

CRIME STOPPERS

MAGAZINE

Issue 3, 2019

RURAL CRIME

AN INTERVIEW WITH RCMP SUPERINTENDENT PETER TEWFIK

VACATION BOUND?

8 TIPS TO KEEP YOUR HOME SAFE
WHILE TRAVELLING THIS WINTER

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU
SEE AN IMPAIRED DRIVER




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so can they.

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your gifts
from your sleigh.

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Did you know that Crime Stoppers is completely privately funded? Please consider a donation to help Crime Stoppers prevent and solve crimes.



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SHOUT OUTS

Crime Stoppers is so fortunate to have community partners and individuals who go above and beyond to help us. We want to send a big THANK YOU to:



Global Edmonton for not only filming our 26 re-enactments a year, but also for giving us an opportunity to talk about crime prevention and reduction every month. We couldn't do what we do without such an amazing community-minded partner.



TELUS for the incredibly generous donation. We are so grateful for the support from TELUS to help us keep Crime Stoppers an active volunteer driven organization and allow us to reward tipsters for their help in solving crimes.



HGA Group/Grey Street Media for their time and dedication in supporting Crime Stoppers initiatives.



Capital Power for the generous donation as well as the Empowering Communities Volunteer Grant, on behalf of employee Jerry Bellikka, who also serves as Crime Stoppers Vice-President.



Edmonton Police Service and RCMP Communications and Crime Prevention teams, who work so closely with us on a number of initiatives. We appreciate your assistance and support.



Recreation Vehicle Dealers of Alberta, Kingsway Business Mixer, and Garda World for allowing us to run raffles at their events.



The Alberta Network of Credit Union Managers, who allowed Crime Stoppers to run a 50/50 raffle plus gave a donation of \$1000 from their recent golf tournament.



Westside Mitsubishi and West Edmonton Hyundai for lending us vehicles to be used during the filming of re-enactments, providing authenticity in re-creating specific crimes.

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A Message FROM CRIME STOPPERS

THANK YOU from Crime Stoppers! Because of supporters like YOU, Crime Stoppers continues to help police solve and prevent crimes. With the holiday season approaching, we want you to know that we appreciate every dollar that comes to our organization – we are solely funded through private donations. 2019 has been a very busy year.

In the first nine months of the year:

We received
4,232 TIPS

Leading to
213 ARRESTS

Over
**\$1.1 M IN
DRUGS SEIZED**

And
686 CHARGES LAID

These numbers are already higher than all of 2018. But we can't stop there, we are on a mission to help reduce and prevent crime in Edmonton and Northern Alberta.

If you'd like to help us continue to provide an anonymous tipline to report crimes and criminal activity – please consider a donation to Crime Stoppers. Find out how you can give on page 36 and if you'd like to reach us by mail, be sure to use the envelope at the centre of the magazine. And thank you for picking up this magazine. We hope you enjoy this issue's articles.

If you'd like to know more about Crime Stoppers, or sign up to receive our free magazine directly by mail, visit our website crimestoppers.ab.ca/Edmonton or email info@crimestoppers.ab.ca. Wishing you a safe and happy holiday season!

~ Crime Stoppers of Edmonton and Northern Alberta



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SEE AN IMPAIRED DRIVER?

Source: Edmonton Police Service


Tis the season for holiday parties and cheer and Crime Stoppers would like to remind everyone to stay safe on the roads.

Here's what to do if you suspect a driver is impaired.

- Call 911 if it is safe to do so. Calling 911 in an emergency, or to report an impaired driver, is permitted while driving under the distracted driving law.
- Report the location, vehicle description, and license plate number.
- If possible, keep the vehicle in sight but do not attempt to chase the vehicle, or break the law to do so.

If you know of someone who regularly drives intoxicated, you can report that information to Crime Stoppers anonymously. Remember to provide as much information as possible, including where the person lives, works, vehicle description, licence plate number, if you know specific times of day the person is typically driving impaired.

