)

In response to queries from the Committee, staff noted that Animal Control Officers use the Doctor Ian Dunbar Dog Bite Scale to determine the severity of dog bites and that dog license renewals contributed to the net revenue in 2023.

It was moved and seconded

*That the staff report titled “Animal Protection Services Activity Report – 2023 Year in Review”, dated January 19, 2023 from the General Manager, Community Safety, be received for information.*

**CARRIED**

2. **PROPERTY USE AND PARKING ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY REPORT – 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW**

(File Ref. No. 12-8060-01) (REDMS No. 7532847)

Staff provided an update on (i) the enforcement of short term rental investigations noting that multiple non-compliance tickets can be issued to a single property at one time, (ii) there was an increase in service calls and tickets issued during last month’s snowfall, and (iii) that staff investigated and action taken for container activity in driveways.

In response to queries from Committee, staff noted that short term rental enforcement has resulted in an increase of licences and compliance and staff would report back on the increase in licenses from 2022 to 2023.

It was moved and seconded

*That the staff report titled “Property Use and Parking Enforcement Activity Report – 2023 Year in Review”, dated January 19, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.*

**CARRIED**

3. **BUSINESS LICENCE ACTIVITY REPORT – 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW**

(File Ref. No. 12-8060-01) (REDMS No. 7537194)

In response to queries from Committee, staff advised that they will report back on what types of businesses are included in the list of inactive business licenses and provide an update on business license violations.

It was moved and seconded

*That the staff report titled “Business Licence Activity Report – 2023 Year in Review”, dated January 19, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.*

**CARRIED**

4. **OPTIONS FOR ENFORCEMENT OF ESCORT SERVICES AND BODY RUBS**

(File Ref. No. 12-8275-11) (REDMS No. 7529119)

Angela Wu, SWANN Vancouver, expressed concerns with the rights and safety of women working in licensed body rub studios and stating that the proposed increase in bylaw inspections and fines may put women at greater risk. Ms. Wu suggested a review of the City’s existing bylaws and the consideration of implementing sex work safety response guidelines on how bylaw inspections can be respectfully enforced. Ms. Wu also suggested that consultation be done with body rub studio employees to understand what is required to ensure their safety.

Bronwyn McBride, provided a summary on how enforcement of massage parlours impacts women’s safety and their ability to trust and access police protections. Ms. McBride expressed that licensed workplaces are the safest spaces for women in this work environment. The motions put forward will undermine the safety of women as the increase in enforcement will displace women to unlicensed workplaces putting them at greater risk of violence.

Dr. Jessica Taylor, Richmond resident, spoke on the problems regarding enforcement of sex workers and the decrease in their health and safety when extreme measures are enforced. Dr. Taylor expressed that the joint Business Licence/RCMP operations leads to an increase in fear and a distrust in municipal institutions. Dr. Taylor suggested that Richmond is already regulated, and increasing fines may be counter intuitive. She encouraged the City to develop supports for this vulnerable population.

In reply to queries from Committee, staff stated that the bylaw recommendations put forward are geared towards business owners and not the workers and bylaw officers act professionally when conducting inspections.

It was moved and seconded

- (1) *That Option 2 as described in the staff report titled "Options for Enforcement of Escort Services and Body Rub Studios" dated January 16, 2024 from the General Manager, Community Safety be endorsed;*
- (2) *That staff amend the Business Licence Bylaw 7360, the Business Regulation Bylaw No. 7538, the Municipal Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw No. 7321, and the Notice of Bylaw Violation Dispute Adjudication Bylaw No. 8122.*

The question on the motion was not called as discussion ensued with regard to the safety of the workers during enforcement activity and alignment of the existing City bylaws with guidelines and principles set out by the British Columbia Association of Chiefs of Police (BCACP).

The question on the motion was then called and it was **CARRIED** with Cllr. Gillanders opposed.

5. **RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – DECEMBER 2023 AND YEAR IN REVIEW**

(File Ref. No. 09-5140-01) (REDMS No. 7525426)

In reply to queries to Committee, Fire Chief Jim Wishlove noted that (i) Richmond Fire-Rescue (RFR) documents when naloxone is administered during an overdose incident, (ii) social media platforms outreach has increased from 2022 to 2023, and (iii) the Fire Risk Prediction Modeling used to conduct fire inspections helps determine a property's risk of fire.

Chief Wishlove then provided an overview of the 2023 Mobile Outdoor Food Service Unit (MOFSU) inspection program for food trucks, highlighting the introduction of a joint municipal program across the Lower Mainland.

It was moved and seconded

*That the staff report titled "Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – December 2023 and Year In Review", dated January 11, 2024, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.*

**CARRIED**

6. **FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING**

(Verbal Report)

Chief Wishlove updated Committee on the Super Grocer fire noting that the building will be fully removed in the next 2 weeks.



7.    **RCMP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – DECEMBER 2023 AND YEAR IN REVIEW**

(File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 7491265)

In reply to queries to Committee, Chief Supt. Chauhan gave an overview on (i) the Boost and Bust operation stating that Richmond RCMP have doubled the operation for 2024, (ii) the Richmond RCMP response to 2023 mental health incidences, and (iii) robbery incidences occurred outdoors with one stranger related investigation still ongoing.

Discussion then ensued with regard to the Fox 80 program operations, and as a result, staff were directed to provide a memorandum on the hours of operation and expansion of the program.

It was moved and seconded

*That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – December 2023 and Year in Review”, dated January 16, 2024, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.*

**CARRIED**

8.    **RCMP/OIC BRIEFING**

(Verbal Report)

None.

9.    **MANAGER’S REPORT**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded

*That the meeting adjourn (5:53 p.m.).*

**CARRIED**

**Community Safety Committee – Tuesday, February 13, 2024**

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Pg. #      ITEM

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 Tuesday, February 13, 2024.

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Councillor Alexa Loo  
Chair

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Mizuguchi, Andrea  
Legislative Services Associate



# City of Richmond



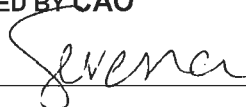
## Report to Committee

**To:** Community Safety Committee **Date:** February 12, 2024  
**From:** Mark Corrado **File:** 12-8375-02/2024-Vol  
 Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing 01  
**Re:** **Property Use and Parking Enforcement Monthly Activity Report – January 2024**

### Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Property Use and Parking Enforcement Monthly Activity Report – January 2024”, dated February 12, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.

Mark Corrado  
 Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing  
 (604-204-8673)

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
<b>ROUTED TO:</b>	<b>CONCURRENCE</b>	<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b>
Finance Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW</b>	<b>INITIALS:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY CAO</b>
		

**Staff Report**

**Origin**

This monthly report for the Property Use and Parking Enforcement sections of Community Bylaws provides information and statistics on the calls for service and bylaw enforcement actions related to unsightly premises, land use, noise, soil deposit/removal, short-term rentals, parking permits and enforcement.

This report supports Council’s Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area # 3 A Safe and Prepared Community:

*3.2 Leverage strategic partnerships and community-based approaches for comprehensive safety services.*

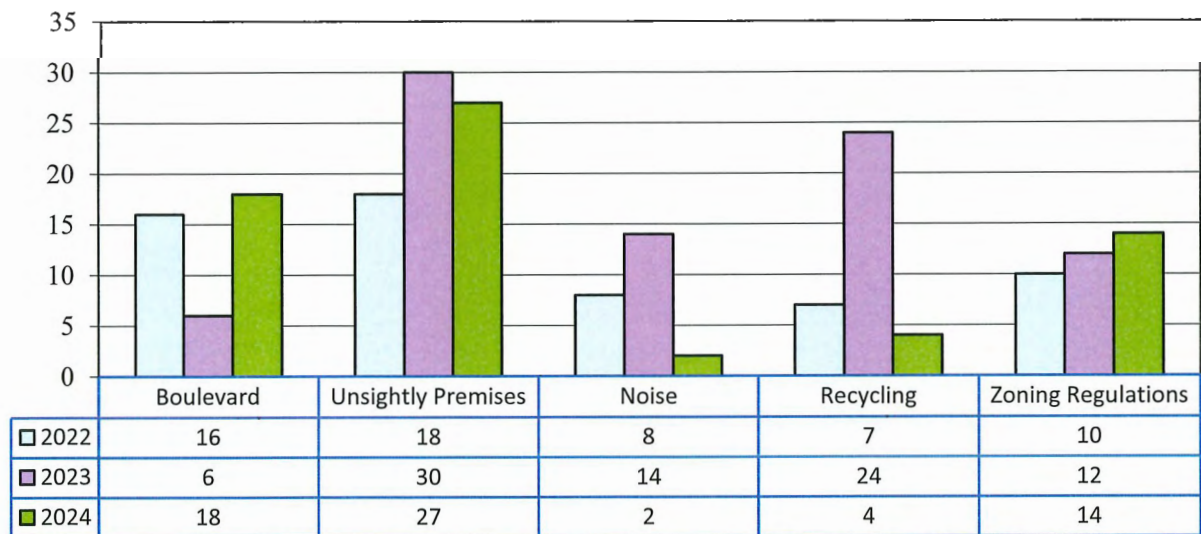
*3.4 Ensure civic infrastructure, assets and resources are effectively maintained and continue to meet the needs of the community as it grows.*

**Analysis**

Property Use Calls for Service

In January 2024, a total of 136 calls for service files were received for investigation, which is a five per cent increase (130) from the same period last year. Depending on the nature of the investigation, staff must often liaise with multiple departments and other government agencies to conduct a fulsome review of a given complaint. Among 21 potential calls for service categories, Figure 1 highlights the most common calls for service received for Property Use officers to follow up on and investigate.

Figure 1: Property Use Calls For Service - January Year-To-Date Comparison

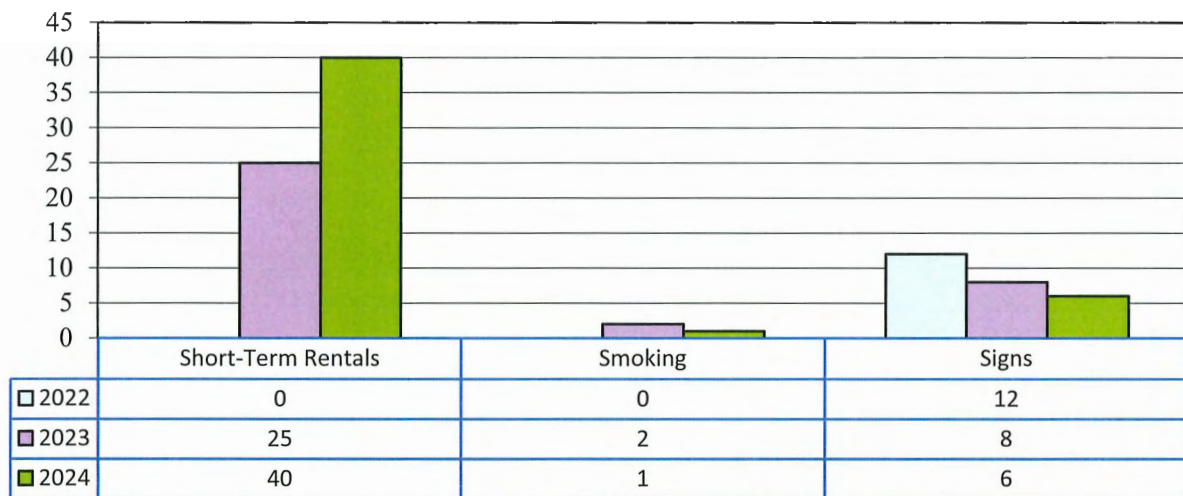


In January, boulevard maintenance and unsightly premises calls remained within a three-year average, with no discernable geographic or thematic trends in this call category. The increase in recycling related calls in 2023 can be attributed to one habitual complainant last year. Zoning related calls for services were up slightly and this can be attributed to a variety of call types, such as business operating contrary to zoning or illegal suites.

Other Community Bylaws Calls for Service

Figure 2 shows a three-year break down of other calls for service that are closely related to Property Use matters.

Figure 2: Property Use Calls For Service - January Year-To-Date Comparison



In January, 40 calls for service related to short-term rental violations were received. Dedicated temporary full time staffing resources monitor complaints submitted by the community as well as proactively generating files. Complaints are resolved by either removing the short-term rental listing or by obtaining a boarding and lodging or bed and breakfast licence depending on eligibility.

Signage-related calls can be attributed to real estate signs that have been erected beyond their permissible time allowance post-sale. In these cases, staff work with the respective agent and signage is removed.

Tow Permit Applications

Beginning in 2024 tow permit information will be highlighted in the Quarterly Business Licences Activity Report.

### Administration Activity

In January, staff received 764 calls from the public for a variety of subject areas. Property use and parking related calls for service accounted for 513 of these calls with the remaining 251 calls related to parking permit issuance, ticket disputes and general inquiries.

### Soil Activity

Staff are responsible for responding to public complaints and issues of non-compliance related to unauthorized filling; monitoring permitted soil deposits and removal sites; and inspecting properties that are undergoing remediation to come into compliance with applicable City bylaws. Staff conducted 31 site inspections in the month of January.

Stop Work/Removal Orders issued for the following properties:

- 11400 Block of Granville Avenue
- 13340 Blundell Road
- 6300 No. 4 Road

The following properties are now in compliance:

- 18700 River Road

There are 28 soil deposit proposals under various stages of the application process. Staff are monitoring 10 approved sites and currently addressing 29 properties that are considered non-compliant.

### Bylaw Prosecutions

No new bylaw charges were sworn in January.

