

CRIME PREVENTION

WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME**NEWSLETTER**

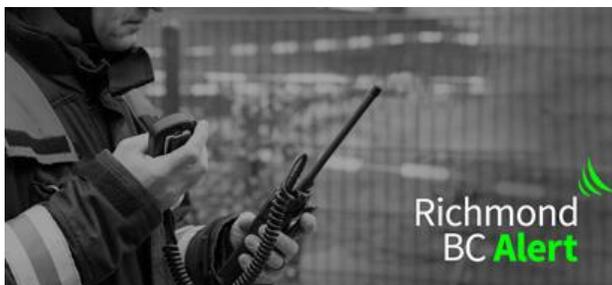
Summer Burglary Prevention Tips

Burglars love summer time but not for the same reasons you do. People are away on vacation or doors and windows being left opened or unlocked while they are busy in the garden or spending the day outdoors. It is easy to let down your guard with home security while you are out enjoying the sun and some summer fun and that is what burglars are looking forward to. Remember, break-ins can occur at any time, to anyone, in any neighbourhood. Before you head out the door, make sure your home is protected.

- **Lock it** - Even when you are out in the backyard weeding, get in the habit of keeping your doors and garage closed and locked. Place a security bar on all sliding doors and windows to prevent them from being opened.
- **Get a home safe** - Store your valuables and important documents in a home safe and make sure it is bolted to the floor.
- **Install a home alarm system** - Make sure to turn it on when you leave. When you go on vacations, make sure to have someone you trust and lives locally, to monitor the system as well if it is a self-monitored system.
- **Don't flaunt your stuff** - Not everyone needs to know you are away from home. Don't advertise it. Put mail on hold with Canada Post and ask a neighbour to collect newspaper and flyers for you.
- **Tell your trusted neighbours** - Ask them to keep an eye on the house while you are away and to report any unusual activity to the police.



Attention: If you subscribed to the Richmond BC Alert system prior to May 13 2021, you must re-subscribe to continue receiving emergency notifications.



1. Register for a MyRichmond account at myrichmond.richmond.ca
2. From within the MyRichmond web portal, navigate to "Other E-Services" to be redirected to the Richmond BC Alert page. This is where you would set up Richmond BC Alert profile by specifying your contact details and the type of notifications you would like to receive.

If you have any questions about Richmond BC Alert, email emergencyprograms@richmond.ca

Recognize the Signs of Gang-Involvement Protect Our Youth, Our Future

One of the ways criminal gangs make money is from selling illegal drugs. To ensure the continuance of supply and demand, they target teenage youths to sell and deliver the drugs for them to the consumers. That way, the older gangsters won't get caught and any criminal conviction for the arrested youth may result in a more lenient sentence due to no previous history of criminal involvement. The first step into criminal gangs usually begins with the Dial-a-Dope stage, which youth may falsely perceived as low risk and see the reward of making quick money. That is why it is very important to educate youths that accepting and delivering a drug package is the beginning of a dangerous path that leads to gang involvement. Parents should always know where their kids are, what they are doing, and who they are with. Whatever our roles may be - parents, relatives, caregivers, friends, teachers, neighbours - we can all play a part in guiding youths onto a positive path. Have open communication with youths so that they feel comfortable to share their concerns and worries with you. An early intervention and prevention can help youths stay on track and avoid getting into a dangerous life of crime, violence, and gangs.

Signs of a Youth Dial-a-Doper

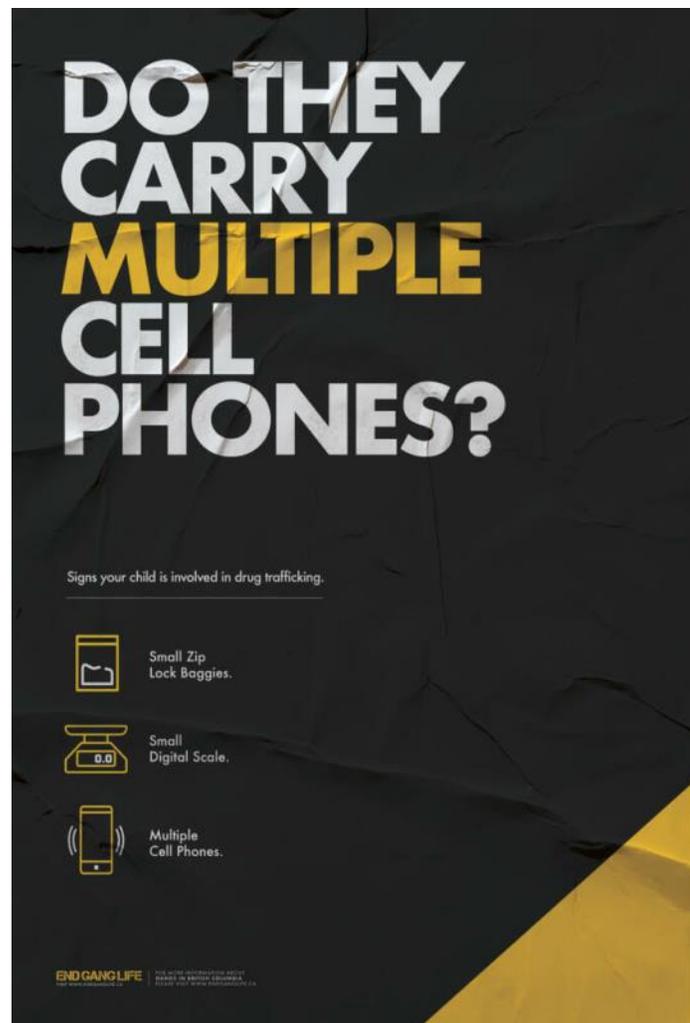
- Has a number of different cell phones.
- Often leaves the house for short durations and at all hours of the day and night.
- Often carries a lot of cash even though they live in debt and fear.
- Keeps drugs they are selling at home.
- Keeps their room locked or demands privacy.
- Often becomes upset or mad if others want to know what is in their rooms or why they want their privacy.
- Always under great pressure and displays signs of stress or moodiness.

