

Community Safety Committee Electronic Meeting

Council Chambers, City Hall 6911 No. 3 Road Tuesday, May 14, 2024 4:00 p.m.

Pg. # ITEM

CS-8

MINUTES

CS-4 Motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee held on April 9, 2024.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

June 11, 2024, (tentative date) at 4:00 p.m. in the Anderson Room.

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

1. COMMUNITY BYLAWS MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – MARCH 2024

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-02) (REDMS No. 7648264)

See Page CS-8 for full report

Designated Speaker: Mark Corrado

Pg. #	ITEM	imunity Safety Committee Agenda – Tuesday, May 14, 2024
· 9· //		
		STAFF RECOMMENDATION
		That the staff report titled "Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report – March 2024", dated April 19, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Business Licencing, be received for information.
	2.	BUSINESS LICENCE ACTIVITY REPORT – FIRST QUARTER 2024 (File Ref. No. 12-8375-02) (REDMS No. 7648265)
CS-16		See Page CS-16 for full report
		Designated Speaker: Mark Corrado
		STAFF RECOMMENDATION
		That the staff report titled "Business Licence Activity Report – First Quarter 2024", dated April 19, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.
	3.	RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – MARCH 2024 (File Ref. No. 09-5140-01) (REDMS No. 7634927)
CS-20		See Page CS-20 for full report
		Designated Speaker: Fire Chief Jim Wishlove
		STAFF RECOMMENDATION
		That the staff report titled "Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – March 2024", dated April 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.

	Con	ımunity Safety Committee Agenda – Tuesday, May 14, 2024
Pg. #	ITEM	
	5.	RCMP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – MARCH 2024 (File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 7630280)
CS-33		See Page CS-33 for full report
		Designated Speaker: Chief Supt. Dave Chauhan
		STAFF RECOMMENDATION
		That the report titled "RCMP Monthly Activity Report – March 2024", dated April 16, 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: None.
	7.	MANAGER'S REPORT
		ADJOURNMENT



Minutes

Community Safety Committee

Date:

Tuesday, April 9, 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.

MINUTES

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Safety Committee held

on March 12, 2024, be adopted.

CARRIED

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

1. COMMUNITY BYLAWS MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT **FEBRUARY 2024**

(File Ref. No. 12-8375-02) (REDMS No. 7604699)

Staff provided a brief update to an ongoing bylaw file in relation to 5540 No. 6 Road, noting that following long-form prosecution in Provincial Court, a total fine of \$100,000 was issued against five companies and two individuals.

Community Safety Committee Tuesday, April 9, 2024

In response to queries from Committee, staff advised that (i) when there is a repeated and/or significant history of violations and if compliance isn't achieved through ticket and warnings, staff may seek a resolution via long-form prosecution in Provincial Court, (ii) a variety of noise-related calls for service were received, including calls regarding construction-related and mechanical noise, delivery vehicles, and congestion, (iii) bylaws staff conducted proactive patrols in the Spires Road neighbourhood in relation to construction parking and are working with the Public Works department to address issues regarding drainage ditches, (iv) fines related to animal protection and dog licencing include fines for dogs off-leash or individuals with dog licencing violations such as lapsed licences, and fines can be issued by BCSPCA and/or Bylaw Enforcement Officers, (v) bylaws staff are investigating properties with large on-site storage containers, with some coming under compliance, and (vi) staff continue to respond to complaints related to unauthorized soil deposition.

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled "Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report – February 2024", dated March 15, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.

CARRIED

2. RICHMOND FIRE-RESCUE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT - FEBRUARY 2024

(File Ref. No. 09-5140-01) (REDMS No. 7605409)

In response to queries from Committee, Deputy Fire Chief Al McGrath advised that (i) naloxone kits may be administered by Richmond Fire-Rescue (RFR), bystanders, or other groups, and electronic duty reporting indicates if naloxone was administered by RFR, (ii) there has been a slight increase in the number of medical calls related to overdose/poisoning in the last year, (iii) the number of outdoor fire incidents has increased each year since 2015, and (iv) there was no environmental impact in relation to the hazardous material on Westminster Highway.

It was moved and seconded

That the staff report titled "Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – February 2024", dated March 5, 2024, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.

CARRIED

Community Safety Committee Tuesday, April 9, 2024

3. FIRE CHIEF BRIEFING

(Verbal Report)

Working Relationship with BC Ambulance Service

Deputy Fire Chief Al McGrath noted that a BC Ambulance Service supervisor shared that their crews enjoy working with the Richmond Fire-Rescue crews and they continue to have a positive working relationship with BCAS.

4. RICHMOND RCMP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2024

(File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 7596365)

In response to queries from Committee, Chief Supt. Chauhan advised that (i) there is no official mechanism for tracking the deployment of naloxone, (ii) no patterns or trends have been identified in relation to auto thefts and Richmond is not experiencing the same spike in auto theft as Ontario, (iii) Richmond RCMP successfully executed multiple 'Boost & Bust' operations as part of an ongoing commitment to foster safer commercial environments and combat property crime and retail theft, (iv) the RCMP Road Safety Unit members receive training on Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement in order to ensure road safety through traffic enforcement and education, (v) in February 2024, Richmond RCMP announced the launch of the Safe Exchange initiative to help prevent criminal offences associated with online sales, (vi) the Positive Ticket program is still in effect, and (vii) RCMP officers in the Youth Section conduct proactive visits at elementary and secondary schools.

It was moved and seconded

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

CARRIED

5. 2024-2025 RICHMOND RCMP DETACHMENT ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

(File Ref. No. 09-5000-01) (REDMS No. 7592175)

Chief Supt. Chauhan provided a brief overview of the report.

Discussion ensued regarding the community priorities outlined in the Annual Performance Plan.

It was moved and seconded

Community Safety Committee Tuesday, April 9, 2024

That the priorities, Property Crime, Organized Crime, Road Safety and Vulnerable Persons, listed in the report titled "2024-2025 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan –Community Priorities", dated March 19, 2024, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP, be endorsed for inclusion in the Richmond RCMP Detachment's fiscal year 2024-2025 (April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025) Annual Performance Plan.

CARRIED

6. RCMP/OIC BRIEFING

(Verbal Report)

(i) Volunteer Appreciation (Video)

Chief Supt. Chauhan introduced a volunteer appreciation video showcasing the great work volunteers do, noting that volunteers are an integral part of community crime prevention, crime deterrent and community safety initiatives.

(ii) E-Scooter Skills Challenge

Committee spoke to the upcoming E-Scooter Skills Challenge event at Lansdowne Centre on June 1.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded *That the meeting adjourn (5:10 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 Tuesday, April 9, 2024.