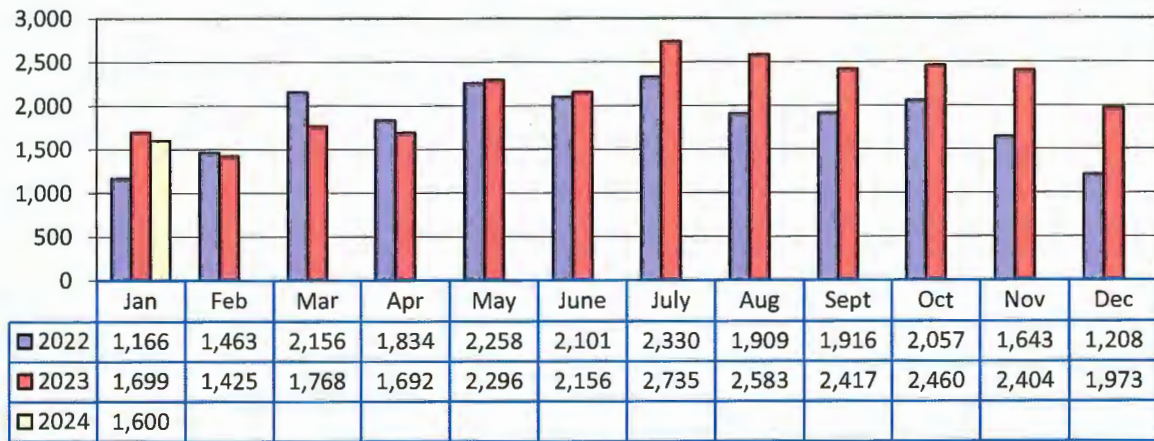
### Parking Enforcement

Staff responded to 377 calls for service in January. This is a 32 per cent increase (286) from the same month last year. When contrasted with 2023 data from the same period, parking enforcement revenue has increased by 28 per cent with parking violation issuance down by six per cent. This contrast between parking revenue and violation issuance is the result of proactive enforcement efforts leading to increased use of City parking meters, monthly parking permit issuance and an increase in the use of mobile payment applications. Monthly parking enforcement revenue is highlighted in Figure 3, and Figure 4 highlights monthly parking violation issuance.

Figure 3: Parking Enforcement Revenue Comparison (000's)



Figure 4: Parking Violation Issuance Comparison



Ticketing

Table 1 reflects non-parking related Bylaw ticket issuance for the month of January

Table 1: Community Bylaw Offences

Ticket Issuance (BVN's & MTI's)	January
Short-Term Rental Offences	43
Soil Deposit and Removal Offences	7
Watercourse Protection Offences	0
Unsightly Premises Offences	1
Noise Offences	1
Building Regulation Offences	2
Solid Waste and Recycling Offences	0
Parks Offences	0
Sign Offences	1
Watering Offences	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>55</b>

A variety of violation notices can be issued for non-compliant operation of a short-term rental. Often, an illegal rental operator will receive multiple violation notices upon inspection. Staff continue to monitor properties that have been found non-compliant and follow up accordingly should unpermitted operation continue.

Three bylaw violation notices were issued to 6100 No. 5 Road. Two of the notices were for violations of Building Regulation Bylaw No.7230 and the other for a violation of the Business Licence Bylaw No. 7360.

Bylaw Adjudication

The next adjudication session will be held on March 6, 2024.

Revenue and Expenses

Revenue in the Property Use section is primarily derived from permits, tickets and court fines related to bylaw prosecutions. Soil permit applications and volume fees follow a seasonal trend and tend to pick up in the spring and summer months. The collection of revenue in other Bylaw fines can be primarily attributed to fines issued for the operation of unpermitted short-term rentals. These results are shown in Table 2.

Parking enforcement generates much of its revenue from meters, permits and fines. Parking typically sees receivable income as a result of the Richmond Night Market, which opened in late April. As this event is seasonal, the revenue in this budget line does vary. Table 3 outlines individual revenue sources within parking enforcement. Table 4 outlines the net revenue and expenses for both property use and parking enforcement. Of note, January parking enforcement revenue exceeded budget for the month.



Table 2: Property Use Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Jan 2024	Actual Jan 2024
False Alarm	4,858	5,940
Towing Permits	1,392	2,104
Soil Permit Application and Volume Fees	10,258	2,810
Other Bylaw Fines	18,870	14,425
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>35,378</b>	<b>25,279</b>

Table 3: Parking Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Jan 2024	Actual Jan 2024
Contract Revenue <sup>1</sup>	5,000	5,000
Parking Income <sup>2</sup>	174,767	173,052
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>179,767</b>	<b>178,052</b>

Table 4: Property Use and Parking Revenue and Expenses

		Budget Jan 2024	Actual Jan 2024
<b>Property Use</b>	Revenue	35,378	25,279
	Expenses	163,666	104,143
	<b>Net Revenue (Expense)</b>	<b>(128,288)</b>	<b>(78,864)</b>
<b>Parking</b>	Revenue	179,767	178,052
	Expenses	152,516	124,297
	<b>Net Revenue (Expense)</b>	<b>27,251</b>	<b>53,755</b>

**Financial Impact**

None.

<sup>1</sup> City Towing Contract with Rusty's towing

<sup>2</sup> Parking Revenue consists of Parking Meters, Monthly Parking Permits, and Parking Enforcement

February 12, 2024

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### **Conclusion**

Staff administer and enforce 39 bylaws. Most notably related to unsightly premises, land use, noise, soil deposit/removal, short-term rentals, parking permits and enforcement. This report provides a summary of staff's activity in January.



Mark Corrado  
Director, Community Bylaws and Licencing  
(604-204-8673)



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** Community Safety Committee **Date:** February 12, 2024  
**From:** Cecilia Achiam **File:** 12-8060-01/2024-Vol  
 General Manager, Community Safety 01  
**Re:** **Animal Protection Services Monthly Activity Report – January 2024**

### Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Animal Protection Services Monthly Activity Report – January 2024”, dated February 12, 2024 from the General Manager, Community Safety, be received for information.

Cecilia Achiam  
 General Manager, Community Safety  
 (604-276-4122)

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
<b>ROUTED TO:</b>	<b>CONCURRENCE</b>
Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW</b>	<b>INITIALS:</b> 
<b>APPROVED BY CAO</b> 	

## Staff Report

### Origin

This report for the Animal Protection Services department provides information and statistics for enforcing bylaws related to Animal Protection Services.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #1 Proactive in Stakeholder and Civic Engagement:

*Proactive stakeholder and civic engagement to foster understanding and involvement and advance Richmond's interests.*

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #3 A Safe and Prepared Community:

*Community safety and preparedness through effective planning, strategic partnerships and proactive programs.*

### Analysis

#### Animal Protection Services

As of February 6, 2024, approximately 4,338 dog licences have been issued. Dog licences are valid for a calendar year and are not based on the purchase date of the dog. Owners have until February 29, 2024, to renew their licences for a discounted fee. Following this deadline, staff will begin canvassing efforts to follow up with accounts that have not renewed or updated their status. Social media content reminding owners to register their dogs in advance of February 29, 2024 has been posted, with another additional posting going out in February.

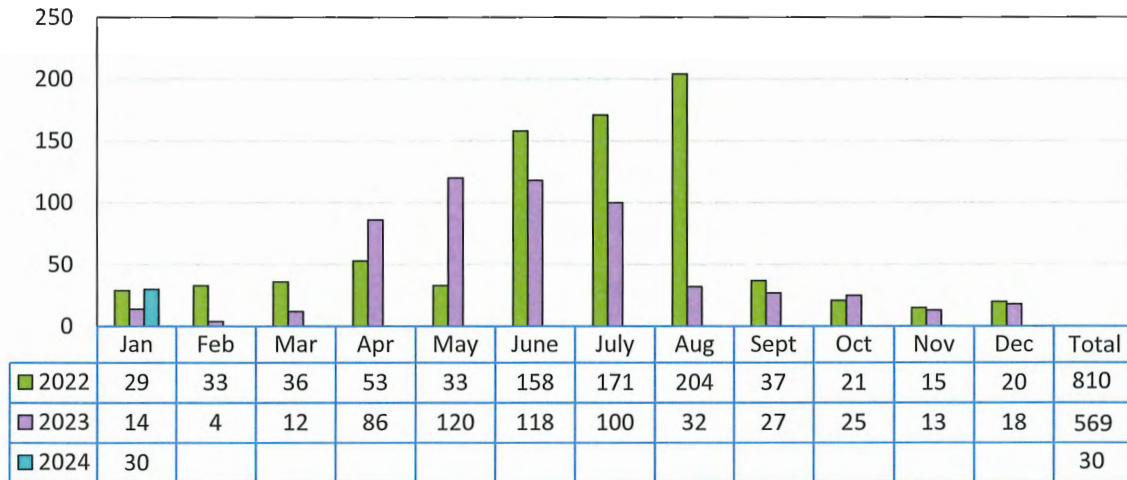
In January, BC SPCA Officers responded to 131 calls for service pertaining to a range of animal control and dog licencing violations. The officers also engaged in 44 park patrols covering numerous parks, dikes and school grounds. In addition to the standard patrol locations of Garry Point, West Dyke Trail and Garden City, staff also visited the "hot spot" locations of Homma Elementary, AR MacNeill and the South Dyke Trail.

Throughout the month of January, a total of 30 bylaw violation notices were issued by BC SPCA Officers. These violations span a variety of offences, primarily for permitting a dog to be at large and failure by owner to confine a dog to their property. In addition to enforcement actions, these patrols also serve an educational purpose by contributing to increased compliance awareness.

Figure 1 below reflects the monthly and year-to-date animal control and dog licencing enforcement activity measured by ticket issuance.

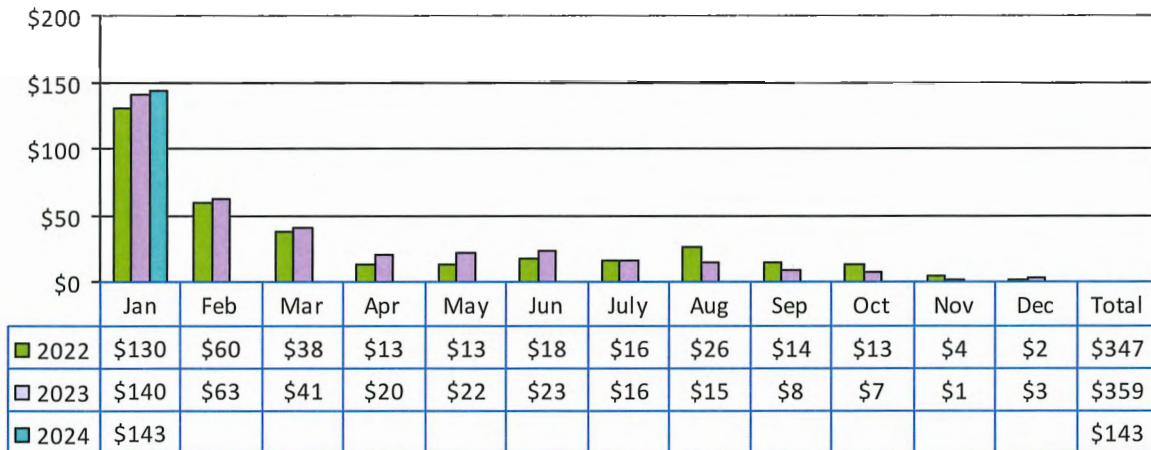
With the beginning of the 2024 dog licence application/renewal cycle, violation notices issued for failure to obtain a valid dog licence generally decrease until the canvassing period begins in April.

Figure 1: Animal Protection Services Violation Issuance Comparison



The corresponding revenue is reflected in Figure 2. While ticket issuance is within cyclical norms in the post-canvassing period, the overall year revenue is up slightly as of the end of January. This can be attributed to strong renewal rates experienced so far into 2024.

Figure 2: Animal Protection Services Revenue Comparison (000's)



Richmond Animal Shelter Activity

In January, a total of 42 domestic animals were adopted from the Richmond Animal Shelter. An additional 14 animals were redeemed by their owners. Among the 42 adopted domestic animals, 12 were dogs and 23 were cats. The remaining seven adopted animals in January were domestic birds or rabbits.

Administrative Staff Activity

In January, staff received 455 calls from the public related to animal services. These calls consisted of a variety of subject matters related to dog licences, bylaw infractions, off leash dogs in parks, adjudication process and general inquiries. There was an increase in calls to the administrative team due to the 2024 dog licenses renewal program.

Animal Protection Services Bylaw Adjudication

There are no violation notices currently requiring adjudicator review. Once a minimum threshold of dispute applications is received, an adjudication session will be scheduled.

Revenue and Expenses

The Animal Protection Services department derives revenue from dog licences and fines as shown in Table 1. Table 2 highlights Animal Protection Services revenue and expenses within the Community Safety division.

Table 1: Animal Protection Services Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Jan 2024	Actual Jan 2024
Dog Licences	115,991	141,918
Fines	370	875
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>116,361</b>	<b>142,793</b>

Table 2: Animal Protection Services Revenue and Expenses

	Budget Jan 2024	Actual Jan 2024
Revenue	116,361	142,793
Expenses	124,759	133,384
<b>Net Revenue (Expense)</b>	<b>(8,398)</b>	<b>9,409</b>

**Financial Impact**

None.

**Conclusion**

Staff administer a wide range of bylaws and programs related to animal protection and shelter operations, which includes patrols, public parks and school grounds, dog licencing and animal control. This report provides a summary of monthly enforcement and administrative activity, including revenue and expenses.



Geoff Bramhill  
Acting Manager, Animal Protection Services and Contract Administration  
(604-276-4136)



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

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**To:** Community Safety Committee **Date:** February 12, 2024  
**From:** Jim Wishlove **File:** 09-5140-01/2024-Vol  
Fire Chief 01  
**Re:** **Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – January 2024**



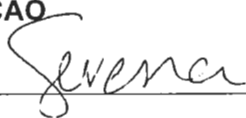
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### Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled “Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – January 2024”, dated February 12, 2024, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.

Jim Wishlove  
Fire Chief  
(604-303-2715)

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS: 
APPROVED BY CAO 	



**Staff Report**

**Origin**

This monthly report supports Council’s Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #3, A Safe and Prepared Community:

*Community safety and preparedness through effective planning, strategic partnerships and proactive programs.*

**Analysis**

Emergency Programs

During the month of January staff:

- Attended the Incident Command Post at the Steveston Community Centre on January 27, 2024 to provide logistical support to the subject response efforts for the Super Grocer fire on No 1 Road on January 26, 2024.
- Staff completed an Incident Command System (ICS) level 400 instructor training certification, which enables the management of large and complex emergency incidents. Staff can now deliver up to ICS 400 level courses and certification.

In January 2024, there were seven persons displaced who were provided with Emergency Social Support as shown below in Table 1.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Volunteers Deployed</b>	<b>ESS Services Deployed</b>	<b># of Evacuees</b>	<b>Services Delivered</b>
January 6	Lindsay Road	Yes	Yes	1	Lodging, Food, Clothing, Incidentals
January 25	Bird Road	Yes	Yes	6	Lodging

Public Outreach & Education

In January 2024, staff facilitated outreach events to provide educational opportunities to the community, including fire hall and vehicle tours for two organizations. Staff also participated in multiple community events, including the Annual Tree Chip event at Garry Point Park. Additionally, staff continued with educational social media videos and posts throughout January.