The more information you can provide will assist police. You can report this information online at p3tips.com or download the app. You can also phone **1-800-222-8477** – all safely and anonymously. Stay safe this holiday season!




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HAVE INFO ABOUT A CRIME?

HOW DO I LEAVE A TIP?

Crime Stoppers exists primarily as a means of collecting information from the public – anonymously. Tipsters contact Crime Stoppers by phone, online at p3tips.com or by downloading the app.

When you use any of these methods, you will be given a unique tipster number. This number should be kept secret and recorded, as it is how you will be able to follow up on your tip to either add additional information or check to see if there was a reward.

TALK

1-800-222-TIPS (8477)

WEB

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ONLINE

APP

SEARCH FOR P3 TIPS
ON THE APP STORE

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT TO MY TIP?

Crime Stoppers takes the information given by the tipster and distributes it to the appropriate law enforcement agency (i.e. to the Edmonton Police Service in Edmonton and the RCMP in Northern Alberta).

AM I REALLY ANONYMOUS?

We do everything we can to protect your anonymity because we know that by disclosing important information about a crime, having your identity revealed might put you at risk. The only time your anonymity may be open to challenge is in the following situations:

- A call to Crime Stoppers made with the intention of “furthering criminal activity or interfering with the administration of justice”. A party who is guilty of a crime cannot use Crime Stoppers to try to divert the blame onto someone else. Crime Stoppers cannot be used to try to “frame” an innocent person.
- There is evidence that disclosure of some or all of a tip is necessary to establish someone’s innocence.
- A tipster having received the benefit of full legal advice may, for his or her own reasons, elect to waive the privilege.
- A full and more detailed explanation of these principles can be found on the Canadian Crime Stoppers website – canadiancrimestoppers.org.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN AN ARREST IS MADE?

If the tip information helped the police make an arrest, the officer on the file will submit a form to the Crime Stoppers board stating this. The board meets monthly to review the solved cases and determine a reward amount (between \$50 and \$2,000) for the tipster. At this point, a note is made on the file.

HOW DO I CHECK MY TIP?

To check whether your tip has become eligible for a reward, you must call the tipline (1-800-222-8477) and provide your tipster number. The call taker will check to see if a reward has been authorized for that tip.

IF MY TIP RECEIVES A REWARD, HOW DO I PICK IT UP?

Crime Stoppers works with ATB Financial to distribute the tip rewards. If your tip received a reward, you will be able to choose any ATB branch in Alberta to pick up your reward. The branch will prepare an unmarked envelope with cash. You can walk into the branch, simply provide your tipster number, and walk out with the money. Your tipster number is the only information they ask for – another reason why it is important to keep this number secret so that no one else can pick up your reward.



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VACATION BOUND?

*Keep your home **safe** while travelling this winter.*

For many of us who live in Alberta, dreaming of tropical escapes can be a common occurrence. Should you be fortunate enough to travel to a warm destination, don't forget to think about your property and ensure it's protected while you are away.

The most important thing to do is review your insurance policy or talk to someone at your insurance company. For example, how often does your home need to be checked while you are away and/or what precautions do you need to take before you leave? All policies are different, be sure you know what's in yours to ensure you are protected.

Crime Stoppers, along with our friends at HGA Insurance would like to offer the following tips to protect your property this winter:



LOCK UP

Double check your locks, windows and sliding doors. Place a metal or wood dowel in the tracks to ensure the windows or sliding doors can't be lifted from their tracks.



GET SMART

Many smartphone types of security systems help us watch our homes. However, a strong Wi-Fi system is required to ensure they work properly. Double check everything is working properly before you leave. And if you have a company monitoring your house – be sure to tell them you will be away and give them an emergency contact.



