MAGAZINE

Issue 3, 2020

AUTO THEFT

HOW TO PREVENT YOURSELF FROM BECOMING A VICTIM

RCMP LAUNCHES

ONLINE CRIME REPORTING

EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE

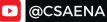
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ISSUE 3, 2020

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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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A Message FROM CRIME STOPPERS

Thank you for picking up our magazine! Crime Stoppers is grateful to all those who contribute to making this magazine a reality.

This includes our friends at the Alberta RCMP and the Edmonton Police Service, who generously share their stories and crime prevention tips — to help us inform you — about what is going on in Edmonton and around the Province. We are also thankful to all the advertisers through Crime Watch Canada, who help us share this valuable information through the publication of this magazine.

This year has been a tough year for many and we hope you are staying safe and healthy amidst the pandemic. At Crime Stoppers, we are so appreciative of donors, like you, who continue to support us.

We are completely privately-funded, and rely on donations to provide an anonymous tip reporting service, which allows us to continue our mission to help law enforcement to prevent and solve crime.

As you will see from the side bar on this page (and on page 18), the statistics from 2019 and to date in 2020 remind us, just how important our work is.

If you are able to, please consider making a donation to help fight crime - you can find out how on page 19. We would be so pleased to have your support.

Thank You!

~ Crime Stoppers of Edmonton and Northern Alberta

CRIME STOPPERS JANUARY 1 - SEPTEMBER

- **4,073** Tips Received
- **117** Persons Arrested
- **\$292,284** In Property, Drugs, & Cash Seized
- **371 Charges Laid**

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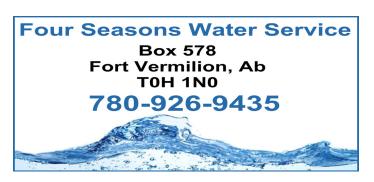








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Bike Index Reunit

By Edmonton Police Service



Register your bike for free with BikeIndex.org.

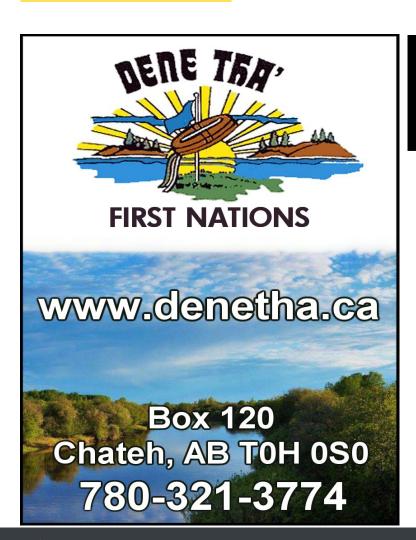
In 2019, the Edmonton Police Service partnered with the online bicycle registry in attempt to deter bike theft from the moment you purchase your bicycle. Since our launch last summer, an astounding 57,863 bicycles have been registered to Bike Index in

And more importantly, we have been able to return over 400 bicycles back to their owners, and the number keeps growing! In fact, throughout one weekend in May, over 20 bikes were recovered by Downtown Division alone. Eleven of those bicycles went back to their original owners that same weekend.

Amazingly enough, four of bicycles had been stolen over two years ago, including these great stories:

This bicycle (left) was reported stolen on Bike Index in June 2018, the day before this young man was supposed to be in a triathlon. Unfortunately, he has outgrown the bike, but he said the Edmonton Triathlon Academy will be able to benefit from it now.

Continued on page 8







A Division of Turin Colony

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These bicycles (right) were seized from the same location. The Scott brand bike was reported stolen on Bike Index last August, and the Norco was reported stolen to police in June 2016!

"Bike theft has always been an issue in Edmonton. But thanks to Bike Index and our amazing partners, these positive outcomes are happening every day."

- Constable Dana Gehring

"Bike theft has always been an issue in Edmonton. But thanks to Bike Index and our amazing partners, these positive outcomes are happening every day," explained Constable Dana Gehring. "We started this partnership with the goal of reducing bike theft, so we continue to encourage citizens to register with Bike Index to help us reach this goal."

Help us get a handle on bike theft - register your bike for free with BikeIndex.org.







