

March/April 2015

Burnaby RCMP members were well-represented at a number of official ceremonies over the past two months including a visit to Vancouver by Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



# Burnaby RCMP Community Police Report

“Partners for a Safe Community”

# Message from the Chief



On behalf of the members, staff and volunteers of the Burnaby RCMP Detachment, I am very pleased to present our Public Safety Committee Report for March and April.

This report is a snapshot of the work undertaken by our Detachment team, in partnership with numerous stakeholders and the citizens of our community, to keep our city safe and secure.

We have continued to move forward with the implementation of our Annual Performance Plan with the approved 2015/2016 priorities: Property Crime; Drugs; Youth; Violent Crime and Road Safety.

The 2015/2016 Burnaby policing priorities were selected through consultation with our community partners at our Annual Performance Planning session on March 5, held at the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts.

This is an opportunity for us to engage with our community partners on issues of public safety. The sessions are held with members of the public, police officers, municipal staff and councillors to discuss and determine what the community's policing priorities should be for the coming year. This assists us in directing our policing resources where they matter the most for the community.

The Annual Performance Planning Session is an important and meaningful process and is only successful with the active participation of all involved, so I thank everyone who took the time out of their busy schedules to partner with us in public safety.

The crime statistics for the first four months of 2015 are continuing to show a decrease over last year in four of the major areas of crime that we track for this report. Robbery, break and enters to businesses, auto theft and theft from auto are dropping with break and enters to businesses at a significant decrease of 28 per cent over last year.

Unfortunately, we are seeing an increase in break and enters to residences in 2015, and this of course is a great concern. Our specialized teams are working hard to identify problem properties where people are living, who may be in part responsible for some of the property crime we are experiencing. I'd also like to take this opportunity to remind residents, especially as we get into the warmer weather, to ensure your doors and garages are locked. We don't want to make it easy for thieves to break into our homes.

Our Community Response Team recently worked with a concerned landlord at a building on Pender Street and executed a warrant at a residence on the north side, recovering \$6,000 worth of stolen property. We will continue to closely monitor break and enters to residences and to target those individuals who are responsible for bringing crime into our community.

*Thank you for taking the time to review our report. We welcome your feedback. For information about our Annual Performance Plan, Crime Reduction Strategy, programs and services, current events and contact details, please visit our website at [burnaby.rcmp.ca](http://burnaby.rcmp.ca).*

*D.T. (Dave) Critchley, Chief Superintendent  
Officer in Charge, Burnaby RCMP Detachment*

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# Crime Reduction

Crime Reduction involves the commitment of the entire Detachment and our community partners to be effective. Our team meets bi-weekly during our Compstat (Comparative Statistics) sessions to identify crime trends in our community and identify hotspots of activity. On behalf of the members of the community our public safety partners, staff and team leaders make commitments to target this activity and identify those responsible.

This is not solely a police response. We engage Block Watch and Community Programs to report suspicious activity in an effort to reduce crime in our community. Our analysts track every type of crime committed, however we focus on several monitored crime types, which have a direct impact on the majority of our community. These are mostly crimes which deal with property offences.

In the first four months of 2015, by district, Burnaby is showing some decreases in a number of crime types we monitor for this report with the most significant drop being seen in theft from auto in District 3 at a drop of 38 per cent and auto theft by 18 per cent.

In District 4, April has shown a decrease in theft from auto by 15 per cent. This is the same area where two prolific offenders were believed to be active. They were recently identified and arrested by the detachment's Prolific Offender Suppression Team and have been transported back to Alberta where they were wanted on 120 charges. They are also facing numerous charges out of Burnaby, which are currently being forwarded to Crown Counsel for charge approval. Abbotsford Police are also considering charges for an incident that's alleged to have occurred in their jurisdiction with the same offender.

We also continue to see a downward trend in robberies with fewer reports of personal robberies occurring over the last several years. This is partly due to intelligence-led enforcement around skytrain stations. The reduction we're seeing in break and enters to businesses are due to factors including better security at businesses. It is gratifying to see businesses taking security seriously and that's resulted in fewer break-ins.

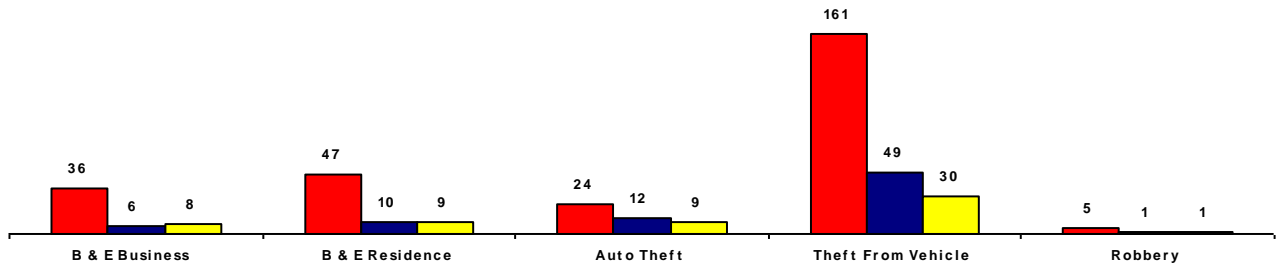
Auto theft has been down since January. While we are experiencing a decrease, we do remain vigilant as we want to ensure that downward momentum continues.