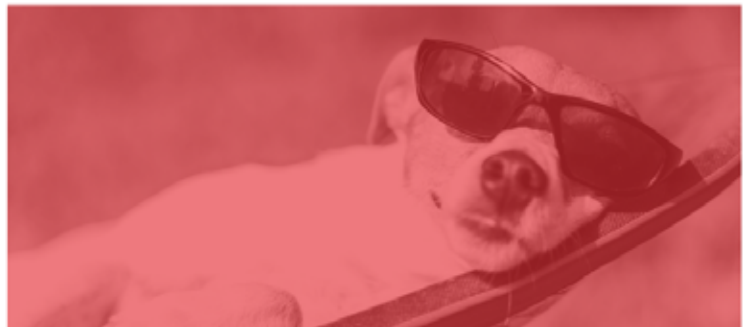
NO KEYS, PLEASE

Never hide a spare key on your property. Leave a key with someone you trust that lives nearby.



HEY NEIGHBOUR

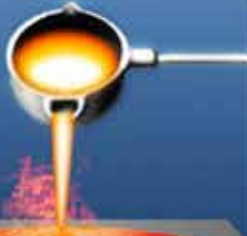
Get to know your neighbours. Ask them to pick up your mail, shovel your walk, park in your driveway, open and close the blinds and put the garbage out (if applicable) on collection days



Continued on page 19



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TAKE A SOCIAL MEDIA BREAK

While you may love to share your travel adventures, posting vacation pictures advertises the fact you are away. You might have locked down settings, but your friends might not, and there is a chance criminals might be checking social feeds to see who's away.



PUT YOUR TOYS AWAY

If you have ATVs or snowmobiles, ensure they are locked away in a shed or garage. Out of sight, out of mind!



LIGHTS ON

One way to deter would be thieves is to make sure it looks like someone is home. Light timers or smart plugs can help with this. Motion sensor outdoor lights also act as a deterrent.



HIDE THE EVIDENCE

If Santa brought you a new flat screen 72" TV, entertainment system or tablet – don't leave the boxes out as is for recycling collection. Thieves often look to see which homes have fancy electronics. Your best bet is to dismantle the boxes into smaller pieces, put them in blue bags or take them to a recycling centre in your community. Leaving them on your property signals to thieves you may have some cool stuff in your house.



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ALBERTA RCMP ADDRESSES

RURAL CRIME CONCERNS

Source: Alberta RCMP

As Alberta's provincial police service, the RCMP provides assistance to over 1.5 million Albertans. The RCMP has been policing rural and urban areas in Alberta for generations.

In this interview, Superintendent Peter Tewfik, Officer-in-Charge of Crime Reduction Strategies with the Alberta RCMP, addresses some of the most common questions raised by members of the public about crime reduction.

IS RURAL CRIME ON THE RISE? ARE THERE PARTICULAR TRENDS PERTAINING TO CRIMINAL ACTIVITY?



Overall, property crime is down in Alberta. Our 2019 third quarter statistics show that there has been a steady decrease in property crime in Alberta RCMP jurisdictions since the high point in 2017.

We've heard people say they've noticed an increase in crime and that they aren't reporting incidents.

According to the 2014 General Social Survey on Canadians' Safety, which provides information on Canadians' crime reporting behaviour, less than one-third (31%) of crimes in Canada are reported to police.

RCMP statistics cannot reflect crimes that were never reported: we rely on reported data to know where we are needed the most.

WHAT CRIME TYPES DOES THE RCMP TYPICALLY DEAL WITH IN RURAL AREAS?

Given the size of the province and the diversity of communities we serve, this is a challenging question to answer. With regard to property crime,

our three biggest drivers in rural areas are break and enters, theft of vehicles and theft.

The Alberta RCMP Data and Innovation web page highlights detachment area-specific key property crime indicators on a quarterly basis, namely break and enter, theft of motor vehicle, theft over and under \$5,000, as well as possession of stolen goods.

Continued on page 25



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WHAT IS THE RCMP DOING TO REDUCE CRIME IN RURAL ALBERTA? HOW EFFECTIVE HAVE YOUR INITIATIVES BEEN?

The Crime Reduction Strategy is making an impact in reducing crime in Alberta by focusing on the people and places dealing with the most prevalent crime types within each community.

The four Crime Reduction Strategy pillars are apprehension, offender management, targeted prevention and suppression. We have made our operations as efficient as they can be and minimized impact to frontline services.

