



Community Services Team

CST

CST has been busy with school initiatives, stakeholder engagement and community events. During the fall, CST has presented to hundreds of students in subjects ranging from online safety, to Canada's legal system, to lockdown drills. Along with their work in the schools, CST has been present at a number of community events and public education sessions. Recently, CST has been working closely with the North Shore Multicultural society and other stakeholders to educate new immigrants about policing in Canada.

Major Investigations Team

MIT

MIT handles all of the WVPD larger investigations. Although this generally means a large variety of investigations, this fall those investigations have mainly concentrated on residential break and enters. MIT has dedicated a huge amount of resources, time and personnel to these investigations. That work has resulted in arrests, the recovery of stolen property, and the solving of a number of residential break and enters.

Patrol - Traffic Team

TRAFFIC

The traffic section, with the assistance of Speedwatch, continued to deploy to areas of concern for citizens; high crash zones and proactive traffic enforcement projects. School zones and construction areas have been of particular concern for the traffic section. The sharp curve on the Trans Canada Highway near the Capilano River continues to be an area of high collisions and traffic concerns. It's important for people to keep their speeds down in that area and remain vigilant when driving through that curve.

BLOCKWATCH NEWS

West Vancouver continues to lead the way with the Blockwatch program. Almost 70% of blocks in West Vancouver are covered by Blockwatch. This represents hundreds of blocks and thousands of residents in West Vancouver participating in the Blockwatch program. Participants receive crime alerts, can easily access crime prevention strategies/information, and have a connection to the WVPD. The number of participating blocks continues to grow as outreach and education events are regularly held throughout the community. Recently, the WVPD organized a series of events aimed at expanding Blockwatch and directed to residents whose primary language is not English. The WVPD hosted two crime prevention sessions for Mandarin speaking residents. This provided an excellent opportunity for Mandarin speaking residents to interact with the WVPD, learn about Blockwatch, and ask questions. By partnering with the North Shore Multicultural Society, the WVPD was able to reach a significant audience of recent immigrants to Canada. Along with those hosted sessions, the WVPD was out in the community throughout the fall. WVPD members and Blockwatch co-ordinators attended many community events. Any time you see a crime prevention table set up, feel free to stop by for information or to ask a questions.





FRAUD ALERT

SIM Swapping - Protect yourself. West Vancouver Police are warning the community about an emerging trend in online fraud.

How it works: a "fraudster" will impersonate a person and convince a mobile phone service provider that they have lost their phone. They will request a new SIM card and will link up the victim's phone number to a device that they control. From there, they can access the victim's personal accounts and change passwords using two-factor authentication (usually a temporary password sent via text message).

Ways to protect yourself:

- Keep all personal information personal. Reconsider posting information such as a date of birth on social media
- Do not answer phishing emails or text messages asking to confirm a password or update information
- Use an offline password manager
- Contact a phone provider and ask about additional security measures that may be available

For more information, visit wvpd.ca



CRIME PREVENTION FOR THE HOLIDAYS

As we come into the holiday season, the WVPD wanted to take some time to talk about crime prevention and holiday crime trends. Unfortunately, crime does not take the holidays off, so as a community we need to remain cautious. Property crime is the most prevalent category of crime during the holidays. A good way to ruin your holidays is having presents stolen out of your car or your home broken into while you're away.

Here are some basic but effective crime prevention strategies:

Property crime is the most prevalent category of crime during the holidays.

1. Report any suspicious activity:

Call the WVPD anytime you see suspicious activity or suspicious people. If you're concerned for your safety or think that a crime is being committed, call 911. For less time sensitive issues, call the non-emergency number at 604-925-7300

2. Don't leave valuables in your vehicle (especially when shopping):

Cars are often targeted by criminals during the holiday season. Leave valuables at home or take them with you.

3. Make your house look occupied:

Criminals do not want to break into occupied homes. Making your home appear occupied is a very effective crime prevention strategy.