## Crime Reduction Stats

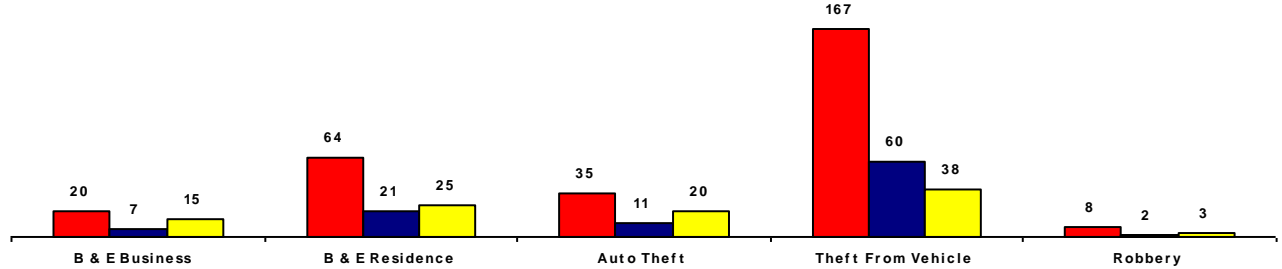
### D1 Monitored Crime Types (Year to Date)

■ 2015(YTD) ■ Mar-15 ■ 14-Mar



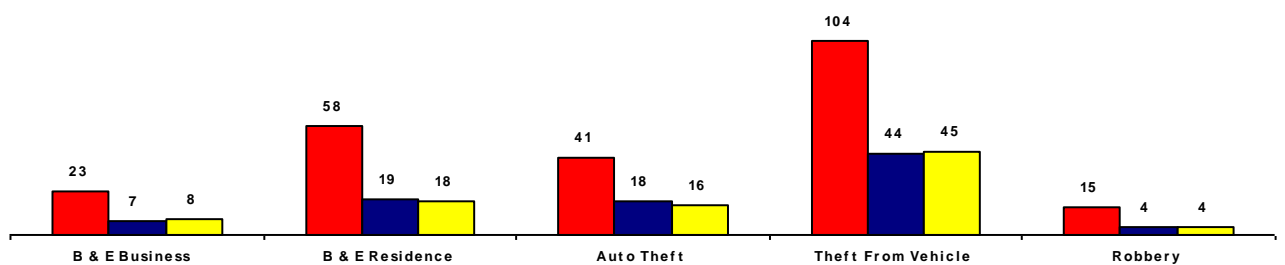
### D2 Monitored Crime Types (Year to Date)

■ 2015(YTD) ■ Mar-15 ■ Mar-14



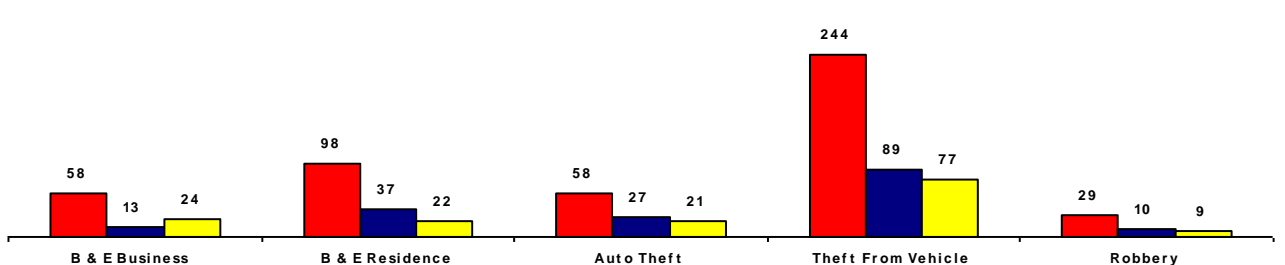
### D3 Monitored Crime Types (Year to Date)

