



SAFE HOMES, SAFE COMMUNITIES

A Surrey RCMP Crime Prevention Newsletter

Summer 2015

Volunteers Help Recover Stolen Autos



Surrey RCMP volunteers in District 1 Whalley/City Centre, Donna and Raj, are out on their weekly hunt. They are searching for what may seem like a needle in a haystack – stolen vehicles that have been dumped by auto thieves on side streets or parking lots.

Donna and Raj are part of a core group of dedicated citizens who volunteer their time with the District 1 Stolen Auto Recovery Program. Together, the volunteers have helped recover 13 stolen vehicles in the area so far this year. They work with local police officers and district staff to determine the areas to focus their searches, known as auto crime “hot spots”.

Using a laptop or iPhone app, the volunteers enter licence plate numbers of vehicles into a computer program which cross references the plates with a list of stolen vehicle plates. If there is a match, the word “stolen” flashes in red on the screen and a sound alert beeps. It’s the sound the volunteers wait for each shift.

“You should see us when we get a match – it’s very exciting,” says Donna, a former paramedic who has volunteered with the District 1 Office for over five years. “Every success motivates us as a team and inspires us to keep searching for more.”

When they do find a stolen vehicle, they call it in for police attendance. The volunteers

are cognizant that a suspect may still be in the area, and are trained to keep a safe distance from the vehicle.

“People ask me why I continue to volunteer, 7 years in, while having a full-time job,” says Raj, an aspiring police officer. “This is the reason – feeling like we are making a difference. And the team we work with is great.”

District Commander Sgt. JD Martin applauds the work that the volunteers do in collaboration with officers and staff. He also credits District Office Coordinator Sandy Campbell with creating a positive volunteering atmosphere.

Other crime prevention programs that District volunteers participate in include: Speed Watch, Lock Out Auto Crime (auditing cars in parking lots to see how secure they are), front counter services, Family Identification Program and special events.

To learn more about these crime prevention programs or volunteering with one of our District Offices visit www.surreyrcmp.ca

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Contact Us

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Message from the Officer in Charge



Welcome to summer! While this season is a time for many to wind down, your Surrey RCMP continues to be busy with enforcement and crime prevention activities. Our parks patrols have already started and our bike patrols are increasing to ensure you can enjoy our city's many great outdoor spaces. We are also pleased to participate in many of Surrey's summer festivals – including Canada Day, Surrey Pride Festival and Miri Piri – to ensure public safety and engage with the community.

The shooting series that began in March continues to be our top priority. Since April 1st, the joint enforcement efforts of the Surrey RCMP, CFSEU-BC and Delta Police have resulted in over 300 arrests and the

seizure of over 50 weapons. We continue to use overt and covert enforcement initiatives and community engagement to gather intelligence and evidence on those we believe are involved in these targeted shootings.

I am pleased to say that the deployment plan for new police officers requested by Surrey and approved by the Government of Canada is well underway, with new officers arriving regularly. New positions have been added to increase our establishment.

Given the rapid growth of our city and detachment, we revisited our strategic framework at the beginning of the year to ensure that our strategic plan is in alignment

with our service delivery model and the needs of residents and business owners. The Surrey RCMP's new strategic priorities are: Community Safety, Community Engagement and Mobilization, and Organizational Development.

Thank you for your continued commitment to crime prevention. I wish you and your family a relaxing and safe summer.

**Chief Superintendent
Bill Fordy**
Officer in Charge, Surrey
Detachment

No Parks After Dark



As warmer weather arrives, the Surrey RCMP has resumed its summer patrols of Surrey parks and enforcement of park bylaws throughout the city.

During the summer months, the Surrey RCMP typically sees a rise in calls for service involving noise complaints, mischief, public consumption of alcohol, and other illegal activities in parks.

In order to promote a safe summer for residents and visitors in local parks, the Surrey RCMP and City of Surrey Bylaws take an active part in enforcement and prevention activities between May and October.