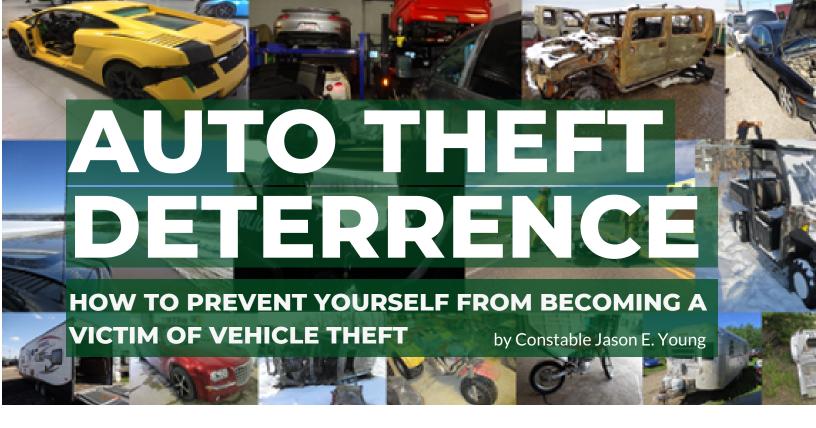






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In early March 2020, a northern Alberta RCMP detachment held a briefing with multiple police units — RCMP Police Dog Services, RCMP Air Services, RCMP Auto Theft Unit North, and ALERT Auto Crimes.

Together, they prepared for the execution of a search warrant for stolen vehicles on a rural property. The tip came from an individual within the community; all while maintaining their anonymity, the individual's information was verified by local RCMP and a search warrant was granted. This specific search warrant led to the recovery of 13 vehicles that had been reported stolen from multiple jurisdictions across the province. Firearms and ammunition were also seized from the property.

My name is Constable Jason E. Young. I am an Investigator with the Alberta RCMP Auto Theft Unit - North and was one of the members who helped to carry out this particular search warrant, as well as countless others just like it everyday. I work on a team of unique Investigators specialized inexperience, knowledge, and skill set, who assist local frontline RCMP members with identified auto theft investigations. I have been dedicated to auto theft crime for many years — crime currently at the forefront of property-related thefts in Alberta.

Through my years of experience, I have come to understand the importance of auto theft deterrence. Auto theft deterrence isn't magic or rocket science – it's simply common sense that should be practiced on a daily basis in order to reduce our risk of becoming an auto theft victim. At one point in time, I, myself, was a victim of auto theft; prior to becoming a Police Officer, I had my personal vehicle stolen. I understand the financial and psychological stress that comes with being a victim. My experience was a significant driving force in me becoming an officer and, eventually, an investigator within the Auto Theft Unit.

"To be honest, I knew most auto theft deterrence measures even before becoming an Officer. However, like many, I disregarded them. I always thought 'it won't happen to me' or 'who cares, that's why I pay insurance'."

This attitude was my downfall and led me to be an easy target for auto theft.

Continued on page 11





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The following deterrence and prevention practices can be easily applied to your everyday life and help prevent you, too from becoming a victim of auto theft.

By utilizing a 'layered approach' — multiple layers of protection placed on your property — the more difficult it is for your vehicle to be stolen, deterring thieves.

1. LOCK YOUR DOORS AND **REMOVE YOUR KEYS**

You may have a false sense of security thinking there is no harm leaving your keys in an unlocked vehicle. This type of complacency could result in the theft of your vehicle or its contents. Always take the time to perform the above prevention.

2. USE AN AUDIO ALARM. STEERING WHEEL LOCK, OR **VISUAL DETERRENT**

These tools are helpful but are only effective if you lock your doors and remove your keys from the vehicle.

3. INERTIA SWITCH SHUT **OFF OR REMOVE VEHICLE FUEL INJECTION RELAY**

These are more involved deterrents that would require you to read your vehicle's owner's manual to locate each component.

Inertia switches stop fuel from being sent to the fuel pump. A vehicle can only travel so far before the fuel is completely shut off to the engine.

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Removing a vehicle's fuel injection relay will prevent the vehicle from starting. A vehicle will only start once the fuel injection relay has been replaced.