Councillor Alexa Loo	Shannon Unrau
Chair	Legislative Services Associate



Report to Committee

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

April 19, 2024

From:

Mark Corrado

File:

12-8375-02/2024-Vol

Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing

01

Re:

Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report - March 2024

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "Community Bylaws Monthly Activity Report – March 2024", dated April 19, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Business Licencing, be received for information.

Mark Corrado

Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing

(604-204-8673)

REPORT CONCURRENCE						
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENC	E CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER				
Finance Department	✓					
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS	S: APPROVED BY CAO				
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Staff Report

Origin

This monthly report highlights activities, information, and statistics related to calls for service from the Property Use, Parking Enforcement, and Animal Protection units of Community Bylaws.

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 March 2024, a total of 107 calls for service files were received for investigation, which represented a19 per cent decrease (132) from the same period last year. There is no discernable pattern observed to explain this change. 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 received complaint. Among 24 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.

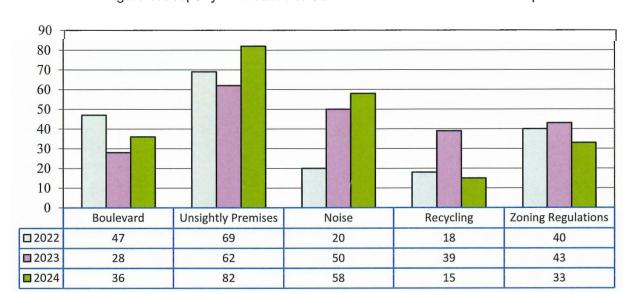


Figure 1: Property Use Calls For Service - March Year-To-Date Comparison

In March, the increase in reports of unsightly premises can be attributed to property garbage related calls. This type of call is made when properties have loose debris, chattel, untidy garbage bins and construction debris strewn across or piled up. In these cases, staff work with the property owner to set a timeline and expectation for cleanup to ensure compliance. In the majority of cases, voluntary compliance is achieved.

There was a slight increase in noise-related calls. No specific trend was observed in the type of noise reported; instead, a variety of calls were received, predominantly concerning mechanical noise and construction activities outside permitted hours.

Other Community Bylaws Calls for Service

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

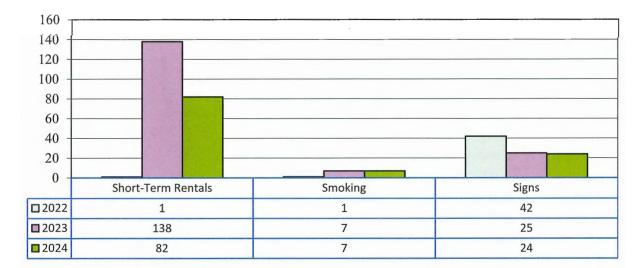


Figure 2: Property Use Calls For Service - March Year-To-Date Comparison

For March, there were 19 calls for service related to short-term rental violations. Dedicated temporary full time officers monitor complaints submitted by the community as well as proactively generating files. In many cases, complaints are resolved by: voluntarily removing the short-term rental listing; by obtaining a business licence depending on eligibility; and paying outstanding fines. However, in cases where voluntary compliance is not obtained, a variety of violation notices can be issued for non-compliant operation of a short-term rental.

Oftentimes, a rental operator engaging in illegal practice will receive multiple violation notices upon inspection. Staff continue to monitor properties found to be non-compliant and follow up accordingly should unpermitted operation continue. When there is a repeated and/or significant history of violations, staff will seek a resolution via Long-form Prosecution in Provincial Court.

Signage related calls cover a variety of types. In March, the Sign Inspector attended numerous calls regarding advertising signs placed in a non-compliant manner. In these cases, staff work with the advertisers or agencies to ensure the signage is removed.

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 39 site inspections in the month of March.

Stop Work/Removal Orders issued for the following properties:

- 14400 Burrows Road
- 13000 Blundell Road
- 6780 No. 5 Road

The following properties came into compliance:

- 12760 Blundell Road
- 6991 No. 6 Road

There are 29 soil deposit proposals under various stages of the application process. Staff are monitoring 11 approved sites and are currently addressing 36 properties that are considered non-compliant.

Bylaw Prosecutions

No new bylaw charges were sworn in March.

Parking Enforcement

Staff responded to 285 calls for service in March. This is a five per cent increase (270) from the same period last year. When contrasted with 2023 data from the same period, parking enforcement revenue has increased by 20 per cent with parking violation issuance up 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 increased use of mobile payment applications. Monthly parking enforcement revenue is highlighted in Figure 3. Figure 4 highlights monthly parking violation issuance.

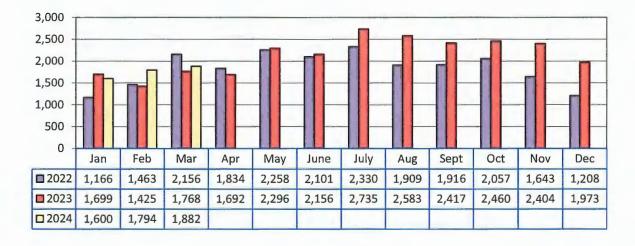
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Figure 3: Parking Enforcement Revenue Comparison (000's)

Figure 4: Parking Violation Issuance Comparison



Animal Protection and Dog Licencing

As of March 31, 2024, approximately 6,222 valid dog licences were issued. This figure represents 83 percent of the 7,500 licences on file as of last year. A total of 255 dog licences were issued in March. Staff are now focusing on dog licence canvassing efforts. Outstanding accounts are called and emailed seeking a renewal or other information to update the account. Dog licences are valid for a calendar year and are not based on the purchase date of the licence.

In March, BC SPCA Officers responded to 131 calls for service related to animal control and dog licencing violations. They also conducted 38 park patrols across various parks, dikes and school grounds, including typical locations such as Garry Point, Terra Nova Rural Park, and sections of the West Dyke Trail. Patrols were also carried out at AR McNeil Secondary, South Arm Community Park and several school grounds. Besides enforcement actions, these patrols

serve an educational purpose, increasing awareness and compliance. In collaboration with the Parks department, staff are reviewing hotspot parks and school grounds to assess options for improving signage.

Fines issued for Animal Regulation or Dog Licence offences cover various subjects including failure to obtain a valid dog licence, failure to leash a dog where not permitted or permitting a dog to run at large.

Ticketing

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

Table 1: Community Bylaw Offences

Ticket Issuance (BVN's & MTI's)		March	YTD
Short-Term Rental Offences		27	120
Soil Deposit and Removal Offences		3	18
Animal Regulation/Dog Licence Offences		13	55
Watercourse Protection Offences		0	0
Unsightly Premises Offences		1	3
Noise Offences		3	7
Building Regulation Offences		0	2
Solid Waste and Recycling Offences		0	0
Parks Offences		0	0
Sign Offences		8	16
Watering Offences		0	0
	Totals	55	221

Bylaw Adjudication

An adjudication session was held on March 6. A total of 12 violations were reviewed by the adjudicator with all of them being upheld.