■ 2015(YTD) ■ Mar-15 ■ Mar-14



### D4 Monitored Crime Types (Year to Date)

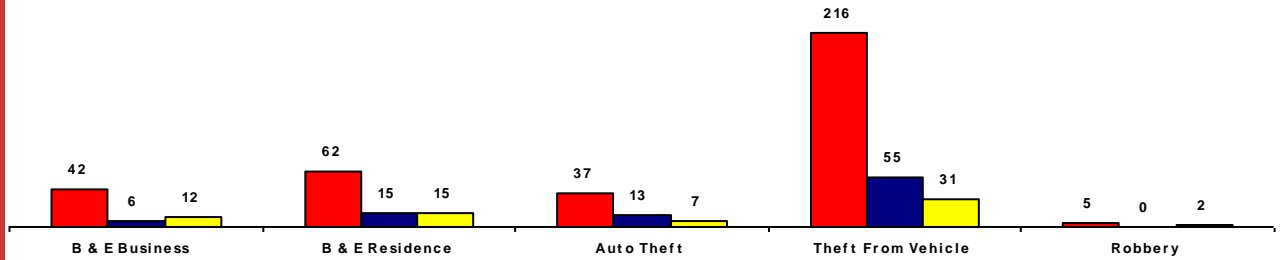
■ YTD 2015 ■ Mar-15 ■ Mar-14



## Crime Reduction Stats

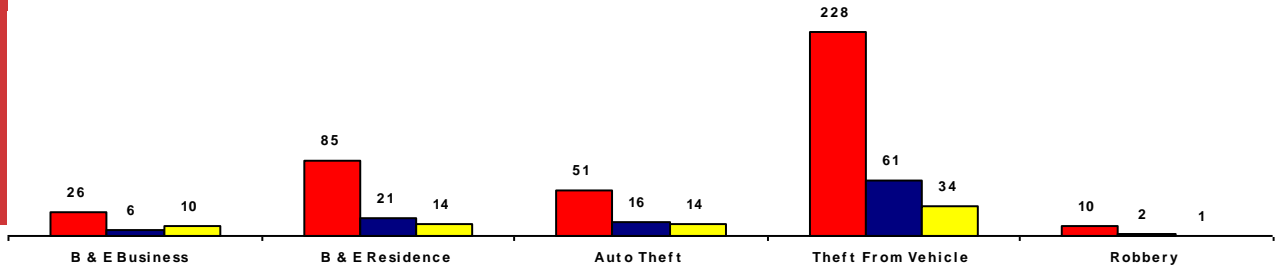
### D1 Monitored Crime Types (Year to Date)

■ 2015(YTD) ■ Apr-15 ■ Apr-14



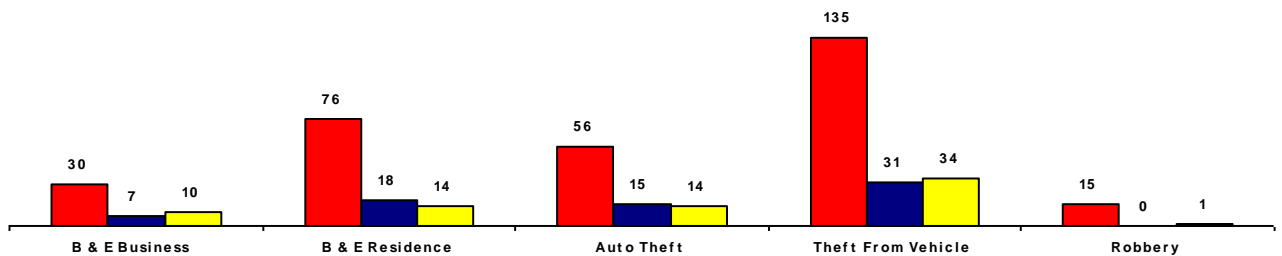
### D2 Monitored Crime Types (Year to Date)

■ 2015(YTD) ■ Apr-15 ■ Apr-14



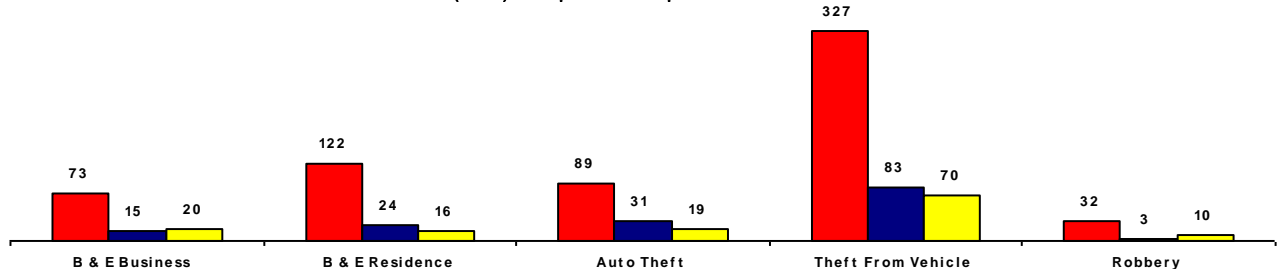
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■ 2015(YTD) ■ Apr-15 ■ Apr-14



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■ 2015(YTD) ■ Apr-15 ■ Apr-14

