

# Police Services



## Mount Pleasant

City of Vancouver  
**Community**  
planning program

### City Role

Police services in Vancouver are almost entirely funded by the City through property taxes. In 2007, roughly 21% (\$170 million), of the City's budget was apportioned to police services. The Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) and senior levels of government also contribute financial support to the City.

### The Changing Nature of Policing

To be effective in the new millennium, police departments are focussing on proactive, community-based problem-solving strategies in cooperation with the communities they serve and other government agencies.

In the City of Vancouver, the Police Department's mission is: "In fulfillment of its public trust, the Vancouver Police Department maintains public order, upholds the rule of law and prevents crime".

By meeting people under ordinary circumstances, increasing police visibility in the community, and encouraging public partnership, the department believes it is better equipped to respond to the needs of Vancouver's residents and businesses.

### Community-based Initiatives

Since the 1970s the Police Department has built upon several successful community-based policing programs in Vancouver.

### Community Policing Centres (CPC)

A CPC is a voluntary, non-profit organization dedicated to helping reduce crime through crime prevention education, public awareness and community involvement. There are nine CPC offices across Vancouver. Mount Pleasant is served by two CPCs: the Collingwood CPC is located at 5160 Joyce Street; and the South Vancouver CPC is located at 5657 Victoria Street. The Collingwood CPC also has a satellite kiosk inside Kingsgate Mall. For information call the CCPC at 604-717-2935; or the SVCPC at 604-717-2940.

**Block Watch** is a neighbourhood crime awareness program that consists of passive surveillance, the reporting of suspicious or criminal activity, home security checks and marking private property for easy identification. Block Watch is initiated by neighbourhood residents who approach the Police Department with a request to establish the program in their area. As of 2007, there are 570 active City Block Watches throughout the city.

### Block Parents

Homes identified with an official Block Parent sign provide a safe haven for children in emergencies. The program involves members of the community, police, school board and senior levels of government.

**School Liaison Officers** Each of Vancouver's 18 secondary schools, and many of the

elementary schools, have a VPD officer who is assigned as a School Liaison officer. These officers work with staff, students and parents on safety and crime prevention issues. The following secondary schools serve Mount Pleasant: Sir Charles Tupper, Gladstone and Vancouver Technical.

### Citizens Crime Watch

Just over 80 adult volunteers provide the police with extra eyes and ears on Vancouver streets during weekends. Suspicious activity information is passed along from volunteers to the Citizen Crime Watch co-ordinator who will then initiate appropriate police action. For information contact Constable Kevin Bernardin (#1878) at 604-717-2909.

### False Alarm Reduction Program

The goal of the program is to reduce the number of false alarm incidents through the cooperation with the alarm industry and the public while ensuring that expensive police resources are effectively deployed. Advice and hints on alarm systems and operations check with your local police, or online.

### Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

The concept is to design the built environment in a careful manner to reduce fear and opportunities for criminal activity. City staff and police officers review plans of public and private places to incorporate CPTED principles into the design of projects.

### **Victim Services**

Trained volunteers are available 24 hours a day to assist traumatized victims of crime, call 604-717-2737

Other crime prevention and awareness programs that the police offer include:

- International Student Safety
- Personal Safety
- Home Security
- Helpful Hints for Senior
- Crime Prevention Home
- Auto Crime Prevention
- Safety for Children/Teen
- Small Business Security
- Graffiti
- If you leave it, thieves won't

To find out more about how you can participate in these programs call 604-717-3535

### **ICBC**

ICBC provides funding for community-based initiatives through the CPC offices and the police: Auto Crime Prevention, Stopping Auto Crime in Underground Parking Areas, Combat Auto Theft (CAT), Stolen Auto Recovery (SAR), Speed Watch, Safety and Audits and neighbourhood-based Pooch, Foot, and Bike Patrols.

### **Deployment Initiatives**

A large part of community policing involves the manner in which the Police Department does business. People who live in Vancouver communities often do not see the police who patrol their neighbourhoods. Recognizing this, the department has taken initiatives to deploy personnel in a manner which increases their visibility in the communities where they work. Alternative types of deployment include:

- neighbourhood foot patrols;
- bicycle deployment;

- the property crime squad;
- the mounted squad; and,
- directed patrol.

### **Fear of Crime**

Although crime statistics indicate that violent crime is not actually on the rise in most parts of Vancouver, the fear of crime is. Recent surveys on public attitudes continue to reveal that fear of crime, particularly amongst women, the elderly, and Asian population, can be as debilitating as victimization. Reducing the fear of crime is the focus of many of the community-based programs outlined above.

### **Types of Crime**

The three major categories of crime in the Canadian Criminal Code are:

- property crimes;
- crimes against persons; and,
- other crimes.

Property crimes, typically the largest of the three categories, include break and enter, motor vehicle theft, theft over and under \$1000, fraud, and possession of stolen property.