The next adjudication session will be held on June 26, 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 increase in Q2 and Q3. 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. Table 3 outlines individual revenue sources within parking enforcement. Table 4 highlights funds collected from dog licencing and fines. The overall increase in licence revenue can be attributed

to proactive work done by staff in prior years to ensure accuracy in dog licence accounts and canvassing efforts to ensure compliance.

Table 5 outlines the net revenue and expenses for both property use and parking enforcement and animal protection services.

Table 2: Property Use Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Mar 2024	Actual Mar 2024	YTD Budget Mar 2024	YTD Actual Mar 2024
False Alarm	4,858	0	14,575	5,940
Towing Permits	3,165	1,959	5,642	5,784
Newspaper Box Permits	0	0	0	1,024
Soil Permit Application and Volume Fees	23,327	6,793	41,590	12,750
Other Bylaw Fines	48,303	11,575	86,119	36,950
Total Revenue	79,653	20,327	147,926	62,448

Table 3: Parking Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Actual Mar 2024 Mar 2024		YTD Budget Mar 2024	YTD Actual Mar 2024	
Contract Revenue ¹	5,000	5,000	15,000	15,000	
Filming Revenue	0	1,647	0	3,212	
Parking Revenue ²	174,767	167,437	524,300	476,450	
Total Revenue	179,767	174,084	539,300	494,662	

Table 4: Animal Protection Services Revenue by Source

Program Revenue	Budget Mar 2024	Actual Mar 2024	YTD Budget Mar 2024	YTD Actual Mar 2024
Dog Licences	31,789	16,339	201,281	215,712
Fines	300	1,625	1,080	4,675
Total Revenue	32,089	17,964	202,361	220,387

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¹ City Towing Contract with Rusty's towing

² Parking Revenue consists of Parking Meters, Monthly Parking Permits, and Parking Enforcement

Table 5: Property Use, Parking and Animal Protection Services Revenue and Expenses

		YTD Budget Mar 2024	YTD Actual Mar 2024
Property Use	Revenue	147,926	62,448
	Expenses	489,619	344,697
	Net Revenue (Expense)	(341,693)	(282,249)
Parking	Revenue	539,300	494,662
	Expenses	457,525	377,012
	Net Revenue (Expense)	81,775	117,650
Animal Protection	Revenue	202,361	220,387
	Expenses	374,275	365,090
	Net Revenue (Expense)	(171,914)	(144,703)

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

Staff and contracted service providers administer and enforce 39 unique bylaws, covering a diverse range of various regulated community activities and service use, notably land use, noise, soil deposit/removal, short-term rentals, parking permits and enforcement, unsightly premises, and animal protection services. This report provides a summary of departmental activity in March.

Mark Corrado

Director, Community Bylaws and Licencing

(604-204-8673)



Report to Committee

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

April 19, 2024

From:

Mark Corrado

File:

12-8375-02/2024-Vol

Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing

01

Re:

Business Licence Activity Report – First Quarter 2024

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "Business Licence Activity Report – First Quarter 2024", dated April 19, 2024, from the Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing, be received for information.

Mark Corrado

Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing

(604-204-8673)

REPORT CONCURRENCE						
ROUTED TO:	Concui	RRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER			
Economic Development Finance Department		I	A.			
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW		INITIALS:	APPROVED BY CAO			
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Staff Report

Origin

This report provides an update of business licence activity in the first quarter of 2024.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #2 Strategic and Sustainable Community Growth:

2.5 Work collaboratively and proactively to attract and retain businesses to support a diversified economic base.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #4 Responsible Financial Management and Governance:

4.2 Seek improvements and efficiencies in all aspects of City business.

Analysis

Business Licence Revenue

The total revenue collected in the first quarter of 2024 was \$2,280,672 which represented a 16.5% percent increase when compared to the same quarter revenue in 2023. Total revenue increased due to an increase in business licence revenue as well as enforcement related revenue. Business licence revenue is one of multiple indicators of economic health in Richmond. Table 1 shows total business licence revenue from 2021 to 2024.

Table 1: Business Licence Revenue for the First Quarter 2021 to 2024

	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Revenue	\$ 1,785,852	\$ 1,809,955	\$ 1,956,915	\$ 2,280,672	

Application Processing

The licencing application process is a crucial step since it confirms whether the businesses have the required approvals from agencies that regulate health, safety and other municipal, provincial or federal requirements. Staff oversee this process with thoroughness and efficiency. Staff use the following measures of performance:

- "Valid Licences" are the number of businesses with valid licences.
- "Expired Licences" are the number of businesses that have not paid to renew their licence within 60 days of being sent an invoice. Staff follow up with these businesses regarding the outstanding licencing fees and confirm whether they are permanently closed.
- "Pending/Change Applications" are businesses that have applied for a new licence or a change request of an existing licence, but are waiting for their applications to be processed. Staff work to keep this number low by prioritizing these applications.

• "Total Licences" are the total number of business licences that are valid, expired (and being checked) and under application review.

Table 2 shows the total number of business licences and their status from 2023 and 2024. These statistics are measured quarterly, as opposed to annually, as the numbers fluctuate throughout the year due to a variety of factors, including shifting numbers of daily application submissions, premise alteration requisitions, change requests or businesses permanently closing. The figures listed in Table 2 do not include licences deemed inactive.

Table 2: Number and Status of Business Licences in 2023 and 2024

	2023 Q1	2023 Q2	2023 Q3	2023 Q4	2024 Q1
Valid Licences	13,164	13,212	13,607	14,245	13,982
Expired Licences	2,340	2,687	2,590	1,966	2,137
Pending/Change Applications	1,040	950	882	816	803
Total Licences	16,544	16,849	17,079	17,027	16,922

In the first quarter of 2024, total licences increased by two percent (378) when contrasted with the same quarter last year. In the same period, there was a six percent (818) increase in valid licences and a nine and a half percent decrease (203) in expired licences.

Staff have strategically shifted to targeting the expired licence category to maximize revenue collection and ensure data accuracy while balancing the administrative intake of new pending/change applications. There is a strong correlation between enforcement of expired licences and growth in the total number of valid licences. Staff continue to work diligently to address pending/change applications on an on-going basis when they are received by the City inperson or via the MyBusiness portal. Steady progress has been made in reducing this figure and re-categorizing licences to their appropriate status.