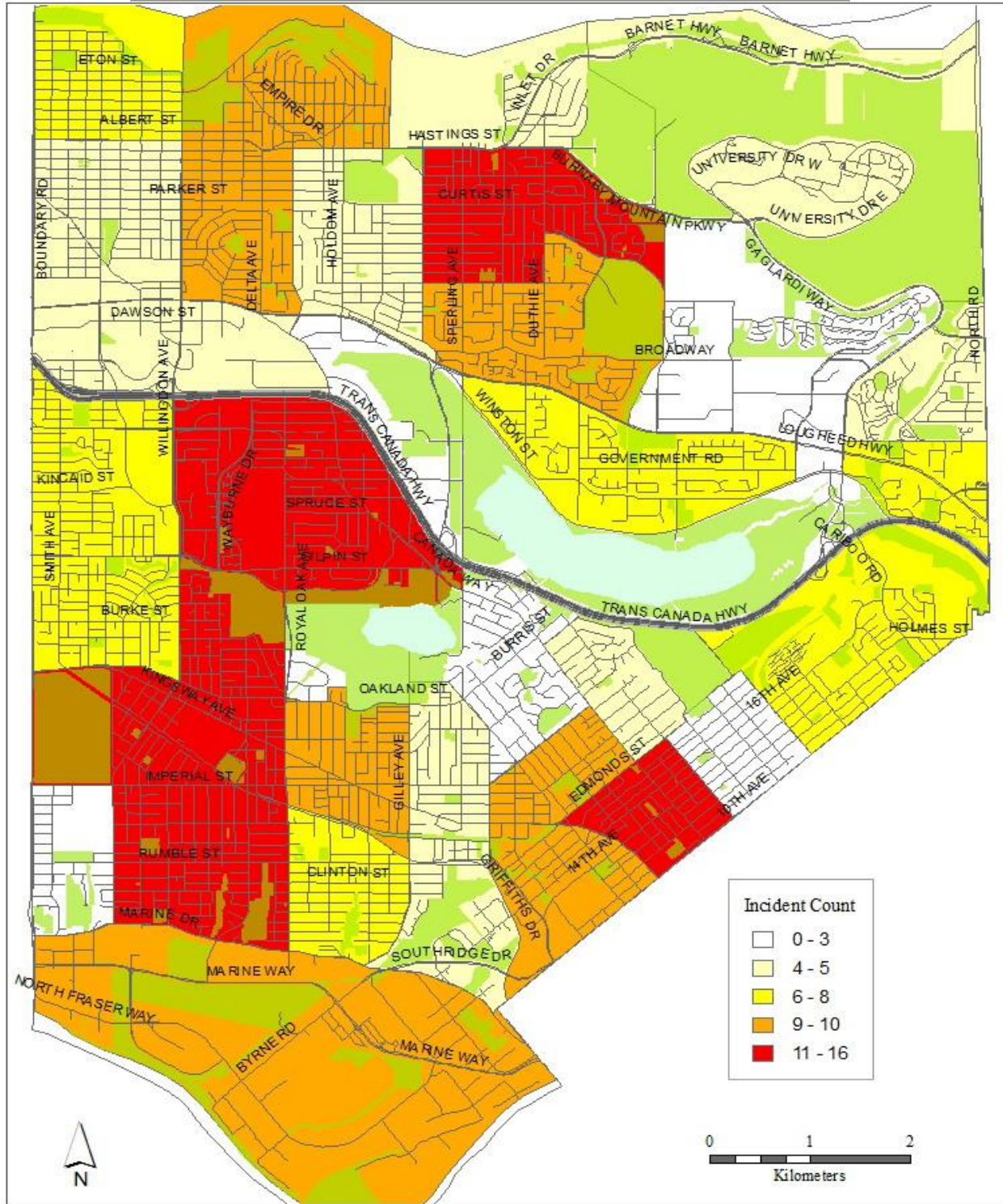






## Crime Density Map

**Break & Enter by Neighbourhood -- March & April 2015**

