

CRIME PREVENTION

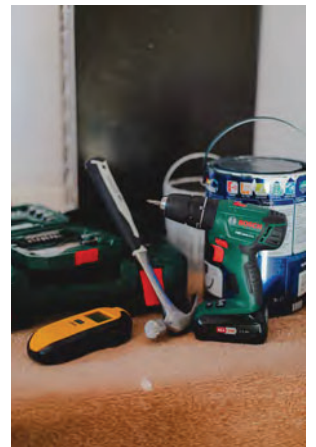
WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME**NEWSLETTER**

Decorating for Home Security

The holidays are fast approaching! You may be putting up decorations in preparation for the day. So while you are decorating why not make some crime prevention improvements to your home as well? You can make improvements to the interior and exterior of your home. These improvements can make a huge difference in crime prevention and safety.

Interior

The interior of your home is important to make improvements for home security. If you are away from home, consider adding timers to your lights. The timers will turn on your lights at a certain time. So from the outside, it will look like someone is home turning on the lights. If possible, set your timer to turn on the lights at times when you would be home. Another addition you can make, if you do not have one already, is to add a peephole to your front door. A peephole is important to have because you can see whoever is on the other side of the door without having to open your door. This is especially important during Halloween because kids will be ringing the doorbell. Some peepholes or doorbells are electronic and can be connected to your phone. You can see who is at the door from anywhere as long as you have an internet connection. Lastly, take any tools that you may have left outside and move them inside your garage or home. If tools or materials are left outdoors, thieves can steal it, or use it to break into your home.



Exterior

An exterior change you can do is to trim the trees or hedges in front of the house so thieves won't be able to hide or use it as cover to break into the house. They can also use the cover to hide from the police. In addition to trimming the trees and hedges, consider installing brighter lights and/or motion sensor lights. By brightening your home, you and your neighbours are able to see the house and surrounding areas better. Thieves will not be able to stay hidden if your house is lit up. Motion sensor lights can be another option. The lights will come on when it senses movement nearby so you will know when to check outside. When putting up decorations, do not run wires through your home to outdoor decorations. A thief will be able to gain access via the open window if you were to run wires from the interior to the exterior. It is also important to remember to not leave any valuables in your car. Electronics, keys, garage remotes, or bags are valuables you should remove from your car because some of these valuables may provide thieves with an access into your home.



HATE HAS NO PLACE

In 2020 and again last year, Richmond City Council declared, “Racial and discriminatory actions have no place in Richmond, and they have no place in our society.” At the same time, Richmond RCMP declared that “Hate has no place in our community,” and pledged that all reported incidents involving hate motivated undertones would receive full attention and oversight.

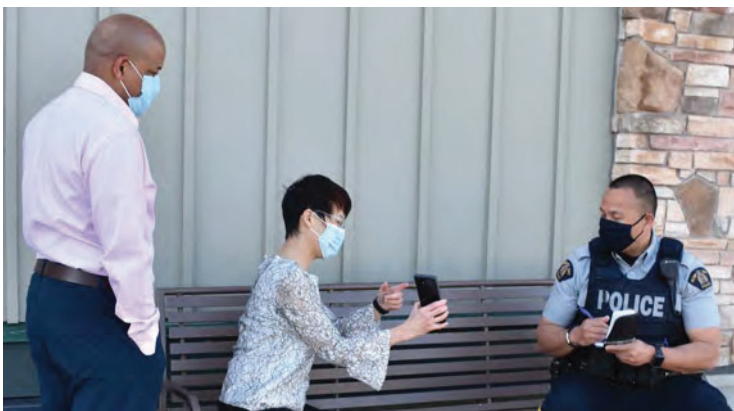
Richmond RCMP and the City of Richmond are calling upon members of the community to get more involved. They are calling on victims and witnesses to **report racially motivated incidents directly to police as they occur.**

Officer-in-Charge of the Richmond RCMP, Chief Superintendent Dave Chauhan says “All too often we are learning of hate-motivated incidents through second-hand reports in the news and on social media. But in order for our investigators to give these allegations the fulsome attention they deserve, we need to speak directly to victims and witnesses. We need people to come forward to police in the first instance,” says Chief Superintendent Chauhan.