Table 3: New Business Licences Issued in the First Quarters 2021 to 2024

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Issued	352	335	423	441

There was a four percent increase in the number of new business licences issued in the first quarter of 2024 compared with the same period last year. This is a positive indicator of economic health, especially as businesses continue to face inflationary pressures and other economic challenges. This increase contributes to the total number of licences referenced in Table 2.

Inactive licences encompass various conditions, including businesses in invoiced status that, upon verification, have ceased operations. This category also includes home occupation businesses that may have stopped operating or have moved out of Richmond. Inactive licences are not included in any of the licences categories listed in Table 2. The total number of inactive licences in 2024 decreased significantly by 885 (92%) from last year. While fluctuations in the total number of inactive licences can be caused by a variety of factors, the substantial change can be attributed to the increased resource that was dedicated to reconciling inactive licences with the

addition of a temporary full-time licence inspector role in May 2023 to follow up with outstanding accounts.

Table 4: Inactive Licences for 2020 to 2023

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Inactive Licences	1787	1715	952*	67

Tow Permit Applications

Starting in 2024, the Tow Permit program is administered within the Business Licencing Department. A total of 74 tow permit applications have been received in the first quarter of 2024. Tow permits are valid for two years as per the Vehicle for Hire Bylaw No. 6900.

Business Licence Enforcement

Staff issued a total of 442 tickets to date in 2024. These tickets include offences relating to the Sign Regulation Bylaw 9700 and violation notices for operating contrary to licence conditions. In general, businesses operating without a valid licence are initially given a warning and provided with steps to achieve compliance. If a follow-up inspection reveals continued non-compliance, a bylaw violation notice is issued.

The increase in fine revenue is the result of staff investigating businesses that continue to operate while non-compliant, or licence holders operating contrary to their licence.

Table 5: Business Licence Enforcement Revenue First Quarter 2021 to 2024

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Revenue from Tickets	\$ 3,600	\$ 8,550	\$ 22,450	\$ 24,950

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

This report provides an update to the Community Safety Committee on the number of business licences and revenue collected by the Business Licencing Department in the first quarter of 2024. Revenues this quarter have shown a positive trend compared the same time frame last year. A primary focus of staff for 2024 is to concentrate on processing applications and investigating expired licences to determine their appropriate status.

Mark Corrado

Director, Community Bylaws & Licencing

(604-204-8673)



Report to Committee

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date:

April 12, 2024

From:

Jim Wishlove Fire Chief File

09-5140-01/2024-Vol

01

Re:

Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report - March 2024

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report – March 2024", dated April 12, 2024, from the Fire Chief, be received for information.

Jim Wishlove Fire Chief (604-303-2715)

Att. 1

REPORT CONCURRENCE

CONCURRENCE OF ĜENIERAL MANAGER

SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW

INITIALS:

JB

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 March staff engaged in the following activities:

- Joined a functional exercise hosted by the City of Delta, Delta Fire, Emergency Services and Delta Police, exercising their post-catastrophe rapid damage assessment program. The learning was to quickly assess the extent of damage to critical infrastructure and targeted areas of interest as a critical activity following a destructive event.
- Participated in a joint municipality multi-hazard function exercise hosted by the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District that involved the activation of three municipal emergency operation centers, including a local First Nation authority. The exercise simulated responses to local flooding, landslides, power outages, and numerous isolated incidents as a result of a severe weather event.
- Supported and guided the creation of the Safety and Security operational guide for the City's annual Cherry Blossom Festival held in Garry Point Park.
- Attended a tabletop exercise hosted by a local large industrial facility. The table top exercise
 simulated an earthquake, and the resulting collaboration between staff and the operator
 identified opportunities for improved communication and documentation procedures
 strengthening the ability for the City to collaborate and facilitate an effective response to an
 emergency.
- Aided in the facilitation of a grant application through the Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) to support initiatives to build relationships, plan, reconcile and build capacity for emergency management between the City and the local indigenous communities.

Public Outreach & Education

In March 2024, staff facilitated outreach events to provide educational opportunities to the community, including fire hall and vehicle tours for five organizations.

Staff hosted the "Dogs on Bumpers Photo Shoot", which was a fun community engagement session to wrap up the social media campaign which had run over the winter.

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Staff hosted our RCMP partners in support of their Car Seat Inspection event. Additionally, staff continued with life safety educational social media videos and posts throughout March.

Internal Staff Training

In March 2024, staff organized in-house training events including: Fire Service Leadership, First Responder Scope of Practice updates, Incident Command Systems 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 March 2024, there were 1,078 reported incidents of all types, representing an overall increase of 4 per cent in incidents between March 2023 and March 2024 (Table 1).

Table 1: Total Incidents - March 2024						
	Incident Totals March (2024)	Incident Totals March (2023)	Number Change from March 2023 to 2024	Percentage Change from March 2023 to 2024	5 Year Average for March	
Active Alarm	169	158	+11	+7	136	
Explosion	1	0	+1	+100	0	
Fire	33	32	+1	+3	33	
Hazardous Materials	10	7	+3	+43	10	
Medical	595	585	+10	+2	442	
Motor Vehicle Incident	100	86	+14	+16	76	
Public Hazard	9	6	+3	+50	10	
Public Service	79	90	-11	-12	80	
Response Cancelled/Unfounded	76	68	+8	+12	53	
Specialized Transport	5	2	+3	+150	3	
Technical Rescue	1	1	0	0	0	
Total	1078	1035	+43	+4	843	

The average time on scene in March 2024 for emergency response crews was 33 minutes per event, which is lower than the number recorded in March 2023: 34 minutes. The time spent on scene can vary due to the nature and severity of each incident.

In March 2024, there were 33 fire incidents reported to the Office of the Fire Commissioner, this is more than the number reported in March 2023. The average number of fires reported each March over the last five years is 33.

Fire damage and property losses during March 2024 are estimated at \$18,680. This total includes \$18,680 for building/asset loss and \$0 for content loss. The total building/asset and content value at risk is estimated to be \$8,257,495 and the total value preserved from damage was \$8,238,815. 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 2: Fire Incidents By Type and Loss Estimates - March 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	1	1,462,600	-	1,023,855	<u>-</u>	2,486,455
Residential: Multi family	5	1,090,960	15,010	763,535	-	1,839,485
Commercial / Industrial	4	3,676,750	-	221,225	-	3,897,975
Outdoor	22	3,570	1,670	-	_	1,900
Vehicle/Vessel	1	15,000	2,000	-	_	13,000
Totals*	33	6,248,880	18,680	2,008,615	-	8,238,815

^{*} 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). Values under a threshold limit of \$1,000 will not be noted in the table.