Internal Staff Training

In January 2024, staff organized in-house training events including: Fire Service Leadership Levels I and II, Incident Command Systems levels 100 and 200 and ongoing recruit training evaluations.

Emergency Response

One of the City’s emergency response goals is to arrive on-scene, in time and with enough resources to contain a fire to the room of origin. The room of origin standard is especially important in terms of preventing further fire loss and damage, which can be reduced when a fire is contained to the room of origin. Meeting this standard also assists in mitigating loss of life, reduction of property damage and protection of the environment.

In January 2024, there were 1,409 reported incidents of all types, representing an overall increase of 45 per cent in incidents between January 2023 and January 2024 (Table 1).

**Table 2: Total Incidents - January 2024**

	<b>Incident Totals January (2024)</b>	<b>Incident Totals January (2023)</b>	<b>Number Change from January 2023 to 2024</b>	<b>Percentage Change from January 2023 to 2024</b>	<b>5 Year Average for January</b>
Alarm Active - No Fire	342	171	+171	+100	212
Explosion	0	0	0	0	0
Fire	35	20	+15	+75	27
Hazardous Materials	42	5	+37	+740	17
Medical	618	540	+78	+14	455
Motor Vehicle Incident	93	66	+27	+41	80
Public Hazard	18	10	+8	+80	11
Public Service	143	72	+71	+99	87
Response Cancelled/Unfounded	110	83	+27	+33	67
Specialized Transport	7	2	+5	+250	4
Technical Rescue	1	0	+1	+100	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,409</b>	<b>969</b>	<b>+440</b>	<b>+45</b>	<b>960</b>

The average time on scene in January 2024 for emergency response crews was 35 minutes per event, which is higher than the number recorded in January 2023: 29 minutes. The time spent on scene can vary due to the nature and severity of each incident.

In January 2024, there were 35 fire incidents reported to the Office of the Fire Commissioner, representing a 75 percent increase from January 2023. The average number of fires reported each January over the last five years is 27.

Fire damage and property losses during January 2024 are estimated at \$2,791,070. This total includes \$2,662,870 for building/asset loss and \$128,200 for content loss. The total building/asset and content value at risk is estimated to be \$480,999,315 and the total value preserved from damage was \$478,208,245. These numbers translate to 99 per cent of value protected (Table 3), which is the same as the value observed in 2023: 99 per cent.

**Table 3: Fire Incidents By Type and Loss Estimates - January 2024**

Incident Type Breakdown	Incident Volume	Estimated Building/Asset Value (\$)	Estimated Building/Asset Loss (\$)	Estimated Content Value (\$)	Estimated Content Loss (\$)	Estimated Total Value Preserved (\$)
Residential: Single family	2	1,717,450	-	1,202,215	50	2,919,615
Residential: Multi family	4	98,334,900	11,500	67,205,100	80,000	165,448,500
Commercial/Industrial	9	241,407,000	2,638,470	70,459,650	48,100	309,180,080
Outdoor	18	22,950	2,900	50	50	20,050
Vehicle/Vessel	2	650,000	10,000	-	-	640,000
<b>Totals*</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>342,132,300</b>	<b>2,662,870</b>	<b>138,867,015</b>	<b>128,200</b>	<b>478,208,245</b>

\* 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).

### Significant Events

Emergency response crews minimized harm, limited damage and stopped fire spread from the place of origin and performed life-saving interventions in these notable January 2024 incidents:

- January 6, 2024 – Structure fire on Lindsay Road.** Emergency crews responded to reports of a fire in a three story, multi-residential structure. The first-arriving crews found that one unit was full of smoke, then made entry to find a kitchen fire that had been extinguished. Crews inspected for further fire spread and provided ventilation. The occupant was assessed for smoke inhalation by BC Emergency Health Services crews. Emergency Support Services was activated and accommodation was provided for one evacuee. The scene was secured for the Fire Investigator to attend. There were no other injuries reported to the public or RFR personnel.
- January 12, 2024 – Structure fire on Mortfield Gate.** Emergency crews responded to reports of smoke showing from a bedroom window on the second floor of a residential property. The fire was quickly extinguished and crews checked for hot spots and provided ventilation. Two of the residents were assessed for smoke inhalation by BC Emergency Health Services. A Fire Investigator attended the scene. There were no other injuries reported to the public or RFR personnel.

- **January 26, 2024 – Structure fire on No 1 Road (Super Grocer).** Emergency crews responded to reports of smoke and flames showing through the roof of a two storey commercial property. On arrival crews found a building that was fully engaged with fire and heavy black smoke coming out the building. Due to the age of the building and fire conditions, crews determined that the building was unsafe to enter due to a risk of structural collapse. A collapse zone was established and a defensive tactic was initiated. The initial fire attack was complicated by hydro wires that restricted the placement of large apparatus ladders. Once the fire was under control multiple crews remained on scene to manage spot fires until full extinguishment was achieved. Heavy equipment was requested to the scene to assist in the extinguishment spot fires. RCMP were on scene working with RFR and determined that there were no missing occupants. There were no injuries reported to the public or RFR personnel. Some of the adjacent businesses experienced some water ingress from the firefighting efforts.

On site crews designed a traffic and pedestrian safety plan which included the closure of the southbound lanes of No. 1 Road. Security officers, hired by the business, remained on site to provide scene safety and security. City's Public Works staff assisted with water management. Multiple Fire Investigators attended the scene. Emergency Support Services was activated and accommodation was provided for six evacuees. The coordinated effort of multiple emergency agencies and City departments provided a rapid response, maintained public safety and provided up to date information to the community during and after the incident occurred.

- **January 27, 2024 – Medical incident on Ackroyd Road.** Emergency crews responded to an extreme fall event on Ackroyd Road. On arrival the patient was found to be coherent and had reportedly fallen from an eighth floor to a sixth floor landing. RFR crews provided patient care before the patient was taken to hospital by BC Emergency Health Services. RCMP personnel were on site to conduct an investigation. There were no other injuries reported.
- **January 30, 2024 – Structure fire on Maycrest Way.** Emergency crews responded to reports of a commercial property fire. First-arriving crews found a fully involved fire at the end of a multi-unit warehouse structure. Crews quickly attacked the fire which had spread to multiple units within the complex, including both the upper and lower floors. The structure was heavily compromised by the fire, affecting the concrete panels and the roof assembly making it unsafe for any interior operations by RFR personnel. Crews extinguished the fire and mitigated multiple smoldering fires from the exterior of the structure. A contractor was called to the scene to provide selective demolition. Security was requested to remain on site to provide scene security. A Fire Investigator attended the scene. There were no injuries to the public or RFR personnel.

### **Financial Impact**

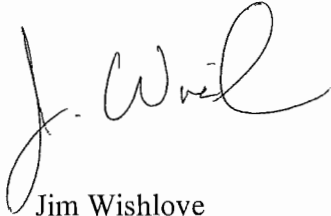
None.

February 12, 2024

- 6 -

**Conclusion**

Richmond Fire-Rescue continues to monitor activities to identify and create public outreach programs to respond to emerging trends and to regularly promote effective prevention behaviours.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Wishlove". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke.

Jim Wishlove  
Fire Chief  
(604-303-2715)

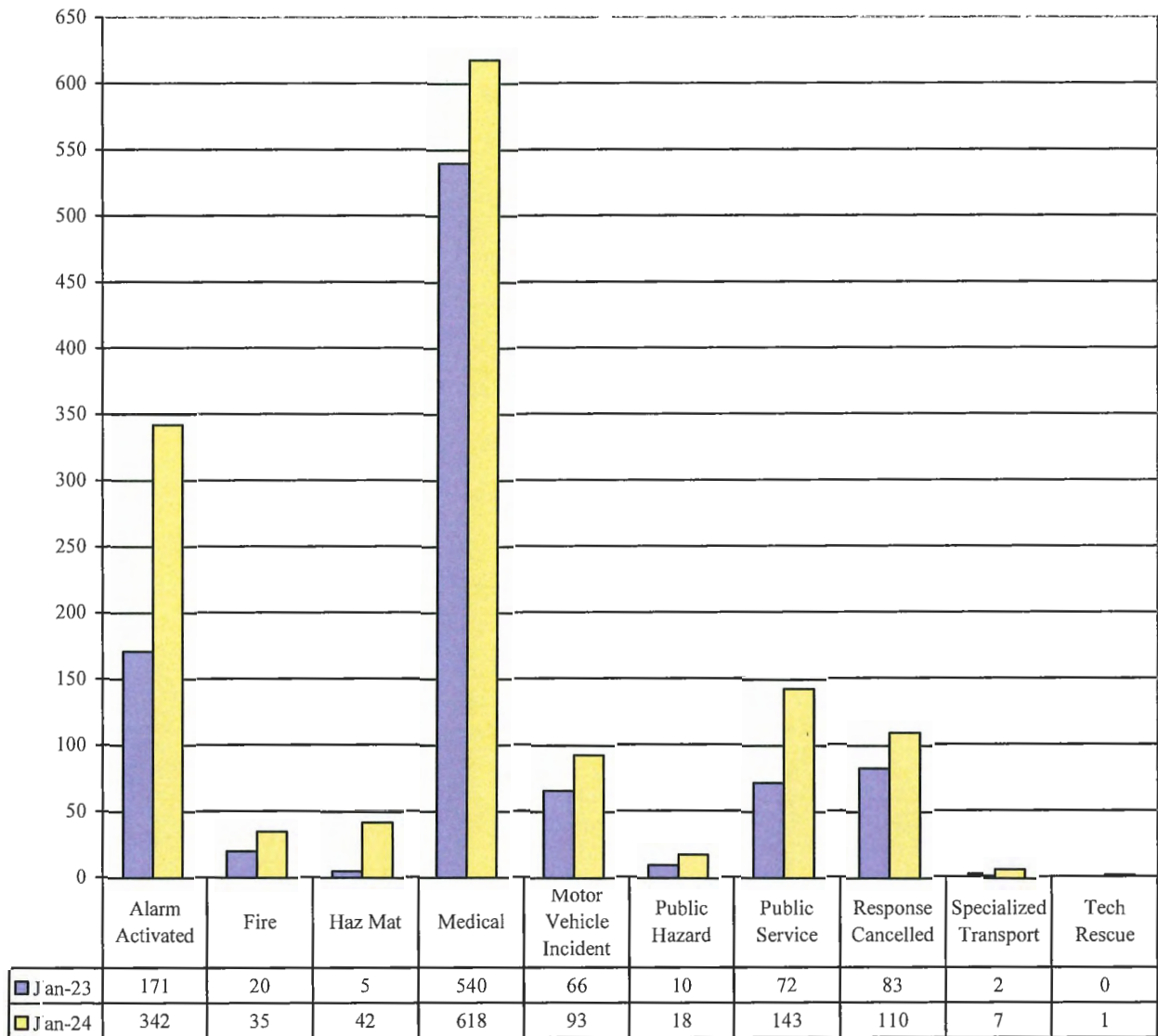
Att. 1: Emergency Response Activity for January 2024.

**Emergency Response Activity for January 2024**

Incident Volumes

The following chart provides a month-to-month comparison regarding incidents occurring in January 2023 and 2024. In January 2024, there were 1,409 total incidents, compared to 969 in January 2023. This represents an overall increase of 45 per cent between last year and 2024.

**Table 4: January 2023 & January 2024 Incident Volumes**



**Incident Type Legend:**

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

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

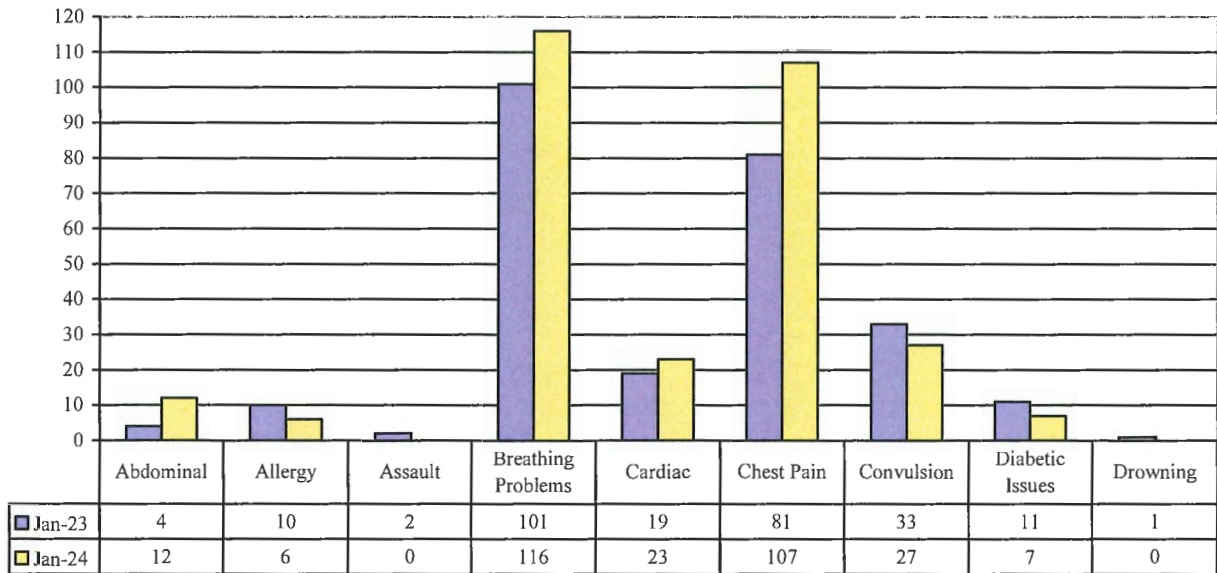
**Public Hazard** includes: aircraft emergency, object removal, or power lines down

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

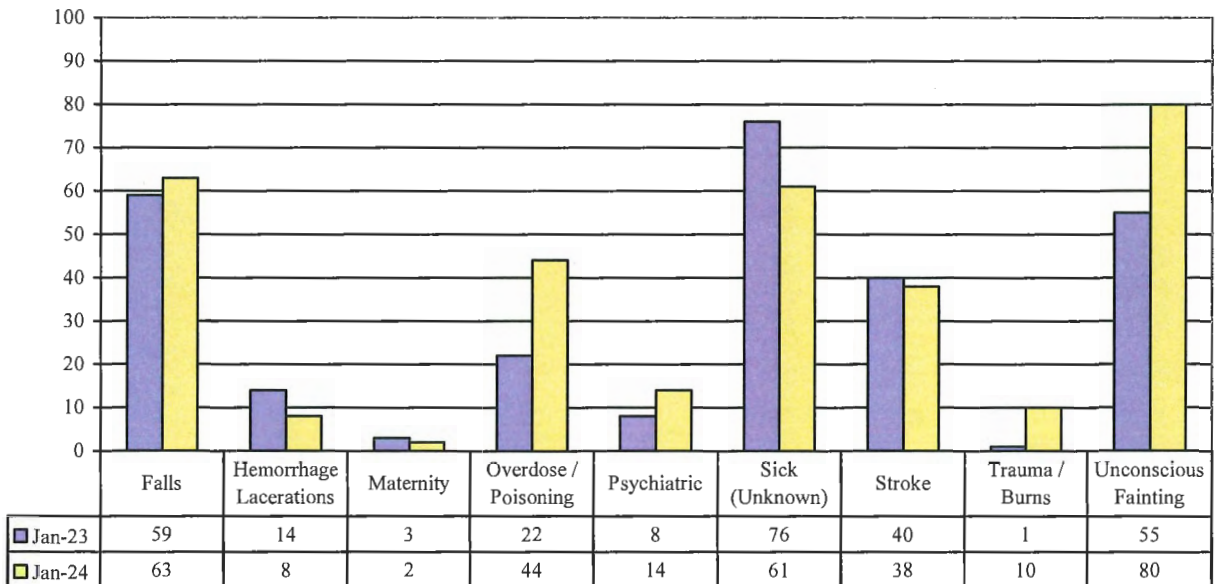
**First Responder Totals**

Medical first responder incidents comprised 44 per cent of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of January 2024. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for January 2023 and 2024 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were 618 medical incidents in January 2024 compared to 540 in January 2023, an increase of 14 per cent.