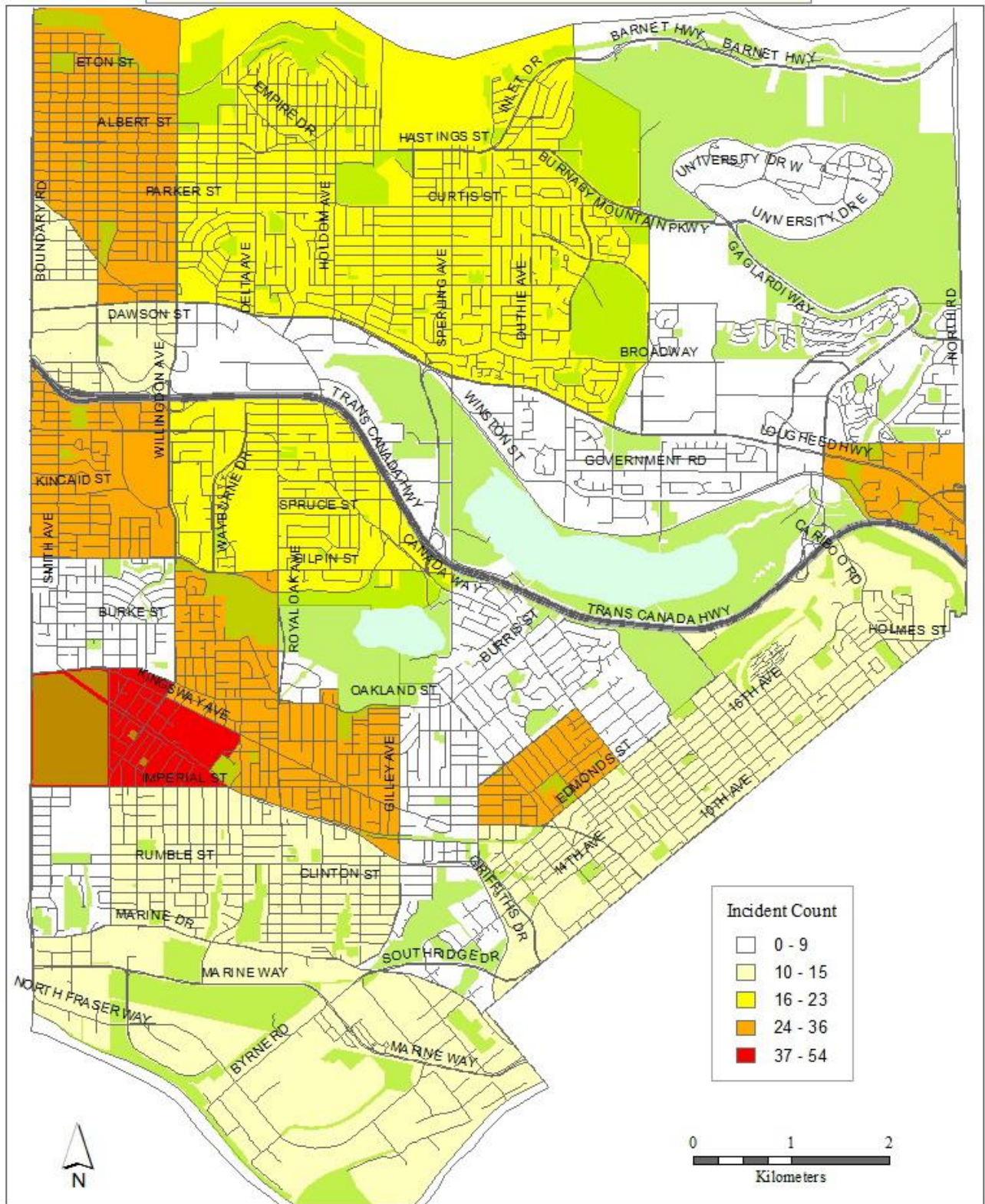






## Crime Density Map

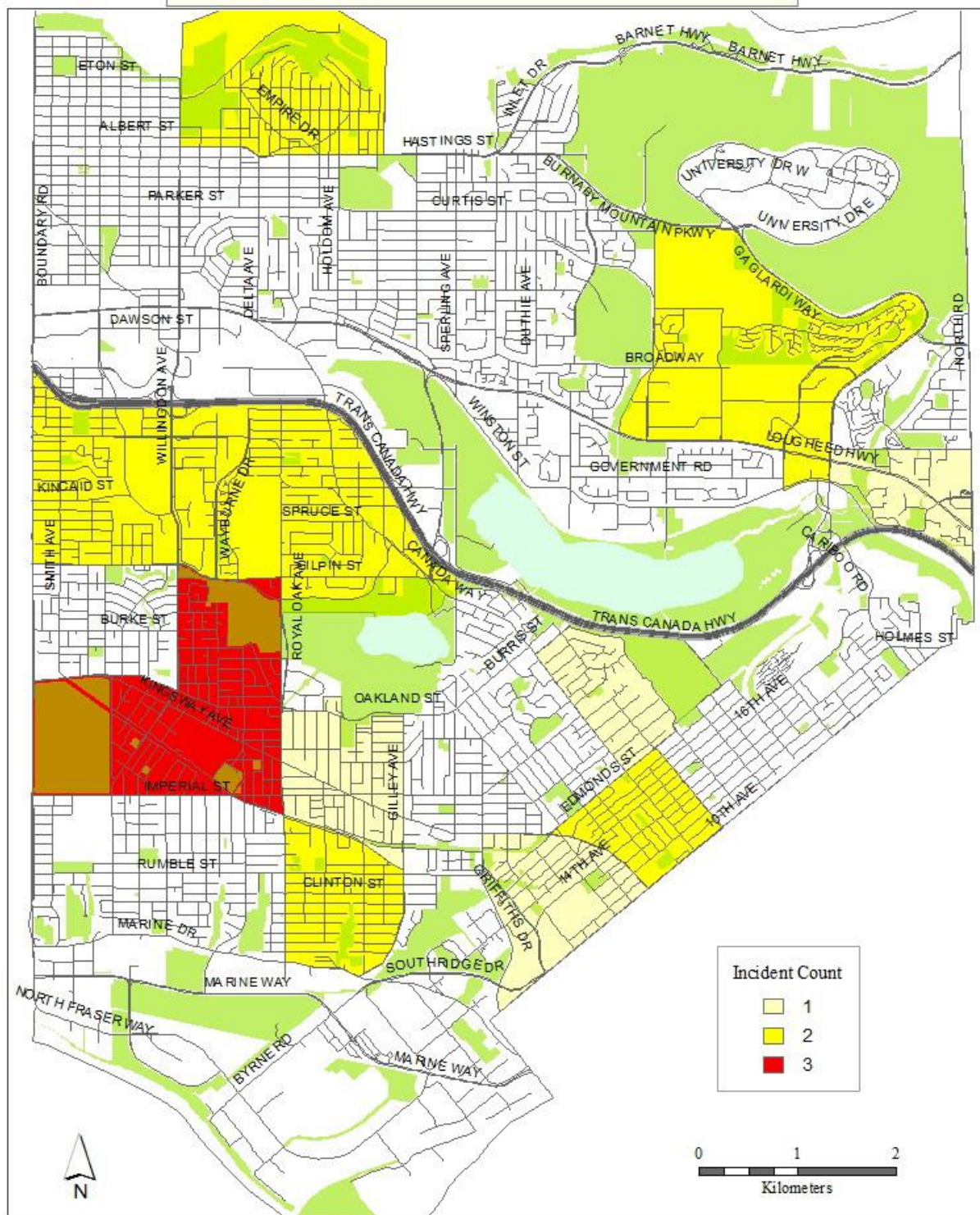
### Auto Crime by Neighbourhood -- March & April 2015