Park users are reminded that City of Surrey parks are closed between dusk and dawn. Violation of this bylaw could result in a \$200 fine. Violation tickets could also be issued for

being in possession of open liquor or consuming liquor in a public place, which carries a fine of up to \$230.

The Surrey RCMP also works together with other law enforcement agencies during the summer to patrol other popular spots to prevent hazardous and illegal activities such as trespassing on railways, illegal beach fires, and underage consumption of liquor.

The Surrey RCMP relies on reporting from the public and crime analysis to help identify areas of concern.

To report any illegal activities in our city's parks or other areas please contact the Surrey RCMP's non-emergency number at 604-599-0502 or make a report online. In case of an emergency please call 9-1-1.

Surrey RCMP Celebrates World Refugee Day



June 20th is World Refugee Day, a time to honour the courage and strength of all those who have had to flee their homes due to threats of persecution, conflict and/or violence. Did you know that Surrey continues to be one of the top cities for Government Assisted Refugees?

Fatimah (Somali name Fadumo) Ibrahim is an example of someone who has gone through the experience. She is initially from Somalia but lived in a Kenyan refugee camp for 20 years, where she got

married and gave birth to 3 of her 4 children. She describes her experience as tough, referring to the lack of freedom and security issues that had her fearful, especially at night. She considers herself lucky but still thinks about family members who were left behind.

“Things have gotten worse there. There is barely enough food and security is bad,” she states.

Fatimah and her family like living in a new country and especially enjoy the overall

freedom. At first it was challenging to get used to the new language and getting around, but now Fatimah and her family feel comfortable. She credits her success to agencies that provide settlement and integration services to newcomers and refugees.

Surrey RCMP recognizes the needs of our local refugee community and celebrates their determination. We took part in a city World Refugee Day event on June 17th and, along with 29 other

community organizations, we are participating in the Surrey Local Immigration Partnership (LIP). Part of the project includes research of our refugee community to determine their needs and challenges and identify solutions to enhance their integration into our city and country.

To learn more about Surrey's demographics or the LIP project, please visit www.surreylip.ca.

Neighbourhood Toolkit

The City of Surrey now has a Neighbourhood Toolkit to help Surrey residents improve their neighbourhoods. The Toolkit is a collection of grants, services, inspiration, and others supports that you can use to make a positive impact in your community.

The Neighbourhood Toolkit is a project of the City of Surrey's Neighbourhood Team. You can contact them at neighbourhoodteam@surrey.ca to help your projects take shape!

The City of Surrey also offers a range of grants and financial assistance. You can apply for a

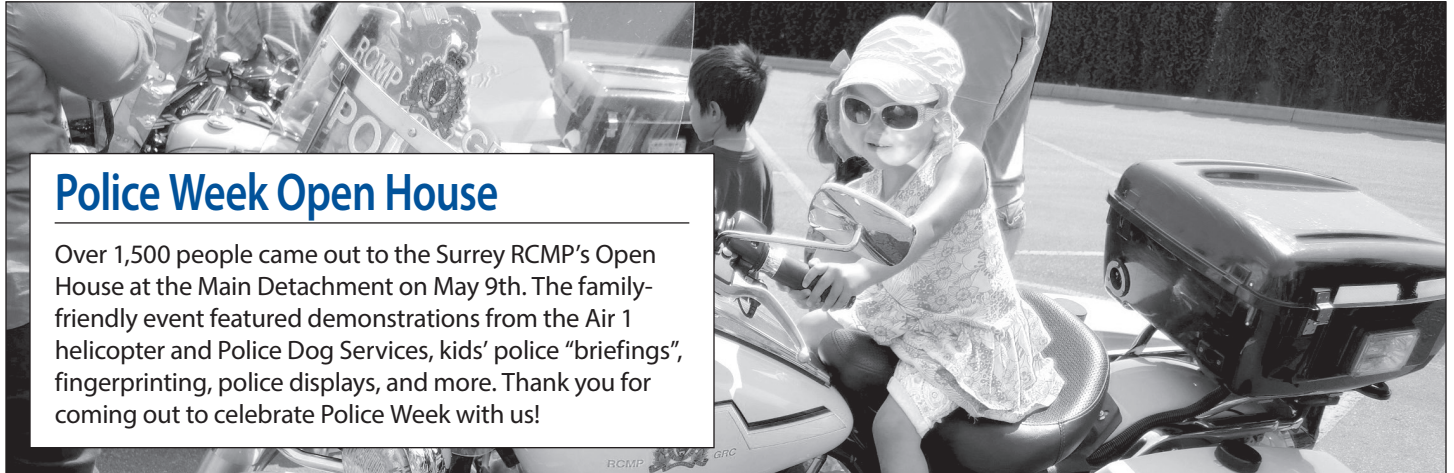
Neighbourhood Enhancement Grant to work on a small project with your friends, neighbours and family to create fun, beautiful places in your neighbourhood.