**Table 5a: January 2023 & January 2024 Medical Calls by Type**



**Table 5b: January 2023 & January 2024 Medical Calls by Type**



The following chart provides the overdose/poisoning incident volume breakdown for January 2024.

<b>Table 5c: Overdose / Poisoning Incidents By Type – January 2024</b>	
Opioid overdose incidents that RFR attended located in an OUTDOOR environment.	11
Opioid overdose incidents that RFR attended located in an INDOOR environment.	4
All other OD/Poisoning Incidents	29
<b>Totals</b>	<b>44</b>

### Fire Investigations

The fire investigation statistics for January 2024 are listed below:

<b>Table 6: Total Fire Investigation Statistics – January 2024</b>			
	<b>Suspicious</b>	<b>Accidental</b>	<b>Undetermined</b>
Residential - Single-family	-	2	-
Residential - Multi-family	-	2	2
Commercial/Industrial	1	3	5
Outdoor	8	8	2
Vehicle	-	1	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>

Richmond Fire-Rescue investigators report all suspicious fires to the RCMP, while working alongside RCMP staff to address potential risks to the community and coordinate appropriate fire investigations.

### Hazardous Materials

<b>Table 7: Hazardous Materials Incidents By Type – January 2024</b>	
	<b>Details</b>
Gasses (Natural / Propane)	42
<b>Totals</b>	<b>42</b>



The following charts provide total incident volumes for fires and medical incidents on a year-to-year comparison in January from 2015 to 2024.

Table 8a: Total Fire Calls for Service in January from 2015 to 2024



Table 8b: Total Medical Calls for Service in January from 2015 to 2024



Changes to BC Emergency Health Services  
Clinical Response Model dispatch system  
(2017-2018)

Start of Covid-19 pandemic

Figure 1: Location of reportable fire incidents attended in January 2024 (total 35)

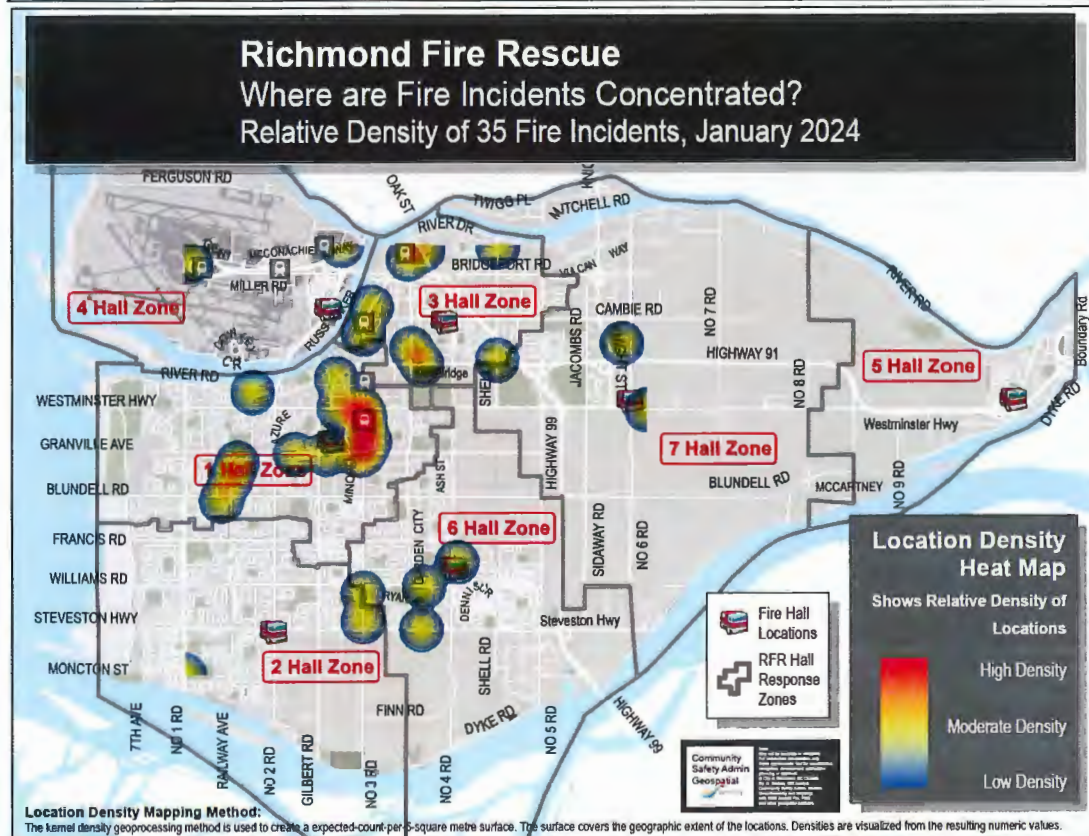
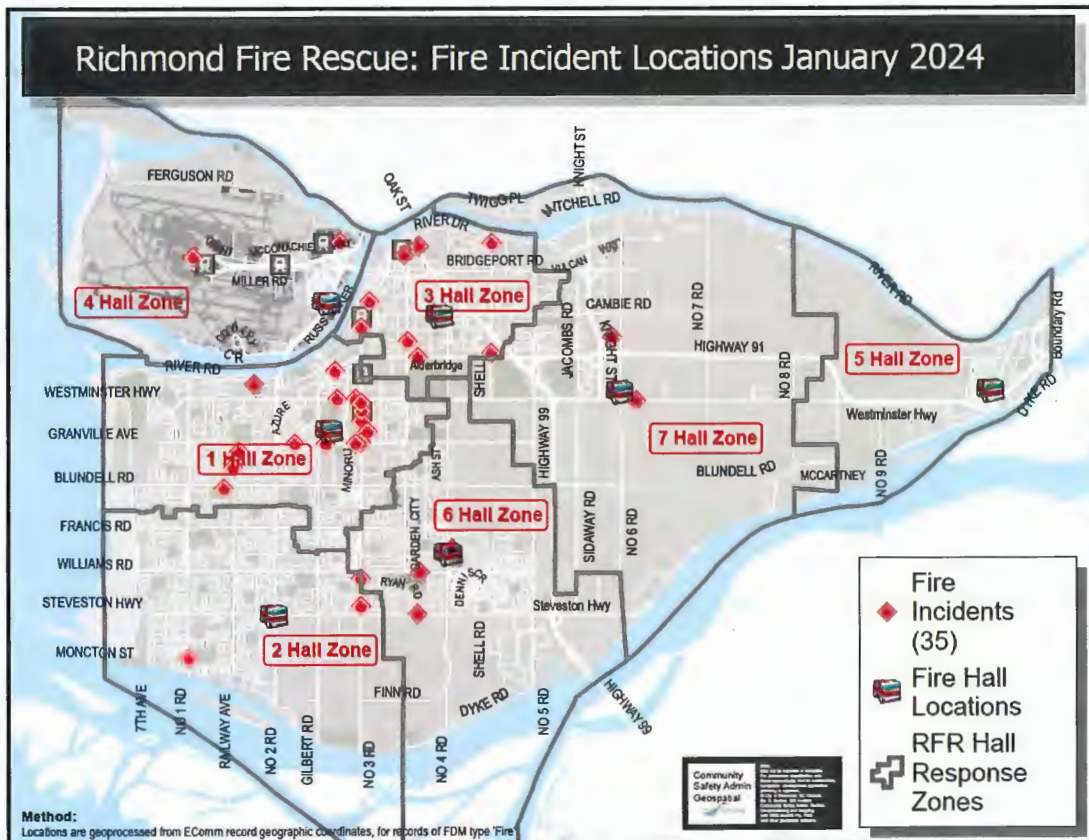


Figure 2: Location of reportable medical incidents attended in January 2024 (total 618)

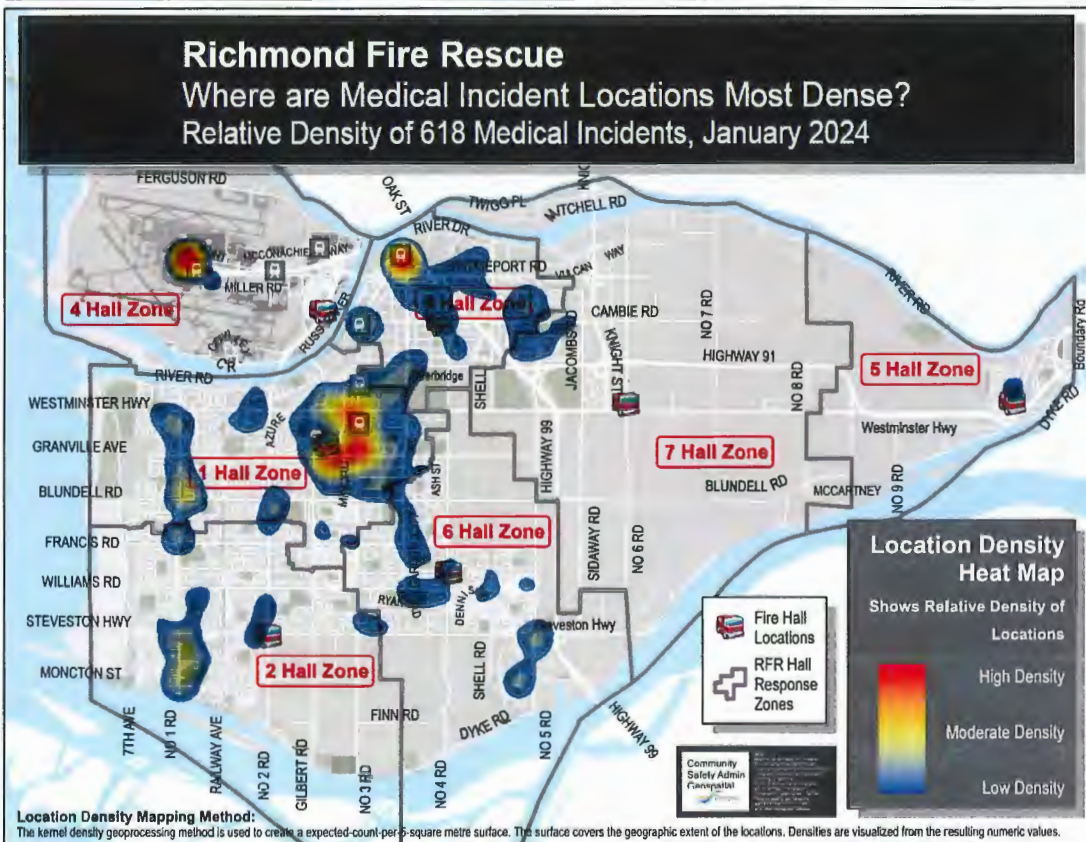
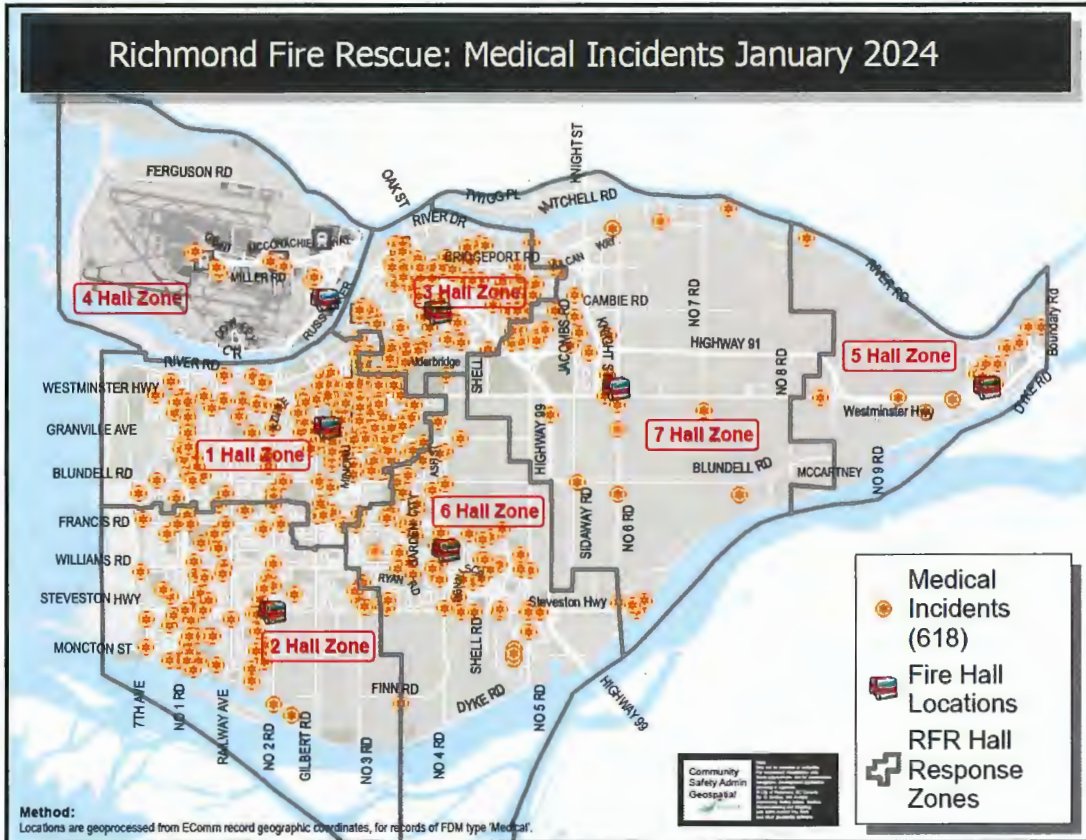


