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**VicPD 2008-2010 Strategic Plan  
Goal 3 – Reduce Property Crime  
2009 Year End Report**

**Sponsor – Inspector Clark Russell**

This report will provide a synopsis of activities and programs for the twelve months of 2009 as they relate to the *VicPD Strategic Plan Goal 3 – Reduce Property Crime*. Four performance indicators are used to quantify the progress toward this goal. While the majority of performance measures listed below are assigned to Crime Prevention Services Managers, there is a continuing commitment by all VicPD Staff and Volunteers who contribute to the success of the VicPD Strategic Plan and Goals.

**Goal 3 – Performance Measures:**

<b>Measurement</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>
Reported crime rate: Property Crime	Decrease by 1%	Decrease by further 2%	Decrease by further 2%
Number of Block Watch and Crime Free Multi-Housing participants	Increase by 5%	Increase by further 5%	Increase by further 5%
Reduction in calls for service to Crime Free Multi-Housing buildings	Decrease by 5%	Decrease by further 5%	Decrease by further 5%
Number of volunteer hours applied to crime prevention programs	Increase by 2%	Increase by further 2%	Increase by further 2%

**1. Reported Crime Rate for Property Crime:**

The following table provides a comparative analysis of Property Crime Offences for the 12 months of 2009 with comparison to 2008. **Overall, Property Crimes decreased 4.1% in 2009 over 2008, with a substantial decrease of over 35% of total break and enters.**

PROPERTY CRIME CALL TYPE (UCR CATEGORIES)	ACTUAL 2006	ACTUAL 2007	ACTUAL 2008	ACTUAL 2009	% CHANGE (08-09)	2008 Jan - Mar	2009 Jan-Mar	2010 Jan-Mar	% CHANGE (09-10)
<b>PROPERTY CRIMES - TOTAL</b>	<b>9953</b>	<b>8667</b>	<b>7161</b>	<b>6865</b>	<b>-4.1</b>	<b>1894</b>	<b>1518</b>	<b>1525</b>	<b>0.5</b>
B&E-RESIDENCE	586	710	653	454	<b>-30.5</b>	182	70	124	77.1
B&E-BUSINESS	602	554	369	238	<b>-35.5</b>	113	54	56	3.7
B&E-OTHER	463	250	282	152	<b>-46.1</b>	60	43	34	-20.9
B&E - TOTAL	1651	1514	1304	844	<b>-35.3</b>	355	167	214	28.1
ARSON	38	46	40	33	<b>-17.5</b>	9	6	8	33.3
FRAUD	568	561	509	450	<b>-11.6</b>	144	104	102	-1.9
COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY	1	181	124	94	<b>-24.2</b>	28	20	14	-30.0
THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE	608	591	452	454	<b>0.4</b>	72	76	92	21.1
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	3784	2609	1976	2030	<b>2.7</b>	633	469	494	5.3
THEFT OF BICYCLE	601	511	457	404	<b>-11.6</b>	94	73	62	-15.1
THEFT	1573	1531	1244	1430	<b>15.0</b>	302	306	270	-11.8
SHOPLIFTING	1101	1085	1015	1102	<b>8.6</b>	245	289	265	-8.3
TAKE VEHICLE WITHOUT CONSENT	28	38	40	24	<b>-40.0</b>	12	8	4	-50.0

**2. Block Watch:**

The VicPD Block Watch program continues to grow in both the communities of Victoria and Esquimalt. In March of 2009 Block Watch members participated in the VicPD Block Watch Blitz. This campaign focused on expansion of the program with existing Block Watch members conducting a door to door canvass to neighboring streets to provide information on the program to encourage homeowners to consider forming new Block Watch groups. **The campaign resulted in 13 new blocks registering for the program, an increase of 7.3% from 2008. As of March 2010 there are 4,048 homes in 191 blocks participating in the program.**

The Block Watch Program is managed by a full time paid coordinator, Ms. Beverly Stewart, who works closely with 283 Block Watch Captains and Co-Captains. The Program Coordinator attended a number of projects and activities throughout 2009 as part of promoting the program. These included both Victoria and Esquimalt Chamber of Commerce meetings, the Victoria Day Parade, Buccaneer Days, Moss Street Paint-In, James Bay Market and the BC Crime Prevention Symposium just to mention a few.

The Program also provides security checks, Operation Identification packages; provision of Block Watch signs and provides crime prevention education to its participants. Ms. Stewart works very closely with her volunteer Block Watch Captains and Co-Captains. For example on February 24, 2010 at the Esquimalt City Hall over 90 Captains from both Victoria and Esquimalt attended a Block Watch Captains Meeting. Ms. Stewart led the meeting and it was a very positive and energized group of citizens in attendance.

### 3. **Crime Free Multi-Housing:**

Since the start-up of the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program (CFMH) in October of 2006, the program has continued to grow, providing Rental Property Owners, Managers and Tenants with safe and enjoyable residential communities, along with reduced attendance by police for nuisance calls for services. The VicPD CFMH Program was managed by Constable Derek Tolmie up until the end of February 2010. The Program is now being managed by Cst. Dale Sleightholme who is working closely with Mr. Al Kemp, CEO of the Rental Owners Managers Society of BC (ROMS BC) to provide training for building owners and managers wishing to participate in the program.