You can also book Neighbourhood Event Equipment for your next community event. You can

borrow a tent, tables, chairs and even a portable sound system for your block party, neighbourhood clean up, or other local event.

Learn more at www.surrey.ca/engagement

News & Events



Police Week Open House

Over 1,500 people came out to the Surrey RCMP's Open House at the Main Detachment on May 9th. The family-friendly event featured demonstrations from the Air 1 helicopter and Police Dog Services, kids' police "briefings", fingerprinting, police displays, and more. Thank you for coming out to celebrate Police Week with us!

Neighbourhood Safety Campaign

In January, we launched the Neighbourhood Safety Campaign to provide residents with information to mobilize their community and enhance safety. Neighbourhood Safety Presentations are being held around the city to provide residents with information on crime trends, current policing initiatives, property crime, and how they can play a role in crime prevention. Over 600 residents attended the 10 Neighbourhood Safety Presentations that have been held so far this year. Dates and locations for the fall presentations will be announced in September at surreyrcmp.ca.

New Senior Officers

The Surrey RCMP is pleased to welcome three new senior officers to the detachment. Superintendent Carol Bradley is coming to us from BC RCMP headquarters as our new Operations Support Officer; Surrey's own Inspector Mandip "Manny" Mann was promoted to the rank of Superintendent in the position of Investigative Services Officer; and Surrey's Staff Sergeant Celso DeLemos was promoted to Inspector as a Senior Investigator.

Expansion of Police Mental Health Intervention Unit

The Surrey RCMP recently expanded its Police Mental Health Intervention Unit. Our new Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team Constable works with Fraser Health's ACT Teams to assist individuals with mental health issues. The Unit also includes a Police Mental Health Liaison Officer who works with community partners to provide longer term solutions for people with mental health issues who are using significant police resources, and the Car 67 Program, which provides a specially trained RCMP member and Fraser Health nurse to respond to calls for service involving emotional and mental health issues.

2015 Officer in Charge Awards

On May 6th, Chief Superintendent Bill Fordy held the annual Officer in Charge Awards ceremony to honour the heroic actions and outstanding service provided by Surrey officers, support staff and civilians. Over fifty awards were presented, showing the quality and character of those who work and live in our city. For a list of award recipients, visit the Awards page at surreyrcmp.ca.

20th Anniversary of Youth Intervention Program

For the past 20 years, the Surrey RCMP's Youth Intervention Program (YIP) has been diverting young people away from a life of crime. Referrals are made by police officers who encounter youth during their calls for service and the goal of the program is to provide early intervention services to reduce criminal

behavior among young people. YIP counsellors work with approximately 300 at-risk youth per year to provide counselling, family support and referrals to youth who have been involved in conflict or crime. Almost 97% of youth who complete the program are not charged with any criminal acts within the first 12 months of completion.

Auxiliary Constable Graduation



Congratulations to the Surrey RCMP's seven new Auxiliary Constables who graduated on June 20th. These volunteers will join our other 80 Auxiliary Constables in assisting with community policing activities in support of public safety and crime prevention. Congratulations and welcome to Surrey Detachment! If you are interested in volunteering as an Auxiliary Constable, please email us at: surrey_auxiliary_application@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.