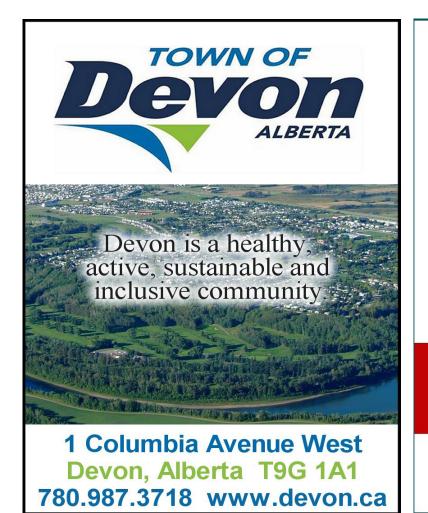
Always consult with your vehicle's service dealership and a factory trained technician to assist you. Should you attempt these types of deterrence measures, you do so at your own risk.

4. GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (GPS) TRACKING

GPS has come a long way with different shapes, sizes, and functions. GPS can now act as a safeguard by tracking your vehicle. Tracking can be easily performed by sending alerts to your cellphone, updating you on your vehicle's current location.

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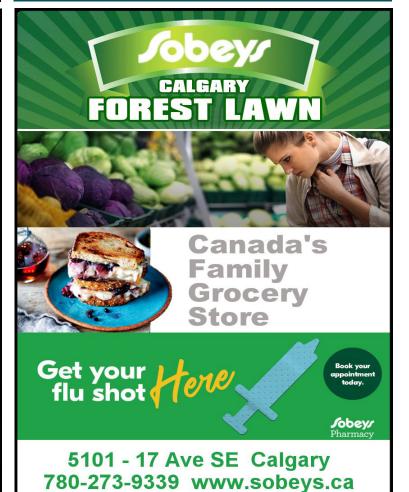


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5. DOCUMENT YOUR PROPERTY

This is one of the best defences to account for your property. Snapping pictures on a cellphone of your vehicle's serial numbers and specific identifiers can allow you to document your property in a matter of minutes.

Should you become a victim of auto theft, documentation can assist law enforcement in your vehicle's recovery, as well as help your insurance provider if a claim should be filed.



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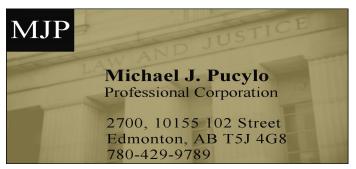
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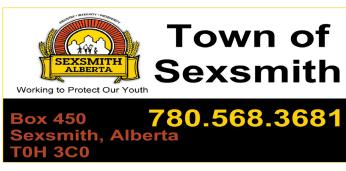


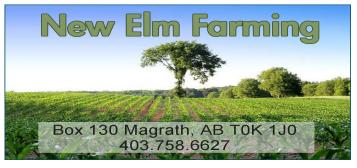












Between 'started there' and 'finished here': A life well lived

by Edmonton Police Service

Not as a position or as a rank, but as a person. For one thing, she didn't want anyone to have to endure listening, as tradition would dictate, to a litany of the ranks she'd held over a 30-year career with the Edmonton Police Service (EPS).

"I started there, and I finished here," she said, shortly before her passing on May 15 at the age of 58, after a four-month long illness. "That's all people really need to know."

But it was what fell between the "started there" and the "finished here" that influenced and shaped Deb Jolly- a dedicated, highly-skilled police officer, respected leader and mentor, admired colleague, and a consummate professional who rose to become one of only seven female superintendents in the 128-year history of the EPS.

Born in 1962 in the original Edmonton, a small English town just outside of London, Deb was six when the Jolly family immigrated to Canada to eventually settle in Edmonton, Alberta.

Her father, with whom she shared an "attention to detail" personality trait, was a Northwest Industries aircraft technician and Deb, too, was drawn to the airline business.

It was while working at the Canadian carrier, Wardair Airlines, that fate intervened to guide the then-Senior Customer Service Agent toward a career in law enforcement.