As of December 31, 2009, there were 126 buildings registered in the CFMH Program (Victoria 100, Esquimalt 26). This is an increase of 99 buildings from the inaugural group of buildings in October 2006. Of the 126 buildings enrolled, 85 have successfully completed all three phases of the CFMH certification process and are CFMH Certified. (Victoria 70, Esquimalt 15).

**Between 2008 and 2009 Calls for Service to all 126 CFMH Buildings in the Program (enrolled and certified) have declined by 13% (a reduction of 330 calls).**

**From 2005, the year before the program began, until the end of 2009, Calls for Service to all 126 CFMH buildings in the Program (enrolled and certified) declined by 34% (1152 calls.)**

#### **All combined (enrolled and certified) Buildings Total Calls for Service:**

	2005 Total Calls:	2006 Total Calls:	2007 Total Calls:	2008 Total Calls:	2009 Total Calls:
<b># Service Calls:</b>	3346	3406	2927	2524	2194
<b># Reduced calls from year before</b>		<b>(60)</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>330</b>
<b>% Change vs. Previous Year:</b>		<b>(2%)</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>% Change 08-09</b>				<b>13%</b>	
<b>% Change 07-09</b>			<b>25%</b>		
<b>% Change 06-09</b>		<b>36%</b>			
<b>% Change 05-09</b>	<b>34%</b>				

#### 4. Volunteers and Reserves:

The VicPD Volunteer and Reserve Programs continue to play a vital role in supporting the Department in implementing projects and programs aimed at reducing crime with a specific emphasis on property and retail theft. VicPD Volunteers continue to represent the Department in a variety of roles.

**The following 2008-2009 Comparison Charts show an overall 9% increase in the number of volunteers and a 3% increase in the number of volunteer hours.<sup>1</sup> This increase surpasses the performance measurement goal to increase figures by 2% in 2009.**

##### **Volunteer Roster January-December 2008 - 2009 Comparison**

No. of Volunteers:	Crime Watch	Front Counter	Office	Total
December 2008	61	21	5	87
December 2009	63	26	6	95
% Change	3%	24%	20%	9%

##### **Volunteer Hours January-December 2008 - 2009 Comparison**

Program Hours:	Crime Watch	Front Counter	Office	Total
December 2008	3711 hrs	2672 hrs	587 hrs	6970 hrs
December 2009	3874 hrs	2846 hrs	453 hrs	7172 hrs
% Change	4%	7%	-23%	3%

In 2009, VicPD volunteers provided over 7,100 hours of services in an effort to help address the goals of the Strategic Plan. Volunteers patrolled within the communities of Victoria and Esquimalt, attended community and special events, and supported the front counter services at the Victoria station.

In addition to regular deployments, Crime Watch volunteers have been involved in several projects, community events, and distribution of police/program information. Front Desk Volunteers have continued to represent the Department in their important role of greeting the public, processing criminal record checks and managing general enquiries.

The new Coordinator of Volunteer Services, Karen Wallis joined us at the beginning of 2009. Over the last year Karen spent time educating herself about program delivery and building rapport with the volunteers. During the earlier part of the year a review of processes, policies and procedures was conducted. As a result, new screening methods and training practices for both Crime Watch and Front Counter volunteers were adopted in September 2009 to streamline methods and increase retention of volunteers. A satisfaction survey was developed later in the year and will be launched in early 2010 as a way of collecting volunteer feedback.

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<sup>1</sup> Results may vary due to data quality. Changes to data collection will affect comparison to previous reports.

Looking ahead to 2010, the results of our volunteer survey will be available early in the year and the data collected will act as a guide to maintaining and improving our delivery of crime prevention programming. We will continue to provide pertinent training and appropriate recognition of “the invaluable assistance provided by our volunteer members<sup>2</sup>.” New programs will be explored, including a pilot “Tipster” program. In partnership with the BC Securities Commission this training will take place in April 2010.

### **RESERVE CONSTABLE PROGRAM**

2009 continued to be a busy year for the Victoria Police Reserve Constable Program with the largest amount of volunteer hours being spent assisting the Department with special duties. One of the highlights was their involvement in the Olympic Torch Run Event. Thirty Reserves were involved on that day with the majority of them volunteering in excess of 14 hours each.

The year started with 47 Reserves and ended with 40. Though the numbers are at sufficient levels, a new class is being planned for the spring of 2010 to bolster the numbers of the program. This will ensure that the numbers remain at a high level which allows for the program to fully participate in the many crime prevention programs and other duties as required.

During 2009 the Reserve Constables contributed a total of **5948** hours of volunteer time to various programs and services that they provide the Department and the citizens of Victoria and Esquimalt. This does not include the **2399** hours spent on training, meetings, and administration of the program.

The Victoria Police Reserve Constable Program continually provides high quality volunteer support to the many worthwhile crime prevention programs offered by our Department. They also volunteer many hours of their own time to assist the Department with the many special duties that occur through out the year. And last but not least, the Reserve Constables ride-along with our regular members to learn more about policing which, in turn, also give us the opportunity to assess them and ultimately hire many of them.

Respectfully

Inspector Clark Russell  
OIC Crime Prevention Services  
Victoria Police Department

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<sup>2</sup> Strength & Spirit: A Strategic Plan for 2008-2010, Victoria Police Department