Figure 3: Location of reportable motor vehicle incidents (MVIs) attended in January 2024 (total 93)

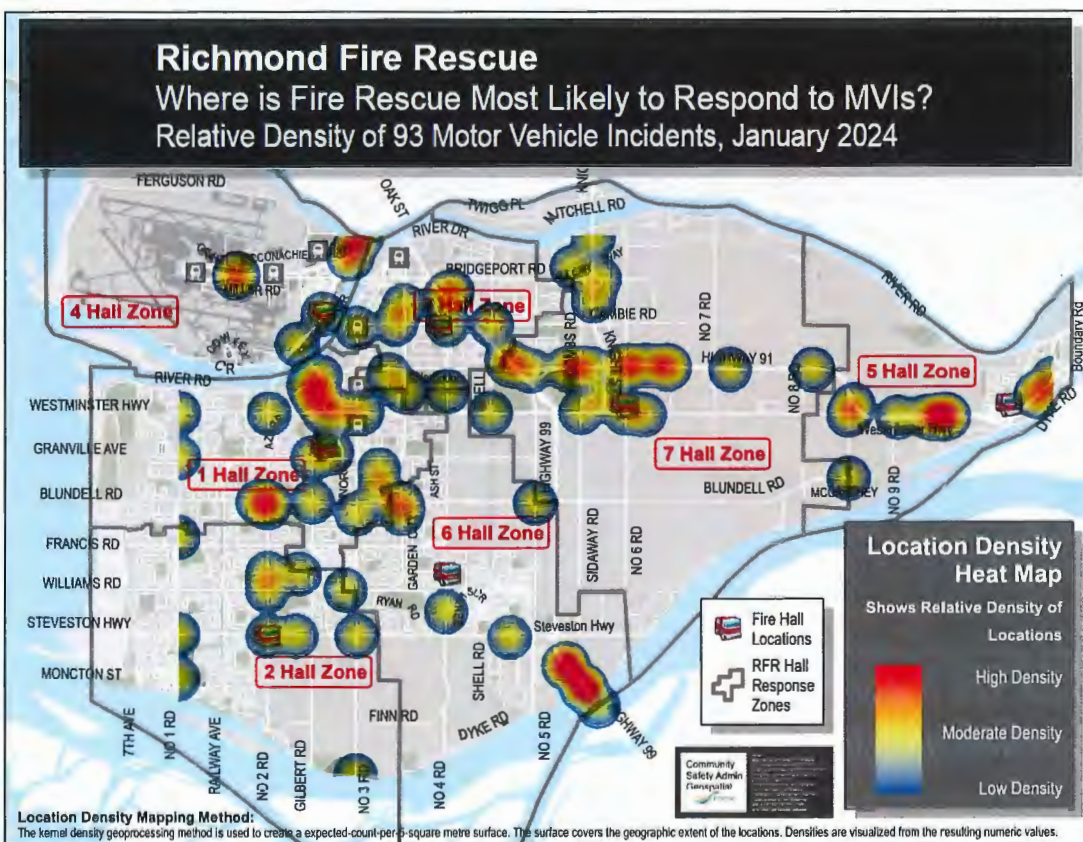
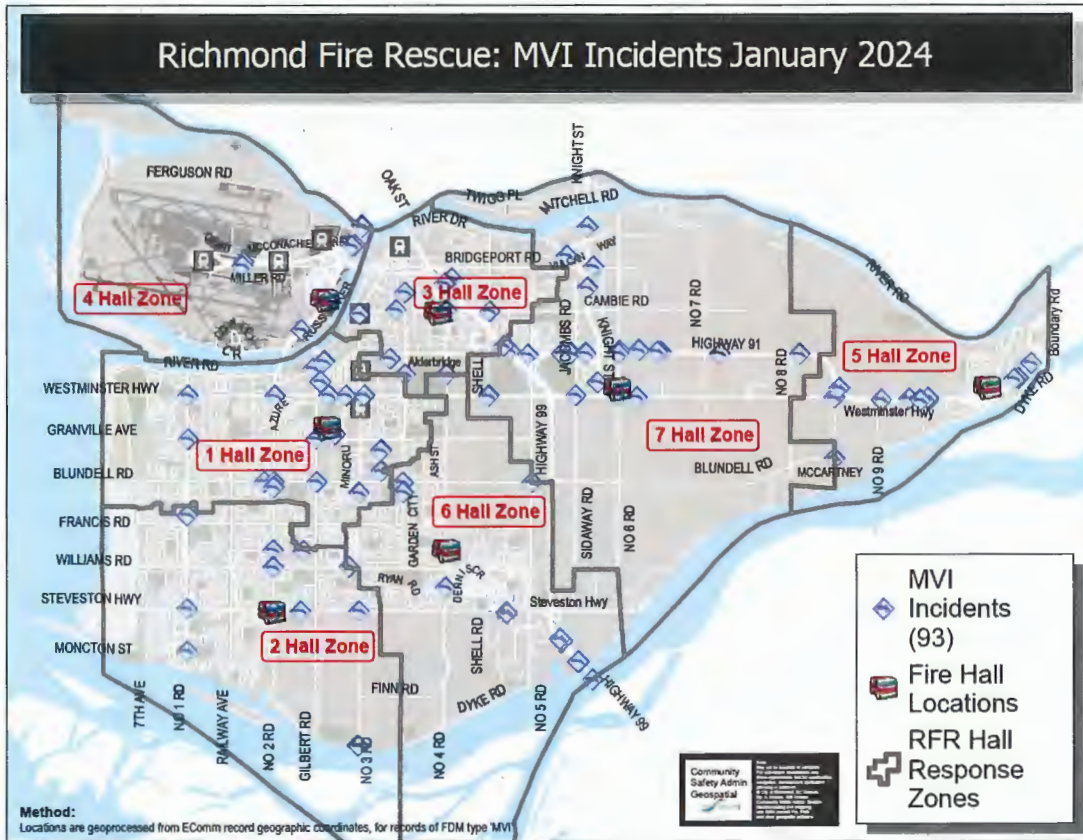
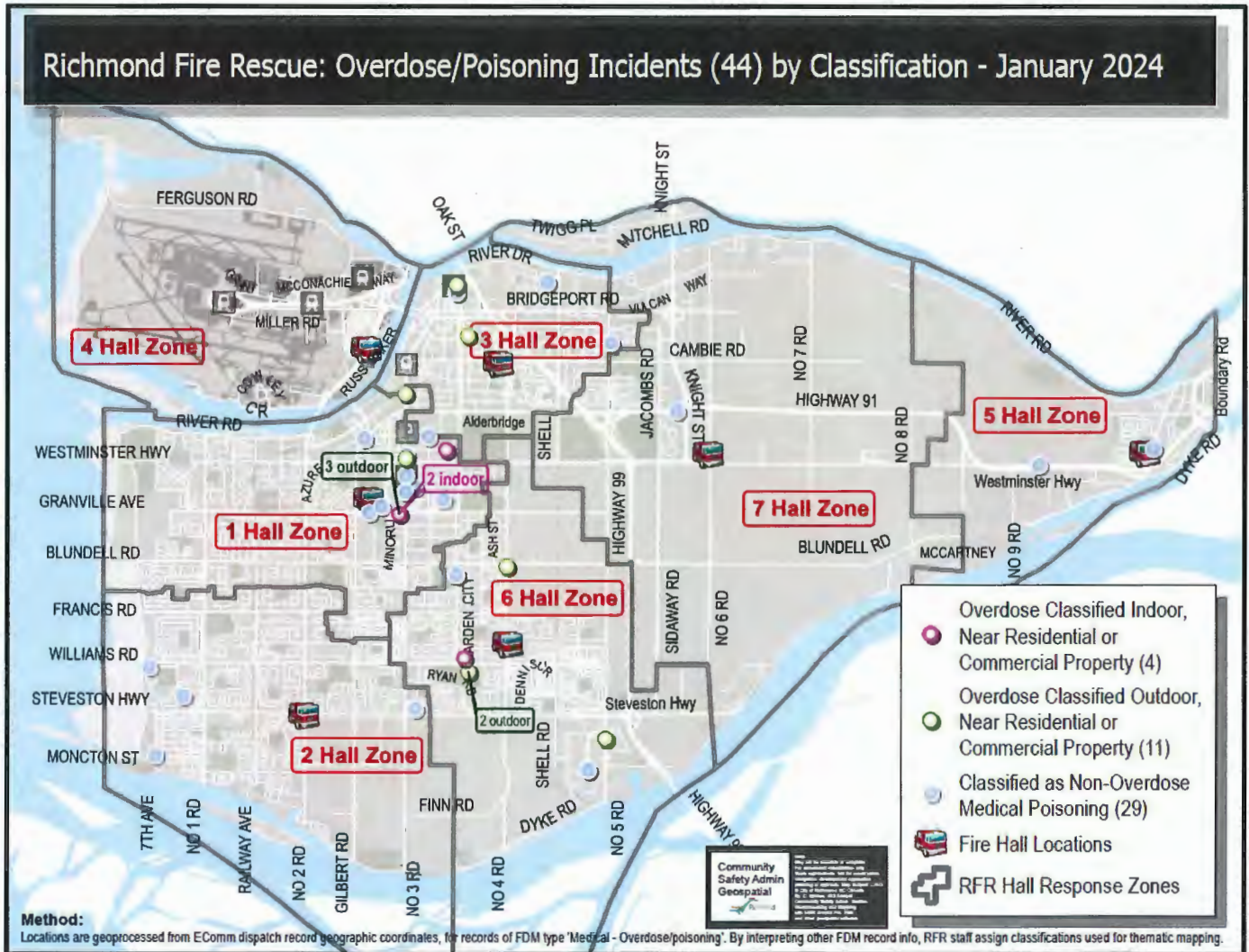


Figure 4: Location of reportable overdose / poisoning incidents attended in January 2024 (Total 44)





# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** Community Safety Committee **Date:** February 13, 2024

**From:** Dave Chauhan **File:** 09-5000-01/2024-Vol  
Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge 01

**Re:** RCMP Monthly Activity Report – January 2024

### Recommendation from the OIC

That the report titled “RCMP Monthly Activity Report – January 2024”, dated February 13, 2024, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

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

Att. 4

<b>REPORT CONCURRENCE</b>	
<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b>	
<b>SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW</b>	<b>INITIALS:</b> 
<b>APPROVED BY CAO</b>	

## Report

### Origin

At the request of the Community Safety Committee, the Officer in Charge will keep Council informed on matters pertaining to policing in the Richmond community. This monthly activity report for the RCMP provides information on each of the following areas:

1. Activities and Noteworthy Files
2. Analysis of Police Statistics
3. Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions
4. Block Watch
5. Community Police Station Programs
6. Crime Prevention Unit
7. Road Safety Unit
8. Victim Services
9. Youth Section

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #1 Proactive in Stakeholder and Civic Engagement:

*Proactive stakeholder and civic engagement to foster understanding and involvement and advance Richmond's interests.*

### Analysis

#### Activities and Noteworthy Files

##### *Collison*

On January 10, 2024, the Richmond RCMP received dashcam footage of a truck striking the roof of the Massey Tunnel. The Richmond RCMP Road Safety Unit partnered with Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement (CVSE) officers to identify the carrier and driver of the commercial vehicle.<sup>1</sup> The carrier was served an immediate suspension pending an investigation by CSVE, resulting in the grounding of all 20 vehicles in their fleet. The driver was identified, and police issued a violation ticket for failing to remain at the scene of a collision under Sec. 68(1) of the *Motor Vehicle Act*.

##### *Assault aboard Flight*

On January 13, 2024, the Richmond RCMP responded to a complaint of an aggressive passenger on a flight inbound to the Vancouver International Airport. Airline staff restrained the individual after conducting a risk assessment. Upon landing, police officers boarded the flight and apprehended the passenger under Section 28 of the *Mental Health Act*.

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<sup>1</sup> Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement officers are part of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

### *Online Marketplace Thefts*

On January 29, 2024, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release advising of recent thefts involving online marketplace sales. In January, Richmond RCMP investigated two incidents of high-dollar items being stolen from a seller after a buyer switched an envelope containing cash with one containing paper. The thefts are under investigation.

### Analysis of Police Statistics

#### *Arson*

In January 2024, there were two reported arsons. No patterns or trends have been identified. In January 2024, a new Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) code was introduced related to intentionally set fires that do not meet the *Criminal Code* definition of Arson.<sup>2</sup> The introduction of this new UCR code currently prevents comparison to prior year arson counts. Staff will resume reporting trend comparison once sufficient statistically significant data under the new UCR system has been collected.

#### *Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)*

There were 13 serious assault events in January 2024, which represents a 13 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 24 per cent decrease from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is within the average range.

Approximately 31 per cent of the incidents reported in January 2024 were domestic assaults.

#### *Auto Theft*

In January 2024, there were 23 auto thefts, which represents a 10 per cent increase from the previous month and a 10 per cent increase from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is within the average range.

#### *Drugs*

In January 2024, there were 17 drug offences, which is a 29 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 35 per cent decrease from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is within the average range.

#### *Mental Health*

There were 235 mental health-related incidents in January 2024, representing a five per cent decrease from the previous month and an 11 per cent decrease from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of mental health-related incidents this month is within the average range.

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<sup>2</sup> The new UCR code, 8900-25 Fire – Not Arson, will allow for the more accurate capturing of arson incidents.



There were 88 police apprehensions this month, representing a five per cent decrease from the previous month, while the average hospital wait time increased by five per cent to 131 minutes. The extended wait time has been attributed to five files with exceptionally long wait times.