"I was at home one day, getting ready for work, when I heard a large bang. A break-and-enter was in progress at my house, so I called 9-1-1. A police officer arrived, and I gave him a description of what I had heard and seen. To my surprise, he told me that I had given him an excellent statement, very complete, and suggested I consider becoming a police officer. He left me with a pamphlet from recruiting and I remember thinking, why not?"

Deb was accepted and graduated EPS Recruit Training Class 78. She worked on patrol in West Division for five years and later with the EPS' Recruit Selection Unit. But it was a job in EPS' Surveillance Unit that had the most profound impact on her career — a job that ended up being filled by another, equally qualified candidate.

Undeterred, she discovered an opportunity to participate in the United Nations (UN) peacekeeping mission in East Timor, though stepping away from her regular police duties, albeit briefly, might have adversely impacted future

promotional opportunities.

"The trajectory of my career was never top of mind. It was a great opportunity, and it inspired me," she said.

The mission triggered a career-long interest in the UN for Deb, earning a list of achievements by:Justice courts in Rwanda following the genocide, and earning a Master's degree in Human Security and Peacebuilding at Royal Roads University. Her experience in Rwanda reinforced in Deb a sense of humility about life's daily struggles at home and served to anchor her determination to rise to daily challenges — and to inspire the same approach in others.

With tenacity, focus and "stick-toitiveness" Deb continued moving through the ranks. As a leader, she exercised patience, humility, tact and discipline, but her intent was to put people at ease and encourage them to play to their strengths. Many of those under her tutelage went on to achieve success in leadership positions within EPS and other police agencies.

Continued on page 17

It's many of these characteristics and accomplishments that contributed to Edmonton Police Chief Dale McFee's decision to select Deb as EPS Chief of Staff, among the most senior position in the Service.

"She had built respectful partnerships across the organization and she put the EPS before herself. I also believed in her because she was a good person."

While her title changed, what qualified her in the eyes of the Chief did not. As Chief of Staff, Deb held a high-profile position carrying tremendous responsibility, yet conducted herself with the same degree of humility, attention to detail, and resourcefulness she had established as a Wardair Senior Customer Service Agent over 30 years before.

"It's never been about me," she said.
"I have invested over half my life to
the police service, as have many
before me. I surrounded myself with
good people, with diverse
perspectives, and we had a lot of fun
along the way. There's no profound
legacy here – that's not my style, nor
was it ever my intention.

"I would ask that people simply pay it forward, by treating others in the same manner."



Supt. Debbie Jolly

(photo courtesy of Edmonton Police Service).

The Board, staff and volunteers from Crime Stoppers of Edmonton and Northern Alberta would like to extend our sincerest condolences to Supt. Jolly's family and the Edmonton Police Service.

Crime Stoppers Needs You

Did you know that we are completely **privately funded?**

Since its inception in 1983, Crime Stoppers of Edmonton and Northern Alberta has provided an anonymous tip line for citizens to safely report crime or suspicious behavior. Over 130,000 tips have come in since then, resulting in over 8,000 arrests, 5,700 charges laid and \$89M in property, drugs and cash seized. To date, Crime Stoppers has authorized over \$1.5M in rewards to thank the public for coming forward with these tips that are critical in solving crime.

And while the way in which to report crime has evolved over the years—from being strictly a phone number to today, which now includes a website and an app, our mission remains the same. Crime Stoppers is committed to assisting police in the reduction and prevention of crime.

In 2019 alone, Crime Stoppers received over 5500 tips, leading to 238 arrests, over \$1.14M in drugs seized and over \$1M in property and cash recovered. These statistics were substantially higher than 2018—which for us, reinforces the incredible need for us to continue to provide an anonymous tip line for individuals to report crime and suspicious behaviour.

In addition to helping our police partners by providing this tip service, Crime Stoppers also works hard to educate the public about crime prevention by providing this free magazine. It is our hope that our readers find the articles informative and useful. We understand that times are tough right now for many and we hope that if you need it, you are finding support. For those that might be able to, we would encourage to donate to us.

<u>EVERY DOLLAR</u> makes a difference. You can donate online, by mail or phone-see the next page for all those details. We thank you in advance for your support. Because of donors like you, we are able to help solve crime and take criminals and drugs off the streets.