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 March 2024 incidents:

- March 12, 2024 Structure Fire on Blundell Road. Emergency crews responded to a fire inside a commercial property on Blundell Road. Upon arrival, the first in crews worked quickly to mitigate the hazard and were able to support the quick actions of the staff on scene in the business to prevent the situation from escalating. The fire was extinguished. A Fire Investigator and a Coastal Health representative attended the scene. There were no reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel.
- March 14, 2024 Motor Vehicle incident on River Road. Emergency crews responded to a two vehicle motor vehicle incident near the train trestle on River Road. One vehicle was found on its side in a ditch and the other with front end damage on the road. There were no fluids leaking from the vehicle in the ditch. One driver was injured and transported to the hospital. All other occupants were checked by onsite BC Emergency Health Services staff and released from care. There was no reported damage to the train trestle. RCMP attended to conduct their investigation. There were no other reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel.

- March 25, 2024 Hazardous Materials on Boundary Road. Emergency Hazmat crews responded to a diesel fuel spill. Approximately 200 litres of diesel fuel had leaked from two containers on the property. The fuel was contained on the ground by absorbent materials. Some of the fuel spill had gone down two drains but had been contained in the drainage system. An additional RFR Unit responded to remove any fuel in the drainage system. The City's Works Yard and a Hazardous Materials company were contacted for spill absorption and removal. There were no reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel.
- March 31, 2024 Structure Fire on Alderbridge Way. Emergency crews responded to a structure fire. Crews quickly attacked the fire, and effective firefighting held this fire to a localized area in one unit of a multi-unit commercial building. The fire was being held by a sprinkler system, and crews were able to fully extinguish the fire and clear the smoke. Support from Public Works assisted with boarding up a forced entry point, and security was called to maintain scene integrity. A Fire Investigator attended. There were no reports of injury to the public or RFR personnel.

Financial Impact

None.

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.

Jim Wishlove Fire Chief (604-303-2715)

Att. 1: Emergency Response Activity for March 2024.

Emergency Response Activity for March 2024

Incident Volumes

The following chart provides a month-to-month comparison regarding incidents occurring in March 2023 and 2024. In March 2024, there were 1,078 total incidents, compared to 1,035 in March 2023. This represents an overall increase of 4 per cent between last year and 2024.

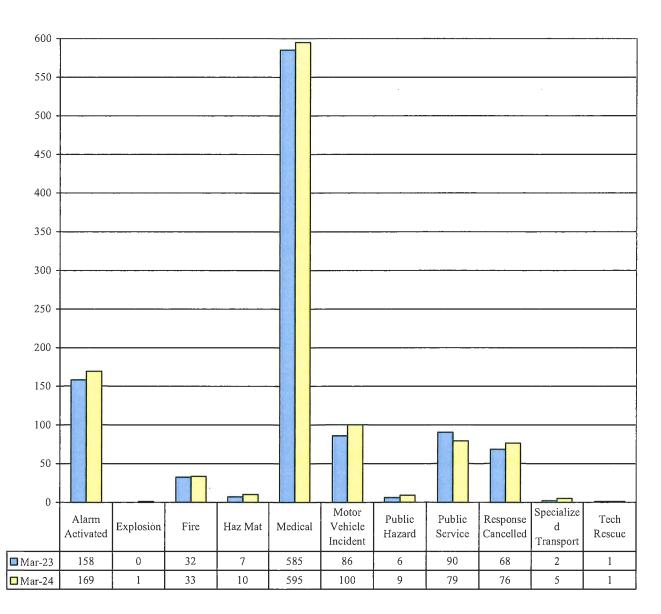


Table 3: March 2023 & March 2024 Incident Volumes

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: 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 55 per cent of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of March 2024. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for March 2023 and 2024 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were 595 medical incidents in March 2024 compared to 485 in March 2023, an increase of 2 per cent.

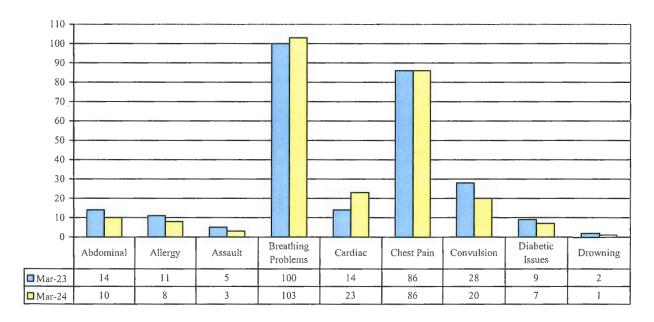
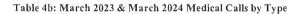
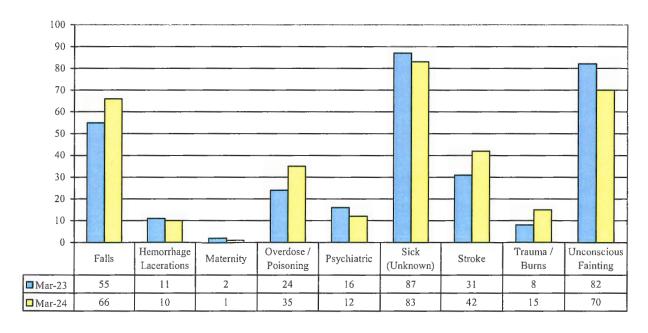


Table 4a: March 2023 & March 2024 Medical Calls by Type





The following chart provides the overdose/poisoning incident volume breakdown for March 2024. During March 2024, Naloxone was administered once (2 doses) by RFR staff.

Table 4c: Overdose / Poisoning Incidents By Type – March 2024				
Opioid overdose incidents that RFR attended located in an OUTDOOR environment.	5			
Opioid overdose incidents that RFR attended located in an INDOOR environment.	8			
All other OD / Poisoning Incidents				
Totals	35			

Fire Investigations

The fire investigation statistics for March 2024 are listed below:

Table 5: Total Fire Investigation Statistics – March 2024					
	Suspicious	Accidental	Undetermined		
Residential - Single-family Residential - Multi-family	-	1 5	-		
Commercial/Industrial	1	2	1		
Outdoor	12	7	3		
Vehicle	1	-	-		
Totals	14	15	4		

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

Table 6: Hazardous Materials Incidents By Type – March 2024				
	Details			
Gasses (Natural / Propane)	5			
Corrosive	1			
Flammable/Combustible Liquids	1			
Standby/Support for other agency	1			
Unclassified	2			
Totals	10			