City of Richmond Mayor Malcolm Brodie echoes this call-to-action saying, “Racial and discriminatory action have no place in Richmond nor in our society, and they will not be tolerated. Unfortunately, such attitudes exist and are in direct contradiction to the spirit of inclusion we uphold. I urge residents to stand together to address and condemn all forms of discrimination and racism. If you experience or witness a hate incident, do not hesitate to contact the RCMP.”

Richmond RCMP recognizes that in some instances ‘hate incidents’ do not involve a criminal offense or meet the definition of a ‘hate crime’ under the Criminal Code. A racist, homophobic or other abhorrent comment, or a rant to a stranger, are examples of this. Although this may not meet the threshold of a criminal offense, this type of behaviour has a negative effect on our community, and it needs to stop! To this end, Richmond RCMP will continue to conduct fulsome investigations on these matters, seeking to understand the root cause of this behaviour and engaging appropriate community partners, if required.

Posters are in City of Richmond facilities, such as libraries, community centres, and other highly visible locations. These posters will remind people that “Hate Has No Place” in Richmond, and will encourage victims and witnesses to report hate incidents to police directly. Anyone interested in getting a poster for their business or community group can email Richmond_diversity@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.



“By learning of these incidents as they occur, and by speaking directly to the victims and witnesses, our investigators will be able to act more quickly in efforts to stop this harmful behaviour in our community,” says Chief Superintendent Chauhan.

“Hate has no place in Richmond.”

Block Watch Parties - Thanks for the Invite!



After a two - year hiatus, neighbours were eager to reconnect and meet new neighbours. We're happy to see and be a part of the grand return of Block Watch parties in the community. This summer we got to enjoy some time with the local residents. We were able to celebrate with these groups at their Block Watch parties. It was rewarding to see neighbours bond with one another and kids having fun with their friends and our officers. Different Block Watch groups organized different events to bring the neighbourhood together. Some groups asked for our team and volunteers to come and help register their bikes for Project 529. While other groups invited us to have fun at their barbeque or potluck. It was amazing to see these communities come together. We wanted to share and celebrate the coming together of neighbours through our newsletter. Thank you for sharing this experience with the Block Watch team, RCMP volunteers, and the Community Engagement Team from the RCMP!



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 neighborhood and the police while striving for the common goal of crime prevention.

Select a Captain/Co-Captain

- ◇ Each Captain/Co-Captain must submit an application and complete a Police Information Check

Recruit and build your group

- ◇ Recruit homes that are near to you. To build an effective Block Watch, try to involve 50-75% of households in your area. We will provide you with recruitment packages.

Complete activation of your team

1. **Complete** Block Watch Captain/Participant training - Register as many of your group as you can for a virtual 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 or call 604-207-4829.

BUSINESS LINK

WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT CRIME

NEWSLETTER

Windows

A break and enter to your business can be costly. A common area that thieves will try to get into your business are the windows. Thus, it is important for businesses to secure the windows and make it tougher for thieves to break in. There are different ways a thief can enter the business through the window. Some examples are thieves using their body or tool to pry open a window, an object thrown to break the glass, or an unlocked or opened window. Luckily, there are some ways to secure the windows.

Security Film

Security film provides an invisible shield for the windows. If shattered, the glass will be held together by the film. The thief will need a few more strikes to enter the business. By increasing the time needed to break in, the crime is no longer quick and easy.

Thicker Glass

Having thicker glass can protect your business because the thickness provides greater resistance. There are also many options of security glass that can provide your business with the high level of protection, making it harder to enter the business.



Glass Break Alarm

A glass break detector alerts you when it picks up the sound of breaking glass. When your security system is armed and it senses the glass break, it will set off an alarm and notify you of a break-in.

Security Cameras

Security cameras can be an additional deterrence to crime and tool to aid in investigations because it may capture evidence of break and enters. If the video footage is clear and visible, it can provide valuable information to the police for investigation such as a possible image of the suspect, time of the crime, and how it happened.



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**.

Email Break & Enter Alerts

To receive email alerts of neighbourhood commercial break and enters, register your business name and street address at: RCMP_Business_Link@richmond.ca