#### *Residential Break and Enter*

There were 33 break and enters to residences in January 2024, which represents no change from the previous month and a 32 per cent increase from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of residential break and enters this month is within the average range.

#### *Commercial Break and Enter*

In January 2024, there were five break and enters to businesses, which represents a 69 per cent decrease from the previous month and an 87 per cent decrease from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters this month is the lowest number recorded in over ten years and is below the average range.

#### *Robbery*

There were two robberies in January 2024, representing a decrease of four incidents from the previous month and an increase of one incident from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is within the average range.

One incident this month involved the use of bear spray, while the other involved physical force.

#### *Sexual Offences*

In January 2024, there were 24 sexual offence files, representing no change from the previous month and a 14 per cent increase from January 2023.<sup>3</sup> No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sexual offences this month is above the average range.

To date, 13 suspects have been identified. One-third of the offences reported in January 2024 were incidents of indecent acts/exposing.

#### *Shoplifting*

There were 116 reported shoplifting thefts in January 2024, which is a 13 per cent increase from the previous month and a 51 per cent increase from January 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of shoplifting thefts this month is above the average range.

The top targeted location remained consistent with previous months, and the most frequently stolen items were clothing and accessories. Suspects have been identified in 29 per cent of incidents reported this month.

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<sup>3</sup> The Sexual Offences category comprises a range of offences including: sexual assault, sexual interference, making and distributing child pornography, possessing and accessing child pornography and indecent acts/exposing.

*Theft from Automobile*

There were 72 thefts from automobile incidents in January 2024, which is a 22 per cent increase from the previous month and a 60 per cent decrease from January 2023. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is within the average range.

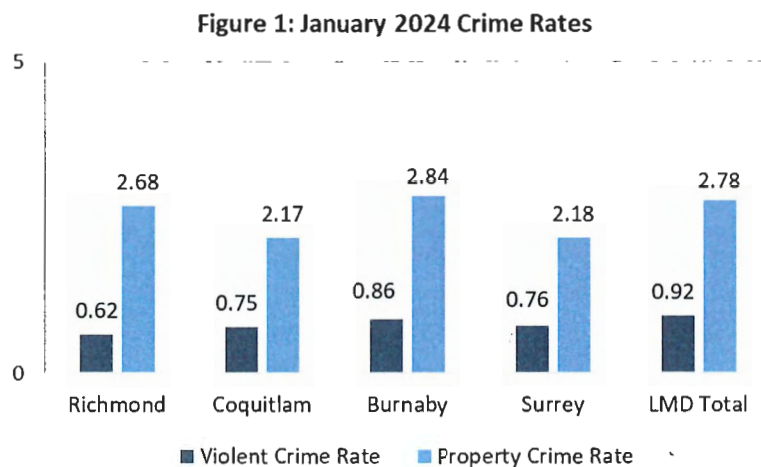
*Hate Crimes and Incidents*

Table 1 presents the number of hate crimes and hate incidents reported between January 1, 2020 and January 31, 2024.<sup>4</sup> A “hate crime” refers to any criminal offence targeting an identifiable group. The criteria for an offence to be considered a hate crime, as per the *Criminal Code*, carries a higher threshold and usually involves one or more criminal offences. A “hate incident” may be motivated by the same factors as a hate crime but does not reach the threshold of being a criminal offence. No hate crimes or incidents were reported in January 2024.

Table 1 – Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents			
Year	Hate Crime Files	Hate Incident Files	Total
2020	21	13	34
2021	21	24	45
2022	8	26	34
2023	6	19	25
2024	0	0	0

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Data on crime rates is presented in Figure 1.<sup>5</sup> In January 2024, out of the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD), Richmond had the lowest violent crime rate. The property crime rate for Richmond was below the LMD average.



<sup>4</sup> The BC Hate Crimes Unit uses the terms hate-motivated crime and hate-motivated incident.

<sup>5</sup> Crime rate is year to date (YTD) and calculated per 1,000 people.

### Block Watch

At the end of January 2024, the Block Watch program had 306 groups, totalling 7,077 participants. Currently, the program includes 439 captains and co-captains. This month, the First Quarter Crime Prevention Newsletter was issued and featured catalytic converter theft prevention and fraud awareness.

### Community Police Station Programs

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

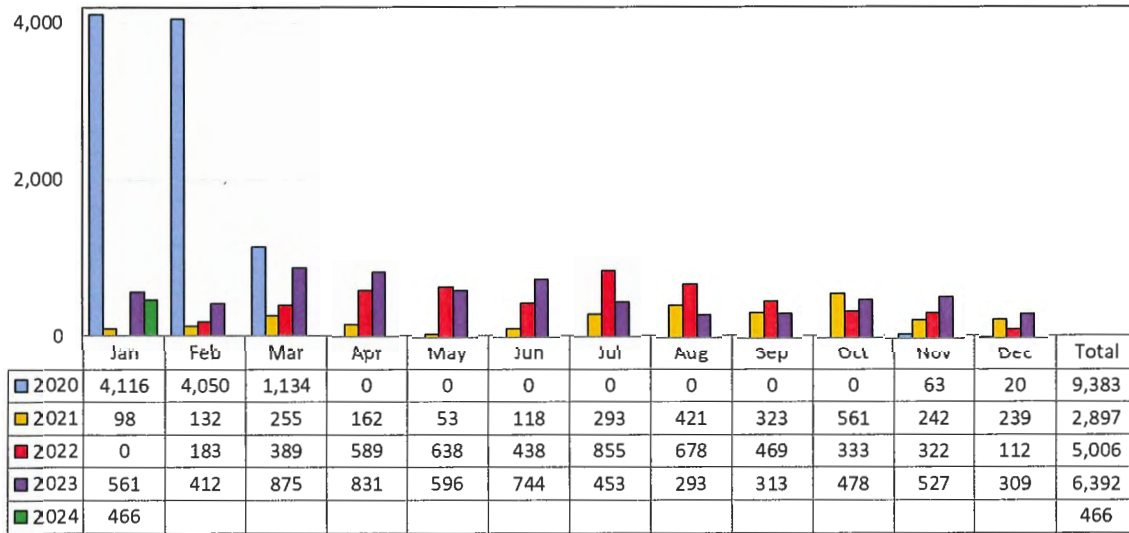
During January, volunteer highlights included:

- A total of 24 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 677 information letters issued.
- There were 48 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, resulting in 466 information letters issued.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 1,587 vehicles, resulting in 118 information letters issued.
- January 11 – Volunteers assisted RCMP officers in the Road Safety and Youth sections with a Speed Watch deployment at Jesse Wowk Elementary School. Safety reflectors were also distributed to students.
- January 26 – Volunteers conducted a Speed Watch deployment at Cook Elementary School and issued 45 information letters.
- January 30 – Volunteers conducted a Lock Out Auto Crime deployment at Richmond Centre and issued 26 information letters.
- January 31 – The Richmond RCMP recognized its volunteers at the Annual Volunteer Awards and Dinner Night, which had been postponed from November 2023.

*Lock Out Auto Crime*

Figure 2 provides a yearly comparison of the number of vehicle notices issued.<sup>6</sup>

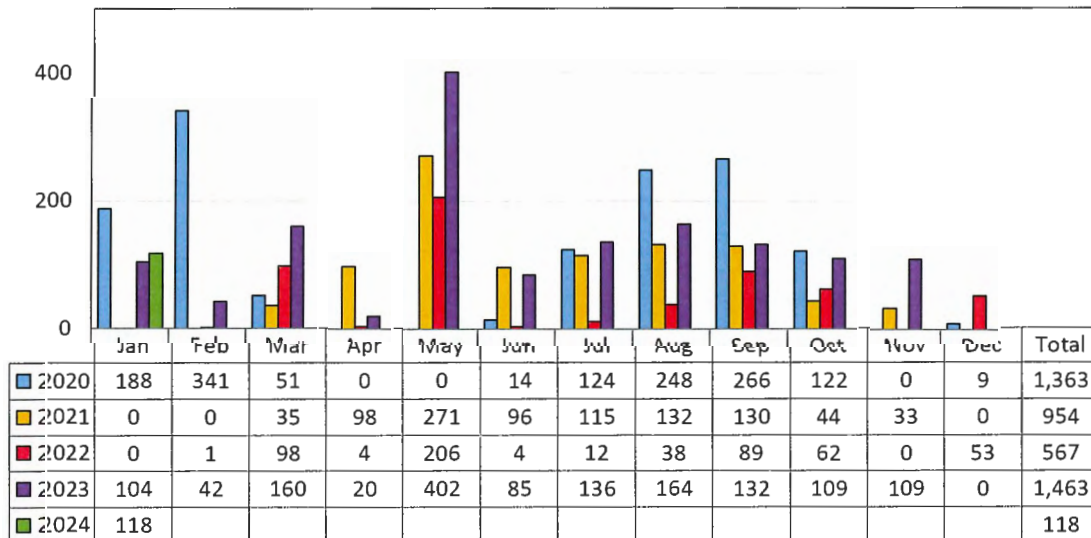
**Figure 2: Lock Out Auto Crime Vehicles Issued a Notice**



*Speed Watch*

Figure 3 compares the number of letters sent to registered vehicle owners yearly.

**Figure 3: Speed Watch Letters Sent**



<sup>6</sup> Beginning in November 2020, Lock Out Auto Crime letters were issued in place of notices. Letters are only issued to vehicles displaying security vulnerabilities; whereas previously, notices were issued to all vehicles. This has resulted in a significant reduction in the number of letters issued.

### Crime Prevention Unit

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

- Business Outreach
- Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University Recruitment Fair
- Place of Worship Patrols
- Scouts Tour
- Volunteer Appreciation

### Road Safety Unit

The Road Safety Unit makes Richmond's roads safer through evidence-based traffic enforcement, investigation of serious vehicle collisions and public education programs. Table 2 compares statistics for January 2024 to both December 2023 and November 2023. Violation tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Table 2: Violation Tickets Issued

<b>Infraction</b>	<b>November 2023</b>	<b>December 2023</b>	<b>January 2024</b>
Distracted Driving	72	84	86
Driver License	146	126	168
Impaired	34	19	15
Intersection Offences	41	22	39
Moving Infractions <sup>7</sup>	85	71	89
Speeding	160	117	135
Seatbelts	7	5	12
Vehicle-Related <sup>8</sup>	108	101	119
Other <sup>9</sup>	15	8	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>675</b>

### Victim Services

In January 2024, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 71 new clients and attended eight crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 96 files. In January, Victim Services responded to several cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, motor vehicle accidents and frauds.

<sup>7</sup> Moving infractions refers to unsafe lane change and unsafe passing.

<sup>8</sup> Vehicle related refers to vehicle defects, for example no lights and no insurance.

<sup>9</sup> Other refers to miscellaneous charges including failing to remain at the scene of an accident and failing to stop for police.

### Youth Section

The Richmond RCMP Detachment's Youth Section focuses on strategies contributing to safe and healthy behaviours essential to developing productive and civic-minded adults. During January, Youth Section highlights included:

- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 25 proactive school visits at secondary schools and 47 visits at elementary schools. Police officers engaged with students during recess, lunch and morning and afternoon supervision.
- DARE classes were delivered to 326 elementary school students in 11 classes.

### **Financial Impact**

None.

### **Conclusion**

In January 2024, the Richmond RCMP conducted several noteworthy investigations, including an assault on a plane and a series of thefts related to online sales. Police statistics for this month indicate that most crime types were within the average ranges, except for sexual offences and shoplifting thefts, which were elevated and commercial break and enters, which were below average.

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



Edward Warzel  
Manager, Police Services  
(604-207-4767)

- Att. 1: Community Policing Programs  
2: Crime Statistics  
3: Crime Maps  
4: Crime Prevention Newsletter

### Block Watch

- Community-based crime prevention program aimed at helping neighbors organize themselves to prevent crime.
- Residents can receive email alerts of neighbourhood residential break and enters by registering their email addresses at: [blockwatch@richmond.ca](mailto:blockwatch@richmond.ca)
- For more information, visit [www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/blockwatch.htm](http://www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/blockwatch.htm)

### Distracted Driving Program

- Trained volunteers monitor intersections and observe distracted drivers.
- A letter is sent to the registered owner of the offending vehicle with information on the safety risks associated to the observed behaviour and applicable fine amounts.
- For more information, visit [www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/programs.htm](http://www.richmond.ca/safety/police/prevention/programs.htm)

### Fail to Stop

- Trained volunteers monitor areas that have been referred to the program by local businesses or residents where drivers are not making a full stop at the stop sign, or running a red light.
- An information letter is sent to the registered owner of the vehicle advising them the date, time and location and applicable fine amounts if the driver received a violation ticket.

### Lock Out Auto Crime

- Co-sponsored by the Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC), volunteers patrol city streets and parking lots looking for automobile security vulnerabilities.
- Notices supplied by ICBC are issued to every vehicle inspected indicating to the owner what issues need to be addressed in order to keep the vehicle and contents secure.
- For more information, visit [www.richmond.ca/safety/police/personal/vehicle.htm](http://www.richmond.ca/safety/police/personal/vehicle.htm)

### Project 529

- This program allows riders to easily and securely register their bikes. This up-to-date database of bikes alerts its registrants if a fellow 529 bike is stolen.
- Project 529 is a unique, multi-national registry that holds a database of all registered and stolen bikes.

### Speed Watch

- Co-sponsored by ICBC, promotes safe driving habits by alerting drivers of their speed.
- Trained volunteers are equipped with radar and a speed watch reader board that gives drivers instant feedback regarding their speed.
- Volunteers record the license plate number and the speed, and a letter is sent to the registered owner of the offending vehicle. The letter includes the date, time and location and applicable fine amounts if the driver received a violation ticket.

### Spot the Target

- This initiative consists of frequently stolen items being placed in the volunteer van for participants to identify in order to enhance awareness of thefts from automobiles.

### Stolen Auto Recovery

- Co-sponsored by ICBC, trained volunteers equipped with portable computers identify stolen vehicles.
- These volunteers recover hundreds of stolen vehicles each year throughout the Lower Mainland.

### Volunteer Bike and Foot Patrol Program

- Trained volunteers patrol Richmond neighbourhoods reporting suspicious activities and providing a visible deterrent to crime and public order issues.



## JANUARY 2024 STATISTICS

### RICHMOND RCMP

The following information is a limited list of select crime-type samples, which does not comprise the entirety or assortment of all crimes captured by the RCMP. The statistics in this chart should be considered independently of the analysis provided as the data is unrelated to the research provided earlier in this report.