Are you or someone you know in danger? Being threatened? Want to make a difference?

Stand up. Be Heard. Get Help.

Call the Youth Against Violence Line (YAVL) at 1-800-680-4264 and talk one-on-one to a YAV Line support worker 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, or e-mail them at info@youthagainstviolenceline.com

Concerned parents, teachers, caregivers, service providers and others are also welcome to call for information and assistance.



Beware of Distraction Theft

Distraction theft is when someone steals something from another person after tricking them into giving their attention to something else. A commonly seen scenario is where thieves approach people who are wearing expensive jewelry then either try to sell or offer them jewelry. The thieves will place fake jewelry on victims while removing authentic jewelry from them, using the element of surprise or distraction to prey on people. The victims do not realize until later that their jewelry has been exchanged for fake jewelry. Although seniors are often the ones being targeted, it can happen to anyone.



- Be very cautious if strangers approach and attempt to distract you.
- If you are wearing expensive jewelry, ensure that it is properly affixed and not easily removed.
- If possible, conceal your jewelry under clothing.
- Be wary of strangers who do not respect your personal space. **Do not let them touch you.**
- Walk with a friend whenever possible.
- Be aware of who is around you and report any suspicious incident to the Police immediately.
- Only purchase jewelry from reputable stores.

Hostile and Confrontational Situation

- Keep safe - priority is to protect yourself! If you don't feel comfortable with a situation, remove yourself from it.
- Keep your distance - make sure to keep a healthy distance from the person and avoid engagement unless absolutely have to.
- Avoid Escalation - hostile and confrontational individuals often project aggression to get a response and exploit your weakness. The less provoked you are, the more you are able to use your better judgment to handle the situation.
- Use assertive and effective communication - keep a calm and steady voice. Remain respectful.
- De-personalize the situation - be mindful of what the other person might be going through can help turn the situation from a reactive one to a proactive one.
- Seek help and support - ask people around you for help and/or call the Police.



BUSINESS LINK

WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME

NEWSLETTER

Is your business a target for crime, do you know how to decipher if your business is a target? To safeguard your business from thieves you must think like one. Think like a thief - What could potentially be targeted in your business? Is your business vulnerable to break and enters? Do a walk around your business and check the lighting, gates, doors, windows and fences to look for signs of easy access into your business.

- Are the most expensive merchandise locked up? Do not place expensive items near a door or window.
- Are cameras and mirrors installed to minimize blind spots around the store?
- Put security tags on merchandise that can easily be concealed under clothing?
- Glass windows provide great natural surveillance but is also vulnerable for breakage. Bollards or planters can be installed at the front of your windows to prevent vehicles from driving through.
- Is the storage area for overstocked items secure and closed off to the public?
- Check to see if the exterior fence can be lifted or cut.
- Check the gate to see if it can be protected against cutting and drilling.
- Check all the lighting around your business to see if it is well-lit, especially around the entrances and door ways.



It is also important to have a thorough understanding of the area your business is located in and the types of problems that may exist in the area. Have the businesses around you been targeted? What are your neighbors attitudes toward crime prevention and security? Visit <http://csgeo.city.richmond.bc.ca> for a general overview of reported incidents that fall within a few different property related crime categories.

Richmond Business Link focuses on educating businesses in crime prevention strategies to help reduce crime. The goal is to provide business owners with tools and resources that will help protect their assets and reduce business-related crime. Richmond businesses may also request a free security assessment; please call 604-207-4829 for more information.



Please help by reporting any suspicious behaviour: RCMP Non-Emergency line **604-278-1212**. If you witness a crime in progress, dial **9-1-1**.

Break & Enter Email Alerts

Registered businesses will receive email alerts should a commercial break and enter occur in the area. Email RCMP_Business_Link@richmond.ca to register today!