Crimes against persons, sometimes referred to as "violent crimes", include homicide, attempted murder, sexual assault, robbery, and abduction.

Other crimes, include prostitution and drug crimes.

VPD has changed its way of reporting crime. It uses the "all violations method". This is different from Statistics Canada methods which only count each incident reported as one offence. Under the "all violations method", the VPD would count an incident such as Break and Enter as two offences when an assault also occurred.

Statistical reports are prepared on a monthly basis for all local areas of Vancouver.

### **Sources**

Vancouver Police Department  
ICBC  
South Vancouver CPC  
Collingwood CPC

## Crime Statistics by Local Area - 2007

|                           | Assaults    | Robbery     | B&E <sup>2</sup> | Theft MV    | Theft <sup>3</sup> | Arson      | Mischief <sup>3</sup> | Prostitution | Offensive Weapons | Traffic Accidents Fatal | Traffic Accidents Non Fatal |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|--------------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>5404</b> | <b>1528</b> | <b>7638</b>      | <b>3924</b> | <b>23421</b>       | <b>240</b> | <b>5010</b>           | <b>198</b>   | <b>1415</b>       | <b>23</b>               | <b>1193</b>                 |
| Arbuts Ridge              | 34          | 8           | 137              | 45          | 171                | 5          | 74                    | 0            | 3                 | 0                       | 17                          |
| Central Business District | 1840        | 497         | 1150             | 630         | 7947               | 34         | 1133                  | 7            | 504               | 3                       | 195                         |
| Dunbar Southlands         | 30          | 9           | 159              | 42          | 212                | 3          | 76                    | 0            | 5                 | 1                       | 15                          |
| Fairview                  | 149         | 42          | 619              | 293         | 1796               | 6          | 242                   | 0            | 18                | 3                       | 70                          |
| Grandview Woodlands       | 491         | 119         | 579              | 305         | 1130               | 19         | 389                   | 64           | 124               | 0                       | 80                          |
| Hastings Sunrise          | 191         | 51          | 325              | 238         | 672                | 11         | 195                   | 0            | 50                | 2                       | 68                          |
| Kensington Cedar Cottage  | 260         | 83          | 414              | 261         | 966                | 22         | 308                   | 84           | 92                | 0                       | 72                          |
| Kerrisdale                | 18          | 8           | 115              | 49          | 213                | 2          | 77                    | 1            | 5                 | 2                       | 21                          |
| Killarney                 | 88          | 26          | 185              | 95          | 468                | 16         | 129                   | 4            | 29                | 0                       | 39                          |
| Kitsilano                 | 159         | 42          | 515              | 273         | 1149               | 5          | 243                   | 0            | 29                | 2                       | 68                          |
| Marpole                   | 100         | 34          | 300              | 165         | 481                | 7          | 150                   | 0            | 10                | 1                       | 43                          |
| Mount Pleasant            | 277         | 64          | 518              | 270         | 1182               | 11         | 285                   | 1            | 57                | 0                       | 111                         |
| Musqueam                  | 18          | 0           | 29               | 7           | 30                 | 0          | 24                    | 0            | 3                 | 0                       | 0                           |
| Oakridge                  | 39          | 18          | 168              | 63          | 250                | 6          | 67                    | 1            | 3                 | 3                       | 20                          |
| Renfrew Collingwood       | 268         | 112         | 467              | 259         | 1026               | 18         | 260                   | 16           | 95                | 0                       | 62                          |
| Riley Park                | 81          | 26          | 238              | 112         | 388                | 9          | 116                   | 2            | 9                 | 0                       | 22                          |
| Shaughnessy               | 22          | 7           | 113              | 28          | 158                | 2          | 47                    | 1            | 8                 | 0                       | 47                          |
| South Cambie              | 25          | 4           | 105              | 48          | 173                | 4          | 41                    | 0            | 5                 | 0                       | 13                          |
| Stanley Park              | 8           | 3           | 5                | 6           | 236                | 2          | 12                    | 0            | 7                 | 1                       | 5                           |
| Strathcona                | 514         | 171         | 299              | 144         | 888                | 20         | 301                   | 13           | 163               | 1                       | 58                          |
| Sunset                    | 210         | 46          | 346              | 204         | 723                | 23         | 273                   | 1            | 42                | 0                       | 46                          |
| Victoria Fraserview       | 133         | 42          | 198              | 97          | 358                | 7          | 130                   | 1            | 26                | 2                       | 62                          |
| West End                  | 408         | 105         | 558              | 249         | 2572               | 8          | 361                   | 2            | 123               | 0                       | 42                          |
| West Point Grey           | 41          | 11          | 96               | 41          | 232                | 0          | 77                    | 0            | 5                 | 2                       | 17                          |

Data run on 2008/01/17

<sup>2</sup>Includes Business, Residence and Other

<sup>3</sup>Over and Under \$5000