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

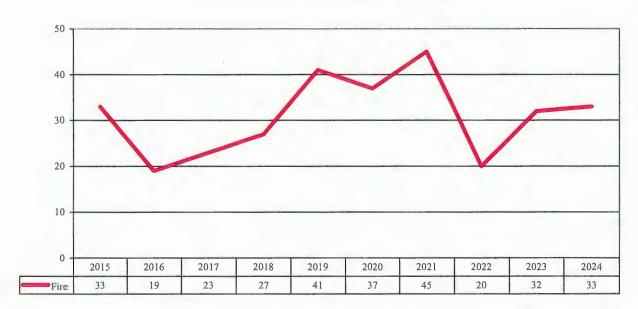
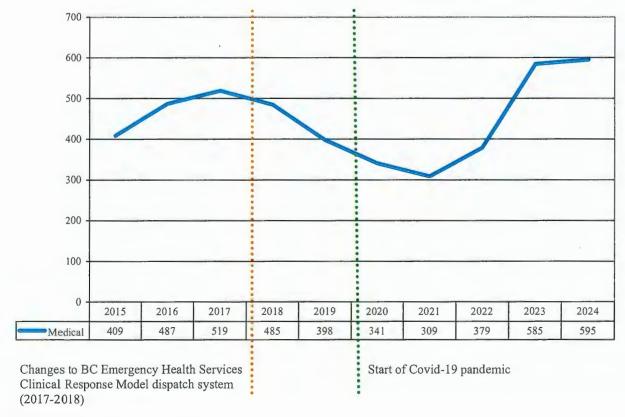


Table 7a: Total Fire Calls for Service in March from 2015 to 2024





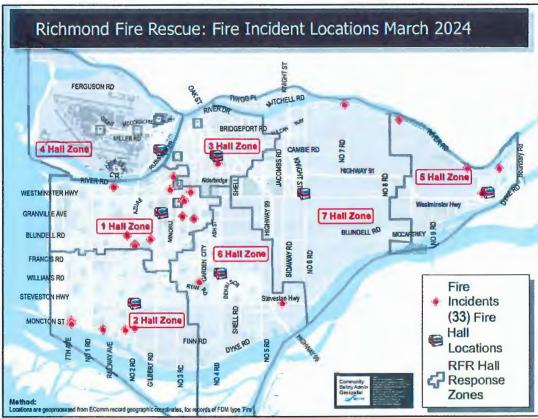
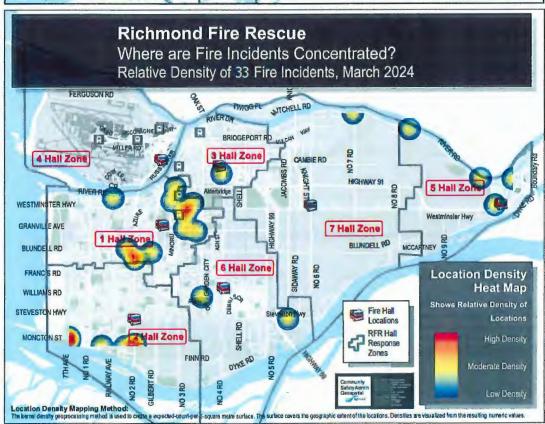


Figure 1: Location of reportable fire incidents attended in March 2024 (total 33)



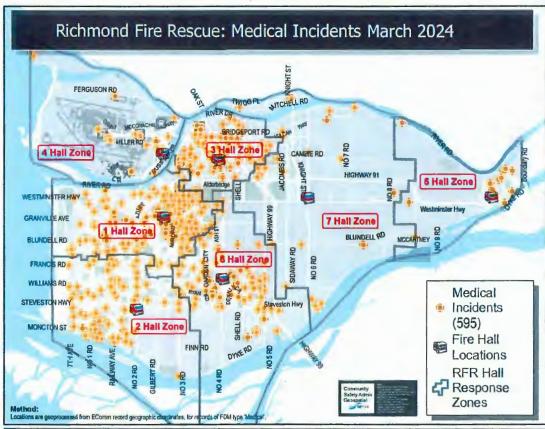
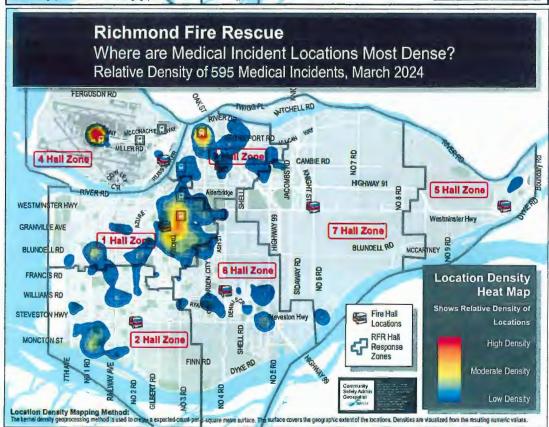


Figure 2: Location of reportable medical incidents attended in March 2024 (total 595)



Richmond Fire Rescue: MVI Incidents March 2024 FERGUSON RD STCHELL RD 4 Hall Zone 5 Hall Zone WESTMINSTER HWY GRANVILLE AVE 7 Hall Zone 1 Hall Zone BLUNDELL PO BLUNDEL RD 6 Hall Zone NO 6 RD FRANCIS RD WILLIAMS RD MVI STEVESTON HWY Incidents 2 Hall Zone (100) Fire MONGTON ST Hall Locations RFR Hall Response Zones

Figure 3: Location of reportable motor vehicle incidents (MVIs) attended in March 2024 (total 100)

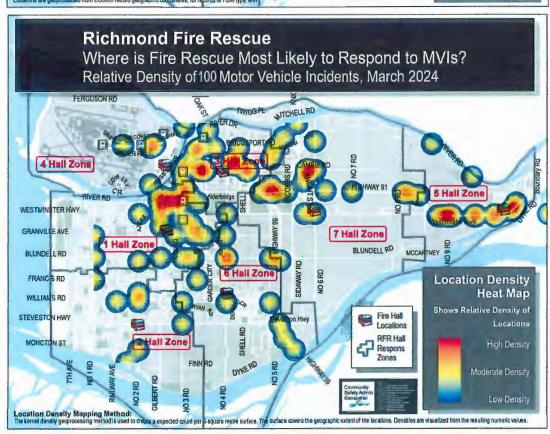
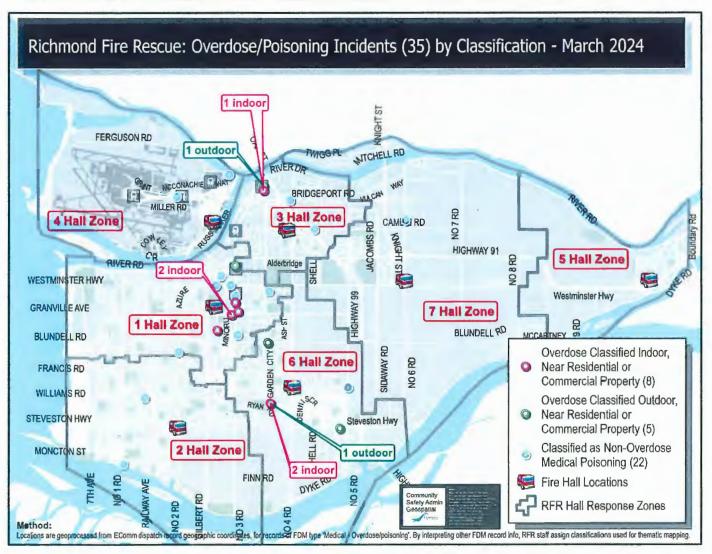


Figure 4: Location of reportable overdose / poisoning incidents attended in March 2024 (Total 35)





Report to Committee

To:

Community Safety Committee

Date: April 16, 2024

From:

Dave Chauhan

File:

09-5000-01/2024-Vol

01

Re:

RCMP Monthly Activity Report – March 2024

Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled "RCMP Monthly Activity Report - March 2024", dated April 16, 2024, from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.