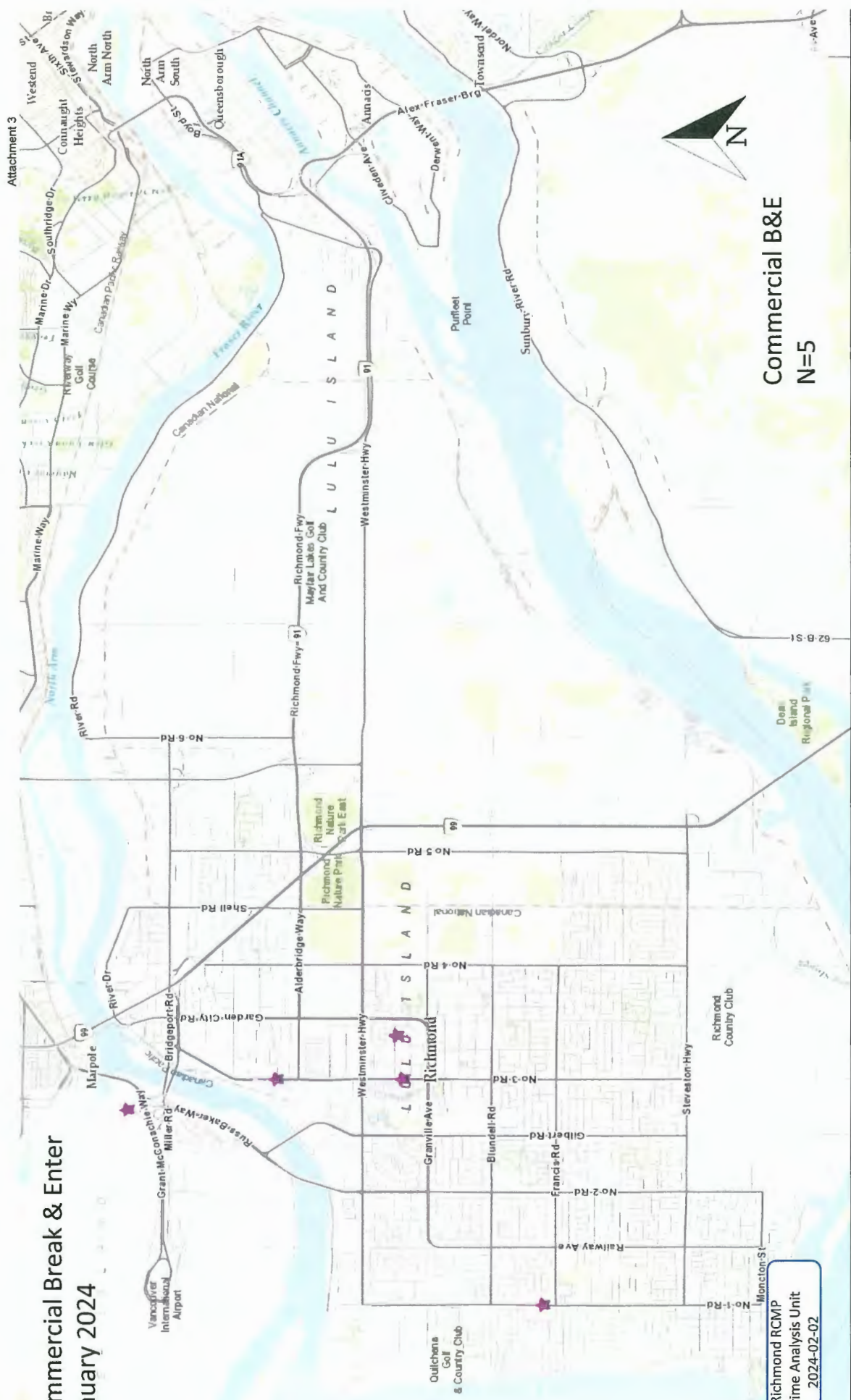
This chart identifies the monthly totals for founded Criminal Code incidents, excluding traffic-related Criminal Code incidents. Based on Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) scoring, there are three categories: (1) Violent Crime, (2) Property Crime, and (3) Other Criminal Code. Within each category, particular offence types are highlighted in this chart. In addition, monthly totals for Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) incidents and MHA-related calls for service are included. Individual UCR codes are indicated below the specific crime type.

The 5 year average is based on activity within a single month over the past 5 years. If the current monthly total for an offence falls outside the 5 year range (using one standard deviation) due to crime trends, patterns, or spikes, it will be noted in red if higher and blue if below. If the current monthly total for an offence is above the 5 year range due to primarily non-operational reasons such as the new UCR

	Month	5-Yr Avg	5-Yr Range	Year to Date Totals			
	Jan - 24	January		2023	2024	% Change	# Change
<b>VIOLENT CRIME</b> (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	137	146.4	137-156	153	137	-10%	-16
Robbery	2	5.8	2-9	1	2	100%	1
Assault Common	49	48.6	44-53	48	49	2%	1
Assault Serious	13	15.2	13-18	17	13	-24%	-4
Sexual Offences	24	18.4	14-23	21	24	14%	3
<b>PROPERTY CRIME</b> (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	573	607.4	507-708	667	573	-14%	-94
Business B&E	5	33.4	26-41	39	5	-87%	-34
Residential B&E	33	49.2	21-78	25	33	32%	8
Auto Theft	23	25.4	18-33	21	23	10%	2
Theft from Auto	72	163.8	139-188	178	72	-60%	-106
Theft	114	83.4	61-106	105	114	9%	9
Shoplifting	116	66.4	54-79	77	116	51%	39
Fraud	92	72.8	61-84	88	92	5%	4
<b>OTHER CRIMINAL CODE</b> (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	279	204.0	150-258	305	279	-9%	-26
Arson	2	n/c	n/c	n/c	2	n/c	n/c
<b>SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES</b> (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	990	958.4	834-1083	1125	990	-12%	-135
<b>DRUGS</b> (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	17	44.2	7-82	26	17	-35%	-9
<b>MHA RELATED CALLS</b> (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	235	248.8	232-266	263	235	-11%	-28

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# Commercial Break & Enter January 2024