HOW TO DONATE:

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- Donate online at crimestoppers.ab.ca/edmonton
- 2 Call **780-421-1122**
- Or **cut out the card below** & mail it to our address.

Thank you for your support

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ALBERTA RCMP LAUNCHES

REPORTING

by Alberta RCMP

On August 11, 2020, the Alberta RCMP rolled out a province-wide online crime reporting initiative. Albertans across all RCMP jurisdictions no longer have to report all crimes by calling or visiting a local detachment. Certain types of property crime under \$5,000 can now be reported online, including damage/mischief to property, theft, theft of a bicycle, theft of a vehicle and lost property. All reports will be processed and followed up with by a phone call from a police officer within five business days.

Continued on page 22

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The rollout of this initiative takes place after a successful pilot of online crime reporting, which took place between June 1, 2020 and August 7, 2020. Airdrie, Banff, Cold Lake, Grande Prairie, Red Deer and Strathcona County were selected as pilot areas. Throughout the pilot 145 online crime reports were submitted. This provided an opportunity for the Alberta RCMP to work out issues with the system, and test locations in each its four districts as well as locations near major centres such as Edmonton and Calgary to ensure there wasn't an issue with residents living outside RCMP jurisdiction reporting crime through the RCMP system.

Innovation and modernization are top priorities for the Alberta RCMP and offering an online option for reporting crime has become essential in today's world. The Alberta RCMP recognizes that in order to keep up with the changing times and needs of Albertans, they must adapt and offer new and creative solutions. Online crime reporting was initiated to ensure the public can report select crime types in whatever way is most convenient or accessible to them, whether that is online or by the traditional means of reporting crime such as phoning or visiting local detachments. Regardless of the method chosen by Albertans, all crimes will be taken equally as seriously as crime reported in any other way.

"The Alberta RCMP is always looking for new opportunities to modernize and streamline our services for all Albertans – no matter where they live in the province."

- Deputy Commissioner Curtis Zablocki

"The Alberta RCMP is always looking for new opportunities to modernize and streamline our services for all Albertans – no matter where they live in the province," says Deputy Commissioner Curtis Zablocki, Commanding Officer of Alberta RCMP. "Online crime reporting is accessible and convenient, and will help us capture more intelligence when it comes to property crime occurring in all of the communities we serve. Offering a contactless service is also vital in these times when physical distancing is so important."

The Alberta RCMP hopes that providing another means of reporting crime encourages Albertans to always report a crime or suspicious activity, no matter how small or insignificant it may seem. The Alberta RCMP is intelligence-driven and having accurate crime data is what allows police resources to be deployed appropriately in the areas that need it most. Albertans play a



key role in this process and their reports of crime help police find crime hotspots and determine how to best use their resources.

Another benefit of reporting crime online is that doing so helps emergency call takers and frontline members focus their time on high-priority calls. This way, rather than adding pressure or workload to detachments or call takers, online crime reports can be filtered through other resources, which are specifically designated to follow up with crimes reported online.

The Alberta RCMP's Call Back Unit (CBU) is responsible for following up with all incidents of crime reported online. The CBU was created to establish a more efficient and effective method of managing non-urgent police calls for service. Because of the ever-increasing workload of frontline members, there often isn't enough time to deal with non-urgent calls in a timely or meaningful manner.

"Online crime reporting is accessible and convenient, and will help us capture more intelligence when it comes to property crime occurring in all of the communities we serve."

- Deputy Commissioner Curtis Zablocki

Continued on page 24



STAY HOME

Even if you're feeling healthy, social distancing will help us stop the spread of COVID-19.



STAY SAFE

Wash your hands frequently, cover coughs and sneezes, and stay home if you're feeling ill.



STAY AWARE

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No need to panic, hoard, or listen to rumors. We will all get through this together.



ONLINE CRIME REPORTING

is now available





Report it online!