Dave Chauhan

Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge

(604-278-1212)

Att. 3

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

Staff Report

Origin

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

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

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #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

Distracted Driving Campaign

On March 1, 2024, the Richmond RCMP partnered with Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement officers, Transit Police, and the BC Highway Patrol Integrated Road Safety Unit to conduct a Joint Forces Operation (JFO) against distracted driving. The JFO launched a monthlong province-wide campaign in collaboration with ICBC to combat distracted driving, a leading cause of traffic incidents and fatalities.

Fraud Arrest

On March 6, 2024, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release advising that police had arrested a suspect in connection with a series of fraudulent vehicle purchases with a combined value of \$443,688. The incidents occurred in early 2024 and involved fraudulent bank drafts. The investigation is ongoing.

Recovery of Stolen Goods

On March 14, 2024, a Richmond RCMP issued a media release advising that the Property Crime Unit had executed a search warrant on February 29, 2024, at a residence in Steveston. Over

1,000 stolen items valued at over \$150,000 were recovered, most of which were new toys and fashion apparel. A 46-year-old Richmond man was arrested. The investigation is ongoing.

Purse Snatchings

Between February 22 and March 23, 2024, the Richmond RCMP received six reports of purse snatchings. Four incidents occurred in central Richmond and two in Steveston. Police released a suspect description and were working to determine if the same person committed these crimes. The incidents remain under investigation.

Romance and Investment Frauds

On March 26, 2024, the Richmond RCMP issued a media release warning of increased online scams combining romance and investment schemes. In 2023, the Richmond RCMP's Economic Crime Unit received 87 reports of such scams, with victims reporting total losses of over \$16.17 million. The trend has continued, and in the first three months of 2024, 12 incidents have been reported, amounting to losses of \$477,820.

Analysis of Police Statistics

Arson

In March 2024, there were two reported arsons, a decrease of nine incidents from the previous month. No patterns or trends have been identified.¹

Assault Serious (Assault with a Weapon)

There were 18 serious assault events in March 2024, representing no change from the previous month and an 18 per cent decrease from March 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of serious assaults this month is within the average range.

Of the incidents reported in March 2024, 28 per cent were domestic assaults and 17 per cent involved confrontational customers at commercial locations.

Auto Theft

In March 2024, there were 24 auto thefts, representing a 41 per cent increase from the previous month and a four per cent decrease from March 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of auto thefts this month is within the average range.

7630280

¹ In January 2024, a new Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR) code was introduced related to intentionally set fires that do not meet the *Criminal Code* definition of Arson The new UCR code, 8900-25 Fire – Not Arson, will allow for the more accurate capturing of arson incidents. The introduction of this new UCR code currently prevents comparison to prior year arson counts. Staff will resume reporting trend comparison once sufficient statistically significant data is collected under the new UCR system.

Drugs

In March 2024, there were 15 drug offences, which is a six per cent decrease from the previous month and a 71 per cent decrease from March 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of drug incidents this month is below the average range.

Mental Health

There were 272 mental health-related incidents in March 2024, representing a 27 per cent increase from the previous month and a 15 per cent increase from March 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified and the number of mental health-related incidents this month is within the average range.

There were 77 police apprehensions this month, representing a 17 per cent increase from the previous month, and the average hospital wait time increased by 19 per cent to 154 minutes. The extended wait time has been attributed to eight files with exceptionally long wait times.

Residential Break and Enter

There were 23 break and enters to residences in March 2024, representing no change from the previous month and a four per cent decrease from March 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of residential break and enters this month is below the average range.

Commercial Break and Enter

In March 2024, there were 27 break and enters to businesses, which is a 42 per cent increase from the previous month and a 10 per cent decrease from March 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of commercial break and enters this month is below the average range.

Robbery

There were 12 robberies in March 2024, which is an increase of four incidents from the previous month and an increase of eight incidents from March 2023. No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of robberies this month is above the average range.

Six of the robberies reported this month involved the use of a noxious spray, and four incidents occurred during the commission of a shoplifting offence.

Sexual Offences

In March 2024, there were 14 sexual offence files, representing a 39 per cent decrease from the previous month and a 17 per cent increase from March 2023.² No patterns or trends have been identified. The number of sexual offences this month is within the average range.

7630280

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

Approximately 43 per cent of the offences reported in March 2024 were indecent acts/exposing and 36 per cent were sexual assaults.

Shoplifting

There were 181 reported shoplifting thefts in March 2024, which is a 21 per cent increase from the previous month and a 62 per cent increase from March 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.

Theft from Automobile

There were 74 thefts from automobiles in March 2024, which is a six per cent increase from the previous month and a 49 per cent decrease from March 2023. The number of thefts from automobiles this month is below the average range.

Hate Crimes and Incidents

Table 1 presents the number of hate crimes and hate incidents reported between January 1, 2020 and March 31, 2024.³ A "hate crime" refers to any criminal offence targeting an identifiable group. The criteria for an offence to be considered a hate crime, as per the *Criminal Code*, carries a higher threshold and usually involves one or more criminal offences. A "hate incident" may be motivated by the same factors as a hate crime but does not reach the threshold of being a criminal offence. No hate crimes or incidents were reported in March 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 (TYD)	0	1	1				

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

Crime Trends Across Jurisdictions

Figure 1 presents data on crime rates for the four largest municipalities policed by the RCMP in the Lower Mainland District (LMD) for March 2024. The property and violent crime rates in Richmond were below the LMD average. Richmond has been experiencing an increase in some property crime types, including shoplifting, which has contributed to a higher property crime rate. Crime reduction efforts are being conducted and additional targeted enforcement projects are being deployed.