# Crime Density Map

### Robbery by Neighbourhood -- March & April 2015







## Major Investigations

**Burnaby Detachment** members respond on average to over 170 calls for service per day. Many involve extensive investigations over a long period of time and often require detailed witness interviews, undercover operations and lengthy court preparation. As such, major files are turned over to our plainclothes units, usually after first response by General Duty.

### Project Tainted

Investigative Services drug and serious crime sections had tremendous success in March following an exhaustive investigation into the often violent world of the fentanyl drug trade.

The Burnaby RCMP arrested five Burnaby residents who were charged with multiple offences including attempted homicide, assault causing bodily harm, numerous drug trafficking offences including crack cocaine, heroin and fentanyl.



Burnaby OIC Dave Critchley attends news conference in March to announce charges in the joint Burnaby/VPD investigation into the fentanyl trade.  
*Photo credit CFSEU-BC*

The five individuals operated a Burnaby dial-a-dope drug line that ran 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The joint investigation between Burnaby RCMP, the Vancouver Police Department and Federal and Serious Organized Crime, began in November 2014 and ran until February 2015. The goal was to stop the escalating drug activity and violent behaviours of a number of individuals bordering both communities.

Midway through the investigation, the violence surrounding the drug activity, culminated in a daylight shooting in the 4100-block of Victory Street in Burnaby on Dec. 29. The victim, who was known to police, survived his injuries. The shooting is believed to be the result of an altercation between drug groups operating dial-a-dope lines in and around Burnaby. Thankfully, no members of the public were injured during the incident.

The investigation ended with multiple search warrants executed at residences throughout Greater Vancouver including two in Burnaby.

Firearms and numerous drugs were seized including Crack Cocaine, Heroin and Fentanyl as well as firearms. The drug line has since been dismantled.

**Investigative Services** was called to a complaint in April involving three men fighting in a back alley. Once there, police found two men with open wounds. One had been clubbed with a knife handle while a third man who intervened to assist the victim, was stabbed. Charges against one of the men have been forwarded to Crown Counsel while charges are being considered against the third man.

# Community Operations

**The Community Response Teams (CRT)** are the face of Community Operations in Burnaby. The mandate of the CRT is to target specific neighbourhood and community problems such as problem properties, repeat calls for service, social chronic offenders and crime hot spot problems in Burnaby with the goal of enhancing public safety and reducing calls for service

## Problem Residences

CRT members work with the community to address the issue of problem residences. CRT has successfully worked with members of the community and the owner of an apartment building on Pender Street to ensure the building is abiding by local rules and regulations and that the tenants were not having a negative influence on the neighbourhood. CRT members also executed a search warrant at another northside residence and recovered \$6,000 worth of stolen property. The Burnaby RCMP will continue to work with the community and property owners to ensure these properties don't have a negative impact on the surrounding community.



## Recovered Hand Gun

CRT members continually patrol crime hot spots. CRT members were successful in arresting two males who fled from police and tried to dispose of a handgun. The handgun was recovered and the suspects' vehicle was seized. Charges are pending.

## Burnaby School Liaison / Youth Section

In addition to our regular school related files and duties, members have partnered with the Burnaby School District for the third year and are preparing to deliver the program Talking About The Topic Of Opportunity (TATTOO).

