



An Informative Newsletter for British Columbia Published Monthly by the Block Watch Society of BC.

www.blockwatch.com

TAKING 'EXTRA MEASURES' TO HELP VULNERABLE YOUTH IN BC - NEW REFERRAL TOOL FOR POLICE

It happens more often than we might care to admit: youth who come into conflict with the law are reprimanded and released, only to re-offend and escalate their criminal behaviour. A new referral tool produced by the BC Centre for Safe Schools & Communities at the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) in partnership with "E" Division RCMP will assist police in redirecting youth to services that can help prevent them from falling into a life of crime.

The project, called Extrajudicial Measures Database for Vulnerable Youth in BC, provides police officers in the field with easy access to information that can assist them in referring young offenders to mental health, drug addiction and mentoring services in their communities. In their police cars, officers will be able to access provincial, regional, and local contact information for supportive interventions for youth who come to the attention of police.

The BC Centre for Safe Schools & Communities has been working in close partnership with the "E" Division RCMP, Crime Prevention & Program Support Services (CP&PSS) – Youth Strategies Unit.

The Officer in Charge of CP&PSS, Insp. Terry Kopan, supports the joint initiative saying, "The goal of the Extrajudicial Measures Database is to enhance our front-line officer's ability to

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respond effectively and sustainably to youth crime by addressing the risk factors which are often-times the root cause of a youth coming repeatedly into conflict with the law." The database will also enable greater citizen/community participation in the youth justice system through community programs and services for drug addiction and mental health targeted specifically for youth.

Source:<http://bc.rcmp.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=50&languageId=1&contentId=18204&detachmentCategoryId=565&title=B.C.>

BC RCMP SEEKS TO REDUCE AVALANCHE-RELATED DEATHS

The RCMP along with other government partner agencies believe that the most effective way to reduce and hopefully eliminate preventable avalanche-related deaths is through education on the safe usage of backcountry recreational areas.

In the past 10 years, British Columbia has seen an average of 14 avalanche-related deaths each season. Ten years ago, 50% of fatalities in the backcountry involved skiers and about 25% were linked to snowmobilers. This number has now shifted with snowmobilers accounting for the majority of preventable avalanche-related deaths

"Enthusiasts need to understand that their survival in an avalanche will be measured in minutes. Rescue efforts must begin with companion or self rescue and people need to equip themselves properly and know how to use those necessary equipment," says Cpl Dan Moskaluk, RCMP Media Relations Officer.

Source:<http://bc.rcmp.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=50&languageId=1&contentId=18227&detachmentCategoryId=565&title=B.C.>

WINTER COUNTERATTACK RESULTS ARE IN

During the second half of the Winter CounterAttack Campaign, both the RCMP and city police in BC have dealt with:

- approximately 200 impaired drivers criminally,
- 382 drivers who received a 3-day IRP (of which 223 drivers had their vehicles impounded for 3 days),
- five drivers who received a 7-day IRP (of which 4 drivers had their vehicles impounded for 7 days),
- 670 drivers who received a 90-day IRP (all 670 drivers faced a mandatory 30-day vehicle impoundment), and
- 159 drivers who were charged with excessive speed (of which all had their vehicles impounded for at least 7 days)

Altogether in this Winter CounterAttack Campaign: 687 drivers were given a 3-, or 7-day IRP; 1212 drivers were given a 90-day IRP; and 280 drivers were charged with excessive speed.

Source: <http://bc.rcmp.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=50&languageId=1&contentId=18197&detachmentCategoryId=&title=B.C.>

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU ANNOUNCES TOP TEN SCAMS FOR 2011

The top 10 scams for 2011 are:

1. Door-to-door scams
2. Not-so-free-Trial offers
3. Anti-Social Network
4. Advance Fee Loans
5. Phishing, Vishing, and Smishing
6. Relative Scam
7. Job Scams
8. Business Opportunities
9. Business Directory Scams
10. Overpayment Scams

Details on BBB Scan List Item Number 5: “Phishing, Vishing, and Smishing”

Identity thieves are always looking for new ways to strike, and taking advantage of new technologies is a boon for scamming unsuspecting users. “**Phishing**” scams send emails that look legitimate, requesting that your “account information needs to be updated.” Recipients are sent to a phony, but legitimate looking website and prompted to enter their information details. “**Vishing**” attacks come via telephone, usually through a recorded message that tells users to call a toll-free number. The caller is then typically asked to punch in a credit card number or other personal information. “**Smishing**” scams target mobile device users, sending text messages that might ask a recipient to register for a service that downloads a virus or warn that the consumer will be charged unless he cancels his supposed order by going to a website that then extracts such credit card numbers and other private data. These are all tactics to get you to reveal personal or financial information.

QUICK TIP: If you receive these messages just delete them and do not click on any links, and hang up on callers you aren’t familiar with. Never give credit information online or over the phone unless you are sure of the identity of the caller. If you are a victim of ID theft, call your financial institutions to have them cancel your cards and re-issue new ones. Contact your local police and Canada’s main credit reporting agencies: TransUnion Canada at tuc.ca (1-800-663-9980) and Equifax Canada at equifax.ca (1-800-465-7166).

For more information on the other 9 scams, please click on this [link](#)

Source: <http://mbc.bbb.org/article/better-business-bureau-announces-top-ten-scams-for-2011-24868>