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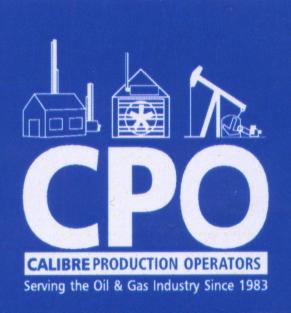
- You have lost something that costs less than \$5000
- Someone has stolen something from you that costs less than \$5000
- Someone has vandalized your property or vehicle and it will cost less than \$5000 to repair it
- The crime happened within the jurisdiction of the Alberta RCMP



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The CBU is a unit made up of police officers whose primary duty is to respond to and investigate files that do not require scene attendance. If there is need for further investigation of any crime reported online, the CBU will contact the detachment responsible for the area the crime took place in and have them take over the investigation of the file. Having the CBU available as a resource prior to implementing online crime reporting in Alberta has been an incredible asset for the Alberta RCMP and has allowed for a smooth transition to providing alternate crime reporting methods.

At this time, the online crime reporting tool is limited to intaking relatively minor crimes, though the Alberta RCMP is interested in possibly expanding the system and allowing more crime types to be reported online in the future. Potential scenarios will be evaluated by the Alberta RCMP as the project continues to rollout. However, for the time being, the Alberta RCMP wants to ensure a thorough investigation at the detachment or specialized unit level is carried out for all serious crimes.

Online crime reporting is the newest addition to a complex, multi-faceted rural crime strategy in place. It is a small percentage of properties and criminals that make up a large percentage of rural crime. The Alberta RCMP aims to break this cycle of criminal activity over the long term and that is why it is so critical all crime is reported. This information is needed for police to identify repeat offenders, crime hotspots and conduct targeted enforcement and prevention initiatives.

Continued on page 28



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The Alberta RCMP's Crime Reduction Strategy is a collaborative approach that involves citizens, community groups such as Rural Crime Watch and Citizens on Patrol, enforcement partners, health partners and the Province. It is with everyone's help and support that the Alberta RCMP is able to develop a picture of the crime landscape across Alberta. Similarly, the success of the online crime reporting initiative relies on Albertans using it and partners engaging in conversations about it. It is with everyone's help that online crime reporting in Alberta will be a success.

For further information on the Alberta RCMP's online crime reporting tool visit https://ocre-sielc.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/alberta/en/Faq and to report a crime online that took place within Alberta RCMP jurisdiction, visit https://ocre-sielc.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/alberta/en.

Graphics courtesy of Alberta RCMP







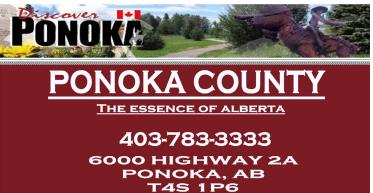
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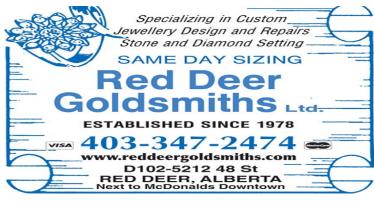
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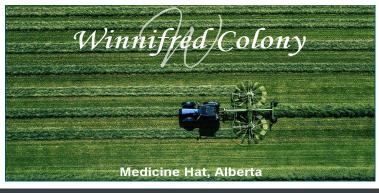






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HAVE INFO ABOUT A CRIME?

REPORT IT ANONYMOUSLY

HOW DO I REPORT A CRIME?

Crime Stoppers exists primarily as a means of collecting information from the public - anonymously. Tipsters contact Crime Stoppers by phone or online through the p3tips website 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.

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).

AMIREALLY 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.





EPS AIR 1 HELICOPTER HELPS RESCUE MISSING FATHER AND SON

By Edmonton Police Service

EPS Air 1 helicopter was called in to help locate a father and son who went missing at Miquelon Lake on July 11.

The sun was setting and rescuers had exhausted efforts to locate a missing father and son who had gone out rafting on Miquelon Lake. But instead of calling off the search for the night, they requested the assistance of the Edmonton Police Service Air 1 helicopter.

At 7:40 p.m. on Saturday, July 11, 2020, Camrose RCMP received a call from a woman who reported that her 40-year-old husband and nine-year-old son went onto Miquelon Lake in an inflatable tube and had not been seen or heard from for several hours.

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The Camrose / Wetaskiwin RCMP coordinated an immediate search of the area with the assistance of the RCMP Police Dog Services, Camrose County Fire Services, Miquelon Lake Provincial Park staff, as well as volunteers. Two boats also participated in the search but were hampered due to low water levels and aquatic vegetation.