The goal is to engage high risk youth that are vulnerable to the gang lifestyle. This eight week program speaks to drug use, economics of crime – financial ups and downs, and positive / negative police contact. By identifying these youth in our community, we hope to show them that they have the ability to make their own choices and that we can bridge the gap between youth and the police. Our ultimate goal is to build trust and rapport with our Burnaby teens.



**Traffic Section** is responsible for investigating major traffic related files such as pedestrian/vehicle collisions, serious collisions and fatalities. Road safety is one of Burnaby's top policing priorities and traffic services make every effort to ensure safe streets for Burnaby.

### March/April 2015

As part of the Provincial Distracted Driving Campaign, traffic services issued 857 violation tickets in March. Enhanced enforcement took place at strategic locations throughout Burnaby. With the exception of the Vancouver Police Department, this was the highest amount of violation tickets issued for distracted driving by a RCMP detachment.



This blitz for distracted driving was highlighted by a media event on March 31 in which both RCMP members and Community Police Office (CPO) volunteers and ICBC conducted education and enforcement on Kingsway. A reminder to the public that distracted driving is one of the leading causes of collisions.

Traffic services enjoyed the usage of an unmarked vehicle utilizing Automatic Licence Plate Reader (ALPR) technology and many interdiction operations were conducted during the month. There were over a dozen interdictions in which vehicles were stopped as a result of a link to the ICBC database. Drivers were fined for not having valid licences or issued court notices for charges of driving while prohibited/suspended. The usage of an ALPR vehicle is the trend for many traffic services to enhance their enforcement activities.

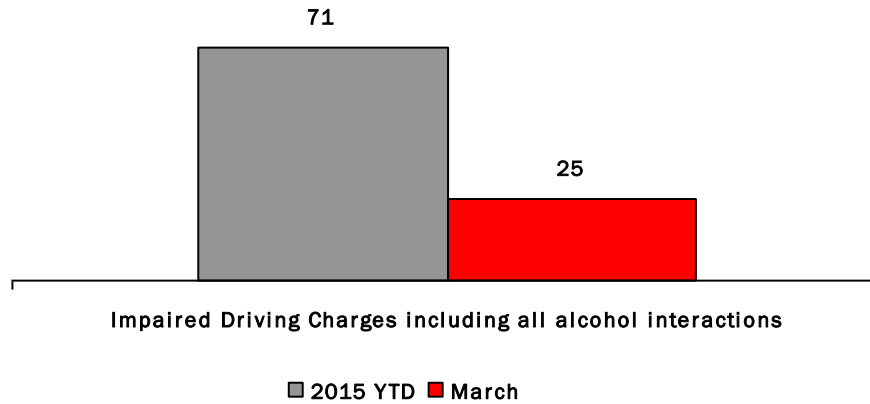
On April 28, at 8:50 am, a serious injury motorcycle collision happened at Cumberland and 11 Avenue. A small Burnaby City mower (grass) tractor was slowly travelling southbound on Cumberland when a 57-year old male on a Harley Davidson attempted to pass on the left. The roadway was single-lane, separated by a single solid yellow centerline. It appears that the rider did not appreciate that the tractor was about to turn left at 11 Ave. as there was contact between the motorcycle and the wheels of the tractor. The rider lost control and the motorcycle slid for a few metres. Although the rider was wearing an approved beanie-style helmet, the fall resulted in confirmed head injuries. At the time of this report, the rider is in serious but stable condition at hospital.

With the approach of the spring/summer months for driving, there will be more motorcyclists on the road. Both motorists and motorcycle operators need to be aware of their surroundings and to drive sensibly within the City of Burnaby.

