

*Monthly Newsletter***Community Services Team****WELCOME**

Welcome to our new West Vancouver Police Community Services Team newsletter. We are happy to introduce another way in which we will share information about what's going on in WVPD with you. Every month we will report on new developments or updates on several of our teams: Community Services Team (CST) and Block Watch, Major Investigations Team (MIT), Traffic Team and Patrol Team. Welcome to our very first issue. We hope you enjoy.

Major Investigations Team**MIT**

MIT deals with any criminal investigation that cannot be handled at the patrol level. Along with their ongoing property crime and fraud investigations, there has been a significant increase in distraction thefts. These tend to occur when a stranger is allowed into a home to use the phone or a washroom. When distracted, the homeowner's property is stolen. MIT would like to remind residents not to allow strangers into their homes and to contact WVPD if someone suspicious comes to their door.

Patrol - Traffic Team**TRAFFIC**

The traffic section has been busy this summer with a number of initiatives, investigations and the always present enforcement. During the summer the traffic section has been working on initiatives related to speeding, distracted driving and impaired driving. You might have gone through one of their roadblocks or speed enforcement zones. If you have any questions contact the traffic section at 604-925-7300.

BLOCK WATCH NEWS

2019 has marked an interesting year so far for Block Watch. We have made some changes as to how we want to communicate with the public by introducing our Block Watch specific website. While the old way of doing things - hand written letters and handing out pamphlets, has a lovely personal and romantic touch to it, we find that in our ever-changing 21st century instant notification and dissemination of information is necessary. Some of our Block Watch participants welcomed the change with open arms, while others resisted the change. Thus, you spoke we listened and we have met half way. We populate our website with all the pertinent Block Watch information, crime alerts, crime maps and resources for those that gravitate toward seeking out information through the web and for those that don't, we have kept the personal dissemination of crime alerts via emails. There is something that hasn't changed though, and that is our commitment to you with being accessible and open. We love our BW gatherings and always want you, our community to know that we are available to listen and help out. Afterall, as the proverbial saying goes, "it takes a community" and for WVPD and Block Watch to be effective and to live up to our motto "safe today, safer tomorrow" we need each other. Thanks for the great job you do Block Watchers!!





COMMUNITY SERVICES TEAM

CST is gearing up for the back to school crunch. Our Community Services Officers, in partnership with the Traffic section, ICBC and Speedwatch will be out at every school at either drop off or pick up early in the school year. Along with support of preventive education in schools, and working for better understanding between youth and police, WVPD Youth Liaison Officers also work to identify youth at risk and work with our partners to support coordinated community responses. WVPD Youth Liaison Officers also support risk assessment and Emergency Planning in schools.

Over the summer you might have seen our CST members out and about at many of the community events. CST officers take part in everything from citizenship ceremonies on Canada Day, to the Harmony Arts Festival, to Rock Ambleside. CST officers also spent an amazing 10 days on the "Pulling Together Journey" with the Squamish Nation.



PATROL NEWS

The WVPD's Patrol section has been busy as always this year. So far, patrol has responded to over 11,500 calls for police assistance. Those calls can be anything from a suspicious vehicle to someone stealing to someone needing help.

The recent spike in residential break and enters has meant lots of proactive and investigative work by our patrol officers. They are doing everything they can to catch those involved. Remember to always report suspicious persons in your neighbourhood and make sure to take as many preventative steps as possible.

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Patrol members are working in your neighbourhoods in a variety of capacities. We have members in uniform and marked police cars but we also have patrol members in ordinary clothes and pretty regular-looking cars.