At approximately 9:30 p.m., with sunlight and hopes fading, the RCMP requested the assistance of the EPS Air 1 helicopter as their helicopter was unavailable at that time.

The EPS Air 1 helicopter is often called out to help search for missing persons in the Edmonton region – not only because of its unique vantage point from high above, but for its state-of-the-art GPS navigational overlays and enhanced digital camera / infrared system, which can quickly pinpoint individuals and direct resources on the ground to that location. Despite heavy winds that evening, Air 1 was over the lake a short time later and located the missing rafters within minutes of arrival.

The two rafters were stranded across the lake on a shoreline about three kilometres north from where they went missing.

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They were standing in a marsh area surrounded by dense bush with the nearest road over a kilometre away, so the flight crew decided to land Air 1 nearby and pick them up to expedite the rescue.

The father and son were wearing only their swimsuits and t-shirts, and were feeling the effects of the cold and numerous bug bites. They explained that they lost their paddle, became disoriented, and had to wait for assistance.

Air 1 was able to return the two safely to the Miquelon Lake Park Site where they were treated by EMS and reunited with grateful family.

The enhanced capabilities of the Air 1 helicopter make it a vital part of the Edmonton Police Service, and helps provide a greater level of safety and support to the public and first responders. Air 1 responds to over 3,000 calls annually, including calls to assist Edmonton Fire Rescue and the RCMP.



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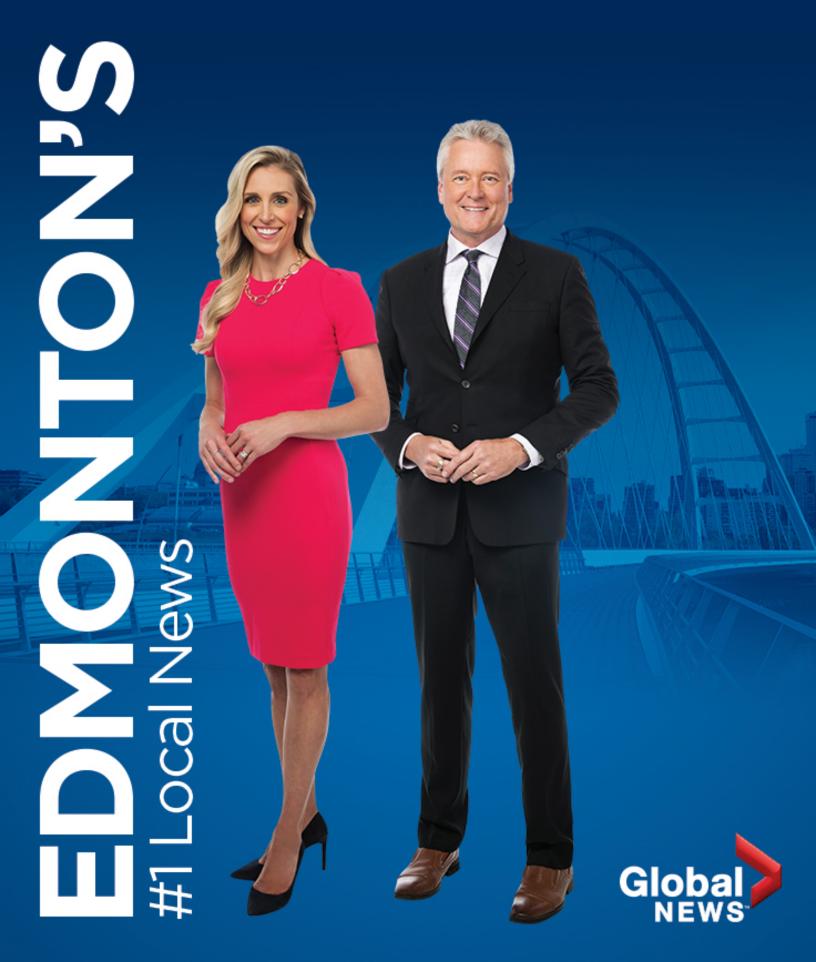
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