



**BLOCK WATCH**®  
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Block Watch Society of BC.  
[www.blockwatch.com](http://www.blockwatch.com)

## **ONLINE RENTAL SCAM - KAMLOOPS**

On May 12, 2010 the Kamloops RCMP received a report of a suspected online scam involving the advertisement of a local condominium for rent. The RCMP would ask all people to conduct extensive research any time you are responding to an online offering involving sending money to an unknown person or agency.

The RCMP would again like to remind all residents to be extremely cautious when dealing with any person or company offering an item or service for sale involving up front money. Fortunately, the person reporting the incident did not send any money to the person responsible for the advertisement. It was further learned that this particular advertisement had received a large volume of views from people looking online to rent in the Kamloops area.

Anytime you send money electronically or in the mail to an unknown person or company, you run the risk of being a victim of fraud. Fraudsters and Scammers make a living from your hard earned money and if you are in doubt get a second opinion from a friend or family member.

Source: <http://bc.rcmp.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=50&languageId=1&contentId=14652>

## **TRST CARDS – PRINCE GEORGE**

Prince George Community Policing, along with sponsors McDonald's and the Family "Y" proudly announce the arrival of the new tRST

# **Block Watch News June 2010**

Cards for youth - the acronym tRST translates to "the Right STuff."

Youth ages 12 to 18 can sometimes be a tough crowd to reach and may sometimes go unrecognized for good deeds so Community Policing created a business-sized card to give out to youth, caught in the act of "doing the right stuff" like driving the speed limit, wearing a bike helmet, using the crosswalk or just generally having a positive attitude.

RCMP general duty members, RCMP Auxiliary, Community Safety Officers, and Community Policing staff will give out 10,000 cards to Prince George youth over the next year. One portion of the card has useful contact information to be retained and the second portion of the card is either a free large McDonald's sandwich or free youth drop-in pass for the Family "Y".

Source: <http://bc.rcmp.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=50&languageId=1&contentId=14656>

## **HOUSE PARTY SAFETY**

- Make sure all of your friends know the house rules. This will show your parents that you're responsible and you'll increase your chances of having another party in the future.
- Know where your parents are during the party. You may need their help with unruly guests or during an emergency.
- If alcohol is allowed, don't let anyone drive who's been drinking. You are responsible for any accidents which occur. Take car keys as people arrive.
- Talk to your neighbours and reassure

them that the party will not get out of hand. Ask them to come to you first if there is a problem so you can rectify the situation.

Source:[http://www.classbrain.com/artfamily/publish/article\\_49.shtml](http://www.classbrain.com/artfamily/publish/article_49.shtml)

## **BREAK AND ENTER TRENDS – CHILLIWACK**

The break and enters are occurring predominantly in the north part of Chilliwack in the late evenings while home owners are either away or sleeping. The suspect may cut the backyard fence to gain entry and once inside will break into the shed to steal tools.

Many residents are leaving their sheds unlocked which makes access extremely easy. When the sheds are locked and entry is being gained, the doors have been pried open.

“Ensure that there is an adequate locking device on the shed door and double check that it is locked before going away or to bed for the night,” said Cst. Tracy Wolbeck.

Another emerging trend on the south side of Chilliwack appears to be a risk reduction approach to break and enters. “The suspect typically targets townhouses and will ring the door bell to ensure that nobody is home before attempting entry into the residence”, said Cst. Tracy Wolbeck Target items appear to be home electronics.

Source:<http://bc.rcmp.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=50&languageId=1&contentId=14862>

## **PROPERTY THEFTS DURING OPEN HOUSES - LANGLEY**

These crimes are committed by thieves posing as potential homebuyers attending Open Houses or walking through homes for sale with a realtor. The thieves will distract the realtor, perhaps asking for a tape measure, and while the realtor facilitates the request, property is pocketed. Property targeted during these thefts includes laptops, jewellery, designer purses, small

electronics, and other miscellaneous items.

### **As a homeowner, you may want to consider some of the following crime prevention tips:**

- Hide your valuables AND your medications – consider renting a safety deposit box. Some banks offer them as part of a package.
- If your home has a more complex floor plan or multiple floors with hard to monitor entrances, request your realtor bring additional agents. Ask that they keep count of arrivals and departures.
- Put away bills, credit card receipts, and bank statements. If possible, remove them and store them with your valuables.
- Remove personal photographs and anything that might identify you.

Source:<http://bc.rcmp.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=50&languageId=1&contentId=14856>

## **BOAT TOWING SAFETY TIPS**

“Unfortunately we’ve all seen incidents where somebody is improperly towing a trailer or a boat behind their vehicle. This puts them and other people on the road at risk as the vehicle can become unstable. Some basic practices can help ensure you arrive at your destination and on the water safely,” explains Cpl. Chung.

- Ensure that the tires on the trailer and tow vehicle are properly inflated.
- Connect safety chains properly.
- Make sure that your boat is properly secured to the trailer.
- Check that the trailer’s signal lights and brake lights are operating properly.
- Ensure that the trailer is properly secured to the trailer hitch.
- Secure and contain all equipment and cargo. This will keep it from shifting within the boat which can affect stability or falling out into traffic.
- Exercise caution when passing another vehicle.

Source:<http://bc.rcmp.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=50&languageId=1&contentId=14756>