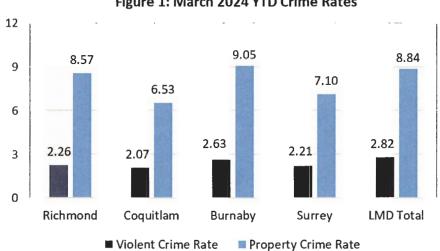


Figure 1: March 2024 YTD Crime Rates

Block Watch

At the end of March 2024, the Block Watch program had 306 groups, totalling 7,088 participants. Currently, the program includes 435 captains and co-captains. This month, Block Watch staff trained new community policing volunteers and provided an overview of programs.

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 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 March, volunteer highlights included:

The deployment of three volunteer foot/van patrols, totalling six hours and one bike patrol, totalling six hours.

⁴ Based on PRIME query by Richmond Crime Analysis Unit on April 2, 2024

- A total of 22 Fail to Stop deployments took place, resulting in 604 information letters issued.
- There were 43 Lock Out Auto Crime deployments, resulting in 483 information letters issued.
- Speed Watch was conducted on 3,049 vehicles, resulting in 162 information letters issued.
- March 1 Volunteers participated in a large-scale Distracted Driving event to launch the
 Distracted Driving Month campaign. A total of 42 information letters were mailed to
 registered vehicle owners. Police also conducted enforcement and issued 107 traffic
 tickets.
- March 7 In partnership with ICBC and Metro Vancouver Transit Police, Richmond RCMP officers and volunteers participated in Think of Me deployments at William Bridge and James McKinney Elementary Schools.
- March 7—Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a Coffee with a Cop event at the Starbucks on Ackroyd Road. Crime prevention resources, including Community Safety App cards, were also distributed.
- March 13 Volunteers participated in a Distracted Driving Blitz in central Richmond and checked over 2,000 vehicles. A total of 29 information letters were sent to registered vehicle owners, and police issued seven violation tickets.
- March 11 Volunteers assisted RCMP officers with a car seat safety clinic at Brighouse Fire Hall 1. A total of 14 car seat checks were completed.
- March 26 Volunteers participated in a Distracted Driving Blitz in central Richmond and checked over 1,500 vehicles. A total of 49 information letters were sent to registered vehicle owners.

Lock Out Auto Crime

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

4,000 2,000 Jan Feb Apr May Jun Sep Oct Dec Total Aug ■ 2020 9,383 4,116 4,050 1,134 2,897 5,006 6,392 ■ 2024 1,458

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.

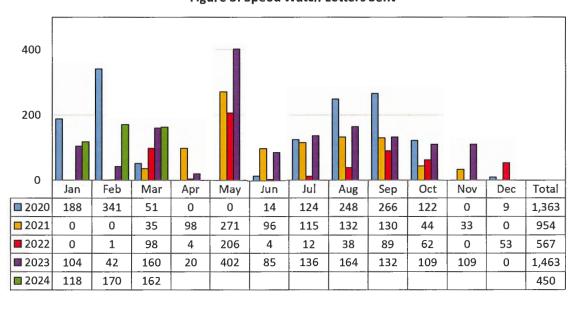


Figure 3: Speed Watch Letters Sent

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

Crime Prevention Unit

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

- Business Outreach
- Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives
- Car Seat Safety Clinic

- Coffee with a Cop
- Distracted Driving
- "You Etch It. We Catch It" Program

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 March 2024 to both February 2024 and January 2024. Violation tickets were issued for the following infractions:

Table 2: Violation Tickets Issued

Infraction	January 2024	February 2024	March 2024	
Distracted Driving	86	64	168	
Driver License	168	181	161	
Impaired	15	20	23	
Intersection Offences	39	39	41	
Moving Infractions ⁶	89	67	73	
Speeding	135	167	207	
Seatbelts	12	2	13	
Vehicle-Related ⁷	119	136	124	
Other ⁸	12	15	15	
Total	675	691	825	

Victim Services

In March 2024, Richmond RCMP Victim Services met with 67 new clients and attended six crime/trauma scenes after hours. The unit currently maintains an active caseload of 93 files. In March, Victim Services responded to several cases involving medical-related sudden deaths, drug overdoses and frauds.

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

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

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

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 March, Youth Section highlights included:

- RCMP officers in the Youth Section conducted 45 proactive school visits at secondary schools and 59 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 March 2024, the Richmond RCMP conducted several noteworthy investigations, including a series of purse snatchings and frauds. Police statistics for this month indicate that some crime types were outside of the average ranges. Sexual assaults, robberies and shoplifting incidents were elevated, while commercial break and enters, residential break and enters, thefts from vehicles and drug offences were below average.

In March, the Community Engagement Team and volunteers continued to promote crime prevention and road safety initiatives, including distracted driving awareness. 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

E. Wazel

(604-207-4767)

Att. 1: Community Policing Programs

2: Crime Statistics

3: Crime Maps

Block Watch

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

Distracted Driving Program

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

Fail to Stop

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

Lock Out Auto Crime

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

Project 529

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

Speed Watch

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

Spot the Target

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

Stolen Auto Recovery

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

Volunteer Bike and Foot Patrol Program

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

MARCH 2024 STATISTICS

RICHMOND RCMP

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

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

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

	Month	5-Yr Avg		Year to Date Totals			
	Mar - 24	March		2023	2024	% Change	# Change
VIOLENT CRIME (UCR 1000-Series Offences)	179	147.4	136-159	440	485	10%	45
Robbery	12	5.4	4-7	8	22	175%	14
Assault Common	57	47.6	43-52	136	158	16%	22
Assault Serious	18	15.6	12-19	61	49	-20%	-12
Sexual Offences	14	17.4	13-22	52	61	17%	9
PROPERTY CRIME (UCR 2000-Series Offences)	659	621.0	588-654	1954	1820	-7%	-134
Business B&E	27	35.4	29-42	92	51	-45%	-41
Residential B&E	23	32.4	28-37	66	79	20%	13
Auto Theft	24	26.4	19-34	71	64	-10%	-7
Theft from Auto	74	159.6	141-179	452	216	-52%	-236
Theft	101	79.6	59-100	308	304	-1%	-4
Shoplifting	181	77.2	57-98	291	4 46	53%	155
Fraud	97	73.2	65-81	240	282	18%	42
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE (UCR 3000-Series Offences)	298	217.8	177-259	796	873	10%	77
Arson	2	n/c	n/c	n/c	15	n/c	n/c
SUBTOTAL CC OFFENCES (UCR 1000 to 3000 Series)	1145	982.4	921-1043	3190	3197	0%	7
DRUGS (UCR 4000-Series Offences)	15	53.0	35-71	108	48	-56%	-60
MHA RELATED CALLS (MHA files or Mental Health flag)	272	252.0	223-281	752	722	-4%	-30

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