We have multiple campaigns as part of our Crime Reduction Strategy such as #WantedWednesday and Project Lock Up.

#WantedWednesday is a social media campaign which profiles individuals who pose a threat to community safety with active warrants believed to be living in Alberta. These individuals are selected based on an analysis of their criminal history and how much potential harm they present to a community.

The campaign consists of posts on social media platforms every Wednesday afternoon with an update to how many individuals were apprehended at the end of the week.



Wanted

These individuals are wanted by the RCMP for various crimes. They have been selected based on an analysis of their criminal history.

DO NOT APPROACH. Report any information to police in your area or contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS).

Warrants must NOT be acted upon without first confirming the validity of the record with the originating agency.



Name
Last known location
Areas of activity



Name
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Areas of activity



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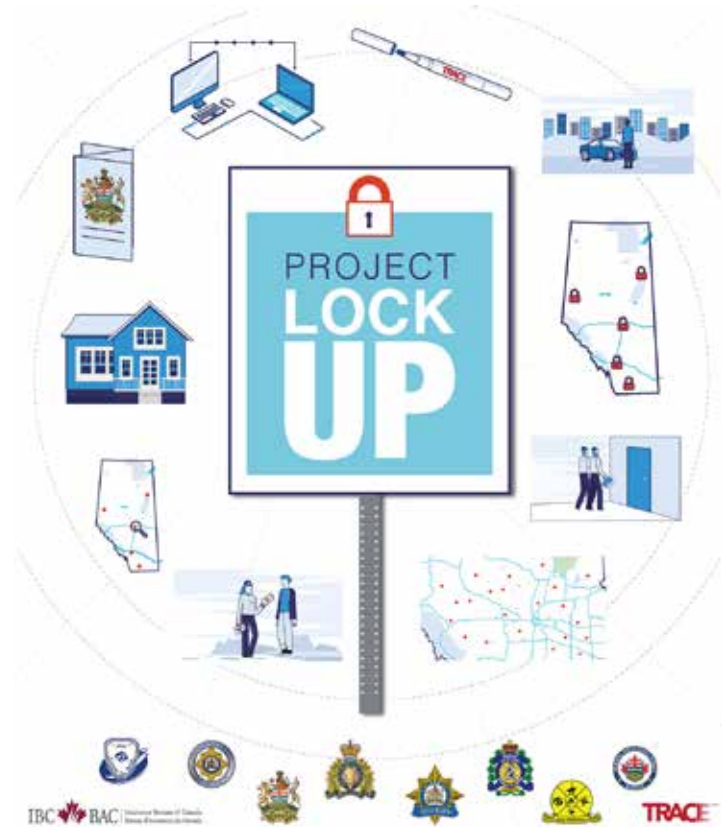
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RCMP officers and trained community policing professionals contact citizens that have been hit the hardest by break and enters to discuss the loss and determine what environmental design or local enforcement steps might help prevent repeat victimization.



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY?

Your calls for service to the RCMP matter. Being led by intelligence, information about where and when crime is happening is key to the Crime Reduction Strategy for the Alberta RCMP. This intelligence weaves the different components of our Crime Reduction Strategy into a shared goal of community safety; from finding the criminals that cause the most harm, finding the victims that need the most support and collaborating with the right partners to keep Albertans safe.

In the past, we've heard that people say they've noticed an increase in crime, but that they aren't reporting the incidents. Do not assume someone else has reported it.

We can always do more with more information. A report to the police is all information we can analyze and use. Times of the day, locations, and types of vehicles observed are all helpful to us.

We share this information with our community groups, such as Crime Stoppers, to help identify crime hot spots, guide patrol activity and conduct special operations in your community.

Continued from page 27

HOW ELSE CAN CITIZENS HELP THE RCMP IN REDUCING CRIME?

We encourage residents to continue practicing simple crime prevention strategies. The Alberta RCMP Crime Prevention Calendar provides monthly themes that are used throughout the year for educational messaging via social media posts, news releases and media interviews.