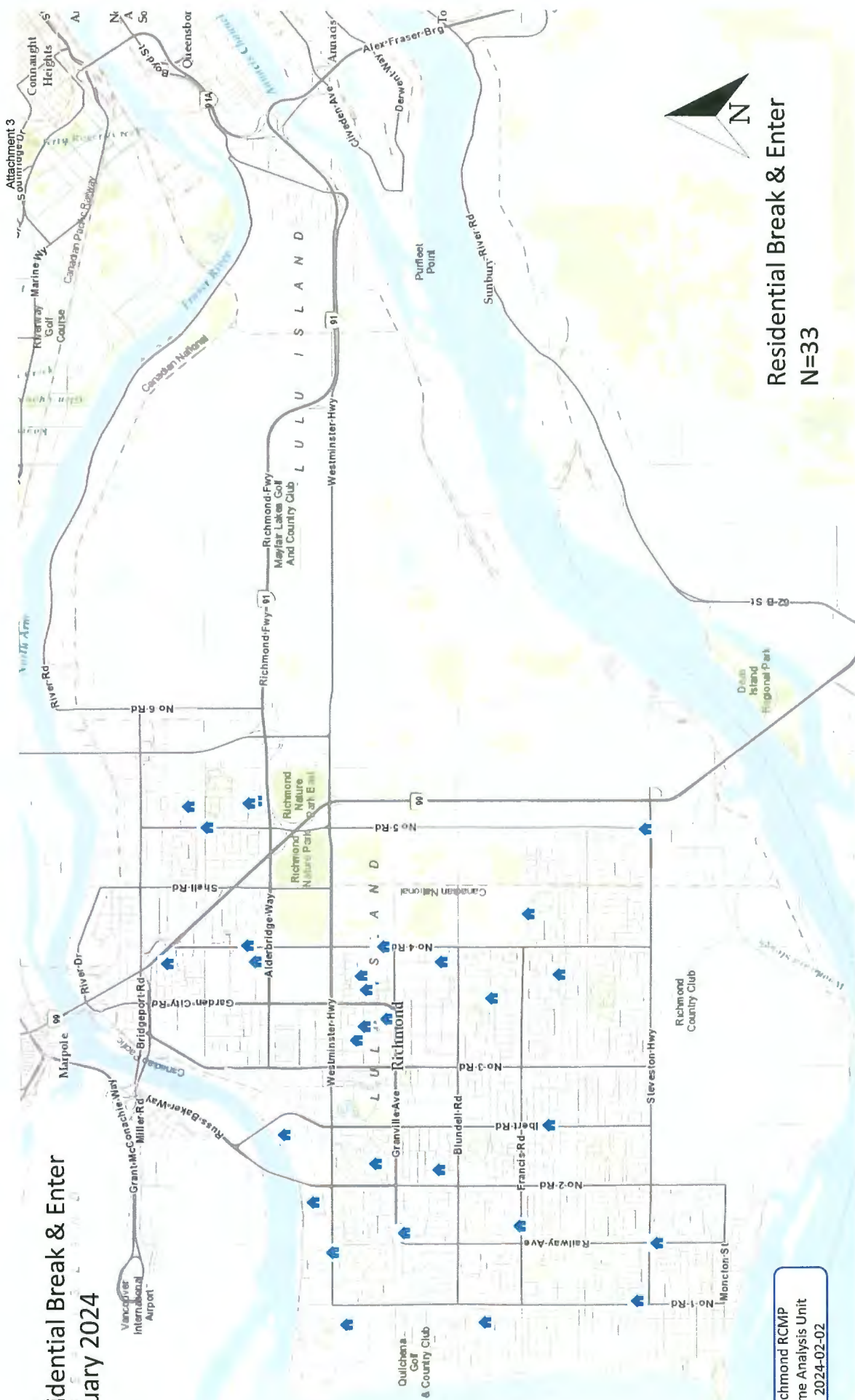


CS - 50

Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2024-02-02

Commercial B&E  
N=5

# Residential Break & Enter January 2024

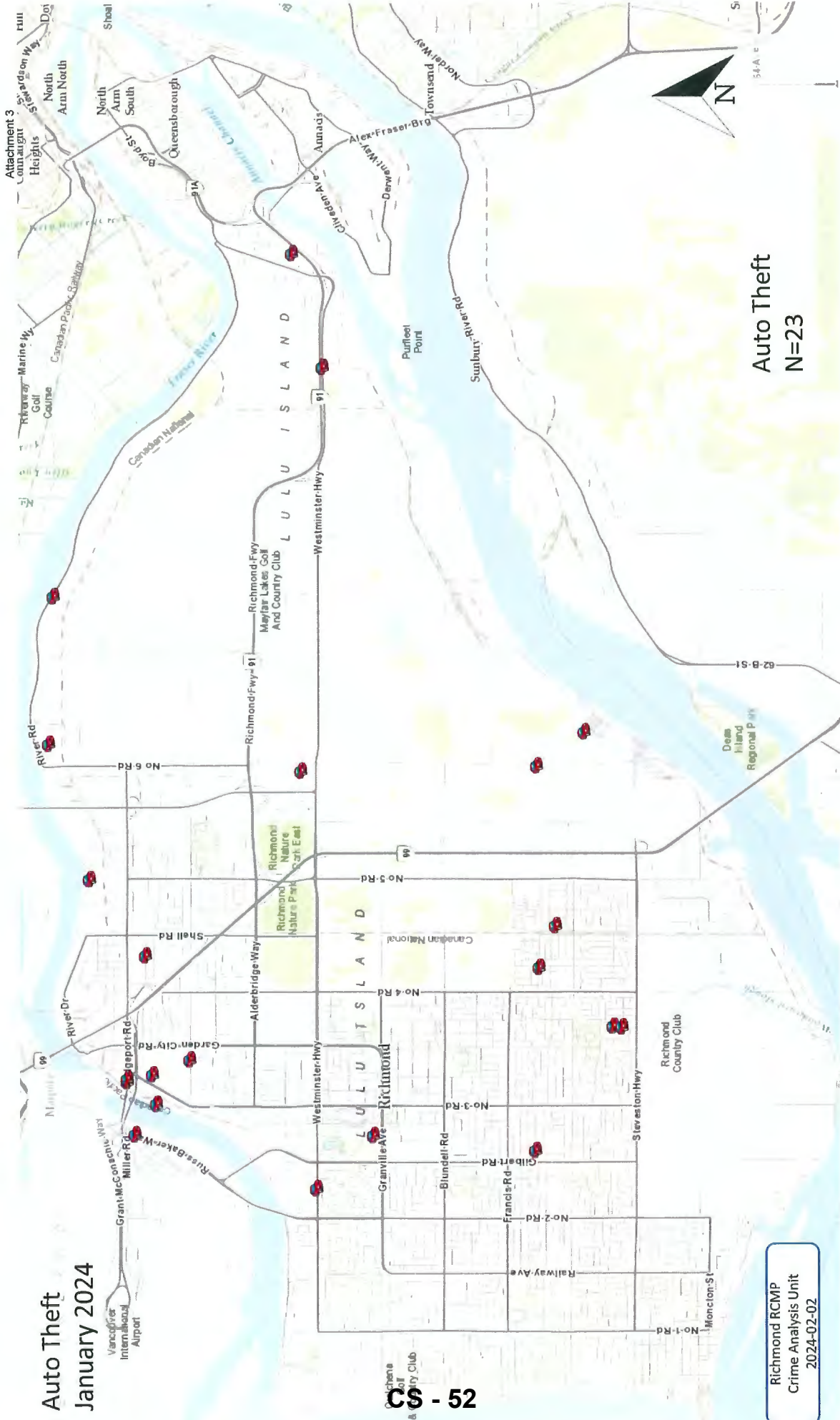


CS - 51

Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2024-02-02

Residential Break & Enter  
N=33

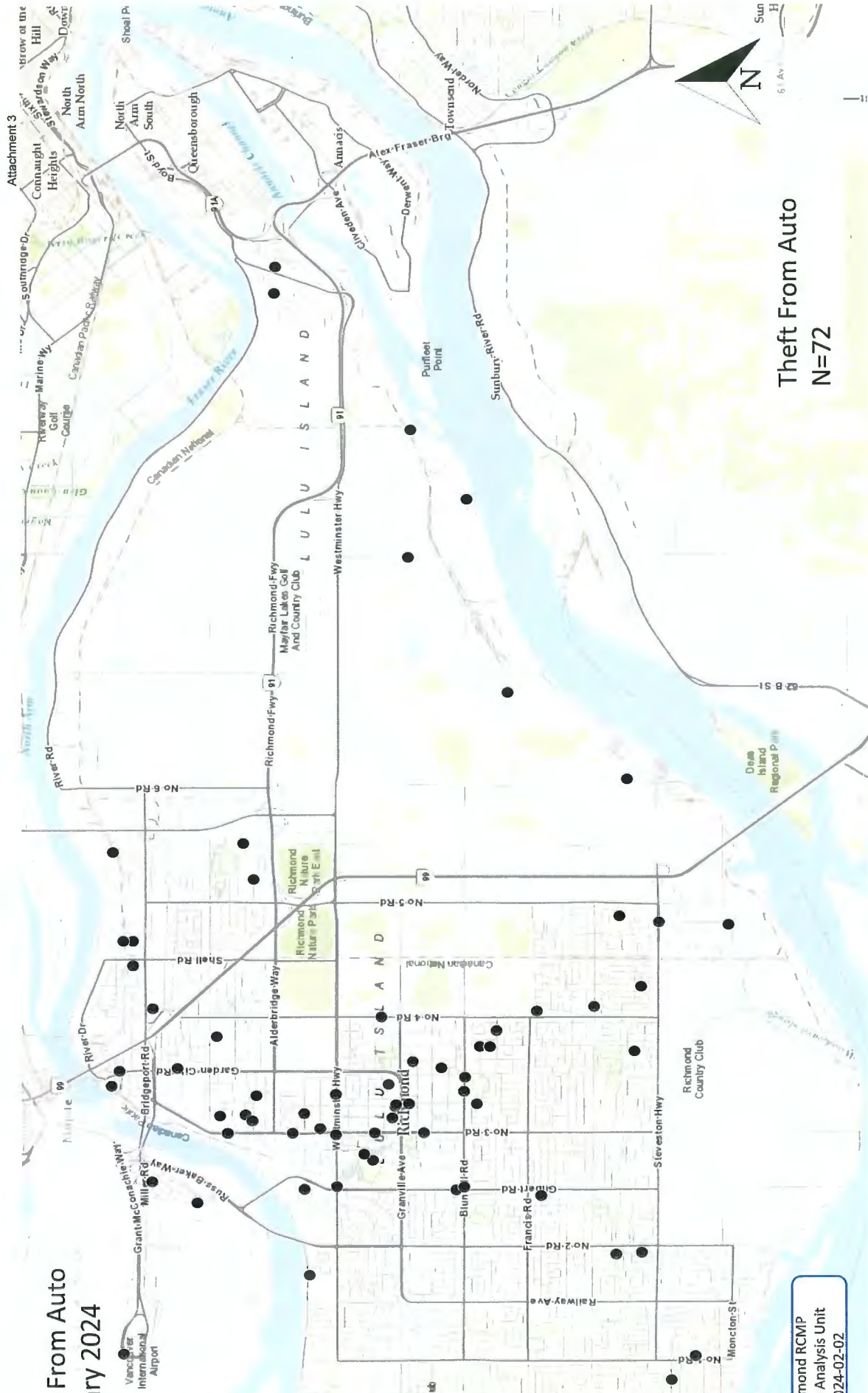
S Auto Theft  
January 2024



Auto Theft  
N=23

Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2024-02-02

# Theft From Auto January 2024



CS - 53

Theft From Auto  
N=72

Richmond RCMP  
Crime Analysis Unit  
2024-02-02

# CRIME PREVENTION

## WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME

## NEWSLETTER

### How to Prevent Theft of Catalytic Converters

The lower mainland is currently experiencing a surge in incidents involving the theft of catalytic converters. A catalytic converter plays a crucial role in your vehicle by effectively controlling and reducing harmful emissions from the engine before they are released through the exhaust pipe. Although it may not be immediately evident upon inspecting your car, you will certainly become aware of the theft as soon as you start the engine. In the absence of a catalytic converter, your vehicle will produce a noticeably loud and intense roaring sound that will only grow louder as you accelerate, potentially accompanied by the release of fumes into the cabin. These thieves are specifically targeting locations such as shopping malls, driveways, school parking lots, and busy business districts, and they are carrying out their criminal activities during daylight hours using conventional metal cutting tools.



- Secure your car's catalytic converter by welding it to the frame. This will not only make it more challenging for thieves to steal it but also increases the time required for the theft.
- Consult with an automotive expert regarding the installation of a catalytic converter lock or alarm for your vehicle. Additionally, consider employing protective coverings, such as the "Catclamp" device, to discourage potential thieves. The Catclamp effectively increases the level of difficulty for thieves equipped with reciprocating saws, making it significantly harder for them to steal your catalytic converter.
- Park your vehicle in a well-illuminated and bustling location, preferably near building entrances. Additionally, consider installing surveillance cameras to keep a watchful eye on your vehicle and deter any potential theft, particularly ones targeting your catalytic converter.
- Adjust the settings of your vehicle's alarm system to activate when it senses any form of vibration. Criminals who target catalytic converters are attracted to vehicles that remain stationary for prolonged periods.
- If you come across individuals behaving suspiciously in parking lots or in close proximity to vehicles, whether it be at your residence, workplace, or any other location, it is important to promptly report such incidents. Once you have informed the police, it is advisable to keep your community updated and vigilant by engaging in conversations with your neighbours. By doing so, you can contribute to enhancing the overall awareness within your community and promoting a safer environment for everyone.

# CITY OF RICHMOND CRIME PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

## Fraud Prevention

Fraudulent messages pop up everyday in all areas of contact. It is beneficial to learn how to spot clues for fraudulent communication. Be careful with whom you are communicating and how information is delivered. Fraudsters take advantage of our busy life and use many creative ways to steal your personal or financial information. The different ways include scam calls, phishing emails, and fraudulent text messages. Therefore, it is important for you to know how to identify clues to spot these scams.

### Clue 1: Phrases that make you feel threatened or surprised

Fraudsters use emotionally charged phrases to target your senses. They may bombard you with statements that make you feel fearful or surprised. If they can derail you from thinking clearly, it gives them a chance to phish sensitive information. In addition, in your confusion they give you instructions and lead you deeper into the scam. Some examples of phrases include threatening arrest, revealing intimate videos, or claiming you won a big prize. Legitimate companies and institutions will not threaten you for information.

### Clue 2: Asking for unconventional payments

Fraudsters use payment options such as gift cards, cryptocurrency and e-transfers because they are difficult to track and recover. They will ask you to secretly purchase or transfer money. Legitimate businesses and institutions will not use these types of payment options for deposits or returns. Additionally, legitimate businesses will not ask you to complete tasks in secret. A key giveaway is the secrecy involved in the scam. Fraudsters do not want you to share their actions to others because another person could spot their scam.

### Clue 3: Sending phishing lures

Common phishing tactics include sending suspicious links through text messages or emails. Phishing links can fit to current events. For example, during tax season fraudsters spoofing as the Canadian Revenue Agency will send you links asking you to click for returns. The clues that tell you it is fraudulent often come from the text. The font may be different from a traditional message and there may be typos. Moreover, the link provided is a giveaway that it is a scam. The links are designed to look similar to a familiar company or institution but never the same. Do your own research into the company or institution and log in to the official site.

You may already know some tips to spotting scams and with these additional clues you should be able to spot fraudulent indicators. Put your knowledge to the test. What are some clues that tell you these pictures are fraudulent?



Dear Tax Payer,

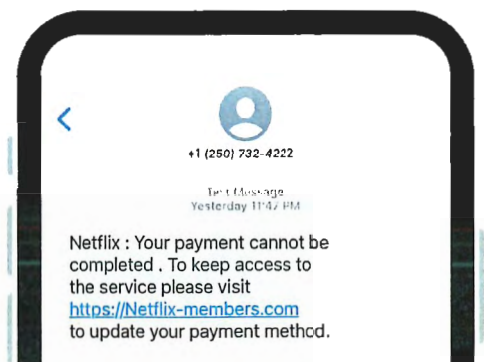
Part of your Canadian tax expenses for the year 2024 as been processed and completed and you are entitled to a refund of \$990.50 CAD. you are required to follow the secured link below to login with your social insurance number.

to access the secure form for your Tax refund, please click the secured link >>>

<https://fakeCRAscamlink.ca/refund>

Sincerely,

Canada Revenue Agency



## New Year Goals

We want to encourage you to build new habits and continue to strengthen your crime prevention knowledge. Strengthening your existing habits not only make your community safer but also increases your situational awareness for your neighbourhood. Step into the new year by taking a proactive approach to your crime prevention habits.



An effective habit to have is to build your neighbourhood baseline. Your baseline is a point of reference you can use to compare what you see, to what you know. It is the little details in your neighbourhood that help you build your baseline. Details such as who lives next to you, how many people are in their household, and what kind of car they drive can help you build your baseline. If someone suspicious appears in your neighbourhood, these little details can help you determine that something suspicious or criminal is about to happen. As a result, building your baseline helps you with crime prevention in your community. Moreover, don't be afraid to say hi to your neighbours because getting to know them will significantly increase your knowledge of your neighbourhood. Your neighbourhood baseline can evolve every year with new neighbours moving in and changes in life so it is important to keep yourself informed through observations and connections. Start building your baseline today, what do you notice about your neighbourhood?

## To start a Block Watch Group

Interested in starting a Block Watch group? Let us tell you a little about Block Watch! Block Watch is a program that brings the police and the communities together. This program helps you build connections and relationships with people in your neighbourhood and the police while striving for the common goal of crime prevention.

### Select a Captain/Co-Captain

- ◇ Each Captain/Co-Captain to submit an application and will be contacted for a suitability interview. Candidates will then need to complete a free Police Information Check.

### Recruit and build your group

- ◇ Upon confirmation from the Block Watch office on completing and passing all required steps in becoming a Captain/Co-Captain, you may begin to recruit homes that are near to you with the provided recruiting materials from the Block Watch office. To build an effective Block Watch, try to involve 50-75% of households in your area.

### Complete activation of your team

1. **Complete** Block Watch Captain/Participant training – invite everyone in your group to participate in a virtual/in-person training session.
2. **Submit** your participating household list.
3. **Qualify** for Block Watch street signs once above steps are completed.

If you are interested in creating a Block Watch group in your area, email us your name and address at [blockwatch@richmond.ca](mailto:blockwatch@richmond.ca) or call 604-207-4829.



# BUSINESS LINK

## WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME

## NEWSLETTER

### Enhancing Security Measures for Commercial Buildings

Ensuring the safety and security of a business is crucial for its prosperity. Crime prevention plays a vital role in minimizing losses. Therefore, it is imperative to dedicate time to evaluate the susceptibility of your business to various forms of criminal activities. This assessment should encompass analyzing the physical layout of your premises and implementing comprehensive security measures. It is crucial to take certain precautionary steps to mitigate potential risks and threats.



#### Here are some recommended measures:

1. **Maintain Unobstructed Visibility**—Ensure that plants, trees, or shrubs surrounding doors or windows do not obstruct the lighting and are trimmed to a height of less than three feet.
2. **Strengthen Door Security**—Opt for high-quality doors and equip them with high-security deadbolt locks. Supplement these with latch guards and security hinges to further fortify entry points.
3. **Install Perimeter Fencing**—If feasible, consider installing perimeter fencing around your property, along with a secure gate. This acts as an additional barrier, deterring unauthorized access.
4. **Display Security Signs**—Mount signs indicating the presence of 24-hour security and alarm systems, acting as a visual deterrent to potential criminals.
5. **Report Suspicious Activity**—Encourage employees and staff members to promptly report any suspicious individuals or vehicles in the vicinity. This aids in maintaining a proactive security environment.
6. **Illuminate the Building**—Ensure that your building is well-lit, both internally and externally. Sufficient lighting contributes to increased visibility and discourages criminal activities.

**Please report all suspicious or criminal activity to the police.**

Richmond RCMP Non-Emergency line **604-278-1212**.

If you witness a crime in progress, dial **9-1-1**.

Online reporting available at [bc.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/richmond/report](https://bc.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/richmond/report) for the following:

- Damage/mischief to property under \$5,000
- Damage/mischief to a vehicle under \$5,000
- Hit and run to an unoccupied vehicle or property
- Theft of bicycle under \$5,000
- Theft under \$5,000
- Theft from vehicle under \$5,000
- Lost property



February 27, 2024

Notice of Motion for Community Safety Meeting agenda March 12 put forward by Laura Gillanders

Motion:

That staff research and review our current policies and bylaws relating to body rub studios by consulting with agencies such as SWAN, PACE Society, Living in Community, Pivot Legal Society, and VCASE, as well as compare ours to bylaws in other municipalities; that staff report back to Community Safety Committee with findings and/or options to ensure our policies are aligned with current best practices.

Background:

On February 26, Richmond City Council voted for an option for enforcement of escort services and body rub studios and subsequent amendments to the related bylaws which would allow for increased inspections and escalated fines for business license holders not in compliance with our bylaws.

We have received a great deal of correspondence from the agencies listed in the referral motion – SWAN, PACE Society, Living in Community, as well as other experts, authors of peer-reviewed publications on the subject as well as some groups offering another viewpoint such as VCASE. Many of these groups have offered to meet and consult with our Richmond staff on the subject. PIVOT Legal Society is another resource.

One of the things we repeatedly heard from delegations was that increased enforcement was causing harm to women as some women have chosen to leave the safe place of work in Richmond and go underground. Of particular interest is the suggestion that other municipalities have slightly less stringent bylaws around employee registration that offer more discretion. We heard that all of the women known to those who have studied the subject who work in body rub studios are women who have chosen this work without coercion and that they may be professionals in the community but are unable to make financial ends meet and chose to supplement their income. We heard that having to come in to City Hall and register as an employee of a body rub studio is not discreet enough for some of these women. Perhaps there is a better way to present registration.

We also heard that there have been no cases of human trafficking in approximately 20 years. If human trafficking is extremely rare in these establishments, then we should be at least equally concerned with the very real possibility that our bylaws could be making it less safe for women. We have heard this is a real concern and many councillors expressed they would like to learn more.

By researching and reviewing the bylaws and consulting with experts from all sides of the subject, we should be able to strike a balance that ensures protection and safety of employees, compliance with bylaws, a relationship of trust between employees of these establishments and the city and RCMP, and prevention of human trafficking and organized crime. The findings may show there are no adjustments needed to our bylaws but we will have been thorough in investigating the claims of the delegations.