Our aim is to ensure citizens have the information they need to prevent crime and stay safe.

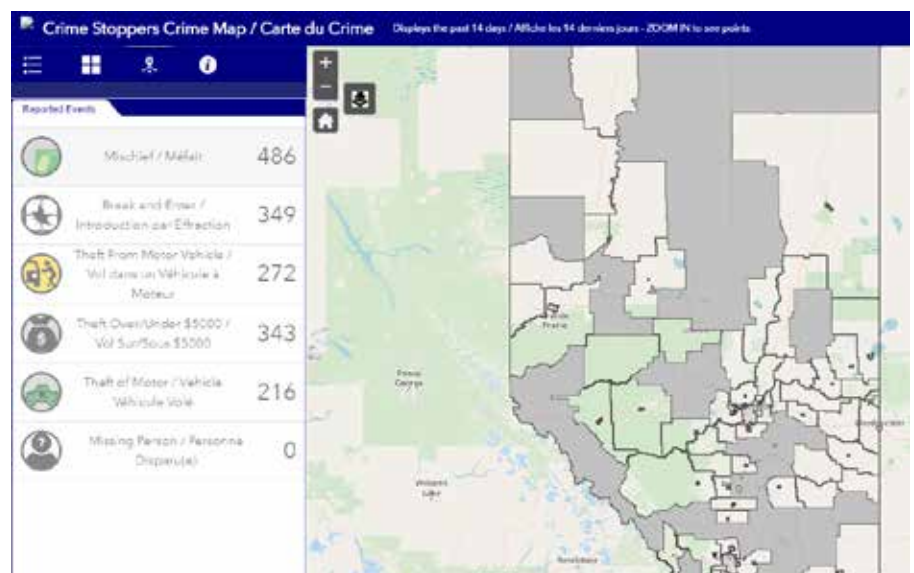
In 2017, an average of 34 vehicles were reported stolen per day in the province of Alberta. At least 50% of those vehicles had the keys inside. Always lock your vehicles and remove your valuables. You should also keep your residence doors locked as well as your garages and outbuildings secured.

The Alberta RCMP Crime Map is also a powerful crime prevention tool. The real-time Crime Map tracks and records select crime types for a two-week period.



The purpose of the Crime Map is to alert communities of activities in their area so citizens can be mindful about protecting themselves and their property. It is hosted on several municipalities web pages, but the easiest place to find the map is on the homepage of crimestoppers.ab.ca.

Since its inception in February 2018, the Crime Map (pictured below) has been viewed over 2.9 million times.



HOW DOES CRIME STOPPERS HELP THE RCMP IN PREVENTING AND SOLVING CRIMES?

Crime Stoppers and other citizen-led group volunteers support the Alberta RCMP Crime Reduction Strategy by acting as an extra set of “eyes and ears” in their communities.

Crime Stoppers brings together the police, media and the community to reduce crime. Tipsters can anonymously report information about crimes or suspicious behaviour by calling 1-800-222-8477 or submitting information online at p3tips.com.

Since the beginning of 2019, Crime Stoppers of Edmonton and Northern Alberta has received 4,232 tips resulting in 213 arrests, \$105,015 in property recovered and over \$1 million in illicit drugs seized.

The Alberta RCMP continues to work with community partners such as Crime Stoppers to promote crime prevention awareness in communities throughout the province.



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Thank you!

-Anonymous



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2019 YEAR TO DATE STATISTICS

EDMONTON &
NORTHERN AB

4,232

TIPS RECEIVED

213

PERSONS
ARRESTED

\$105,015

PROPERTY
RECOVERED

\$1,130,075

DRUGS SEIZED

686

CHARGES
LAID

\$40,125

REWARDS
AUTHORIZED

\$815,321

CASH RECOVERED*

\$2,114,811

TOTAL
SEIZURES

\$154

CASES
CLEARED

EDMONTON
POLICE
SERVICE



Royal Canadian
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*Since Crime Stoppers moved to the P3 tip system, we have been able to track cash recovered separately. This stat represents this number since 2018.

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