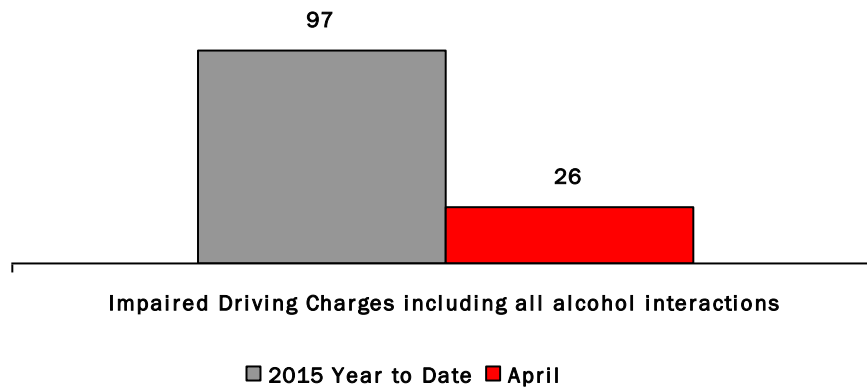


## Impaired Driving Enforcement numbers

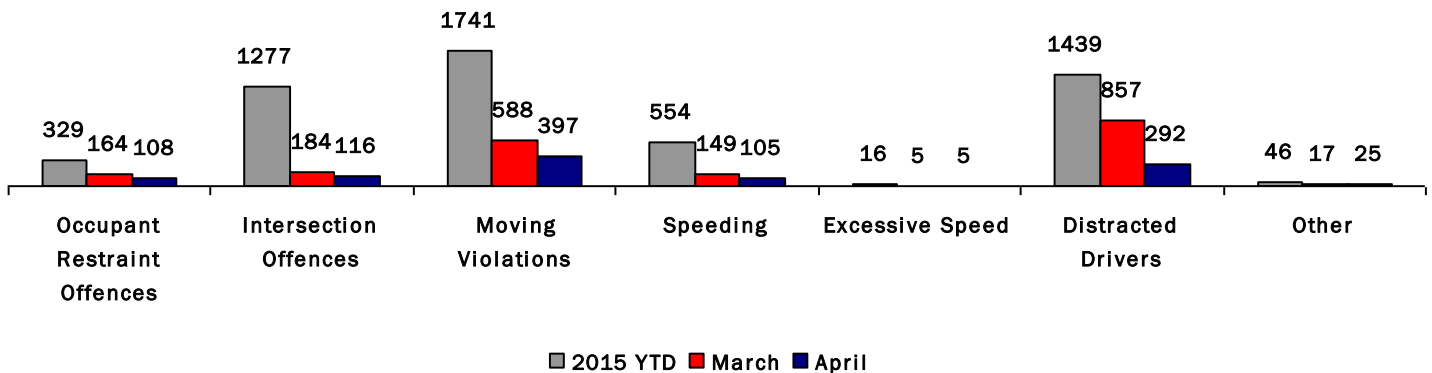
### March



### April



## Moving Violation Enforcement numbers





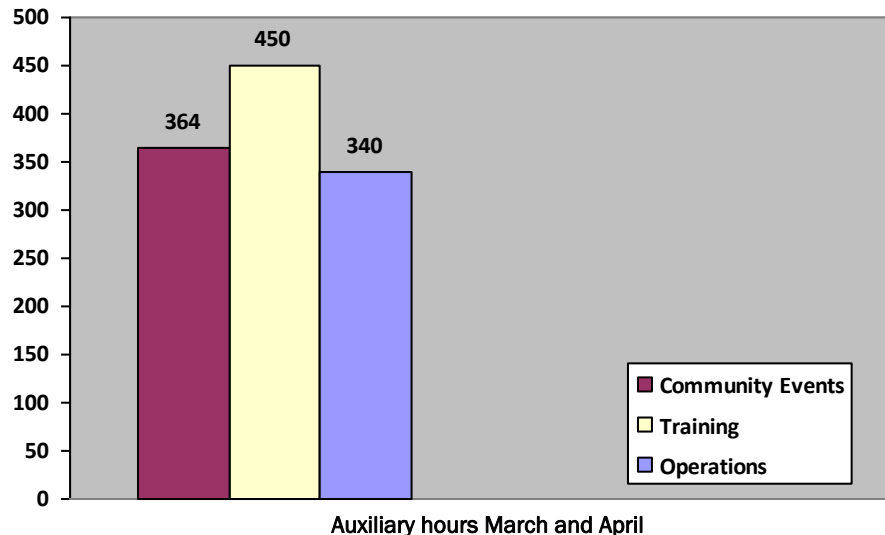


**Crime Prevention Unit** provides support to members of our community through information sessions, the Auxiliary Constable Section, Block Watch, Crime Free Multi Housing and Youth Services. Their invaluable support relies on the efforts of volunteers and staff throughout the city. A full description of the services they provide can be found at [www.burnaby.rcmp.ca](http://www.burnaby.rcmp.ca)

### Auxiliary Constable Program

In March, 15 Auxiliary Constables attended the annual Nagar Kirtan Parade to assist with traffic control.

In April, Burnaby Detachment played host to the Lower Mainland Auxiliary Constable Coordinators for their bi-annual meeting.



### **Victim Services**

Victim Services attended an emergency Integrated Case Assessment Team (ICAT) meeting concerning a highest-risk domestic violence victim. ICAT teams are made up of various police and community domestic violence agencies which come together to ensure the best and most thorough possible response to victims of domestic violence who are at imminent risk of bodily harm or death. Working with this team, we were able to establish an effective safety plan for this woman and her children. In March, 82 news files were opened.

In April, Victim Services were awarded a grant from the provincial government to organize and provide a two-day workshop on safety for Burnaby providers of services to victims of domestic violence. The workshop will be conducted in the autumn.

Victim Services also had a booth at the Dixon Transition Society Domestic Violence Forum during National Victims of Crime week and opened over 80 new files during the month.

**Youth Services** interviews continue for the Youth and Family Counsellor position while the Restorative Justice Facilitator position was recently offered and accepted by the successful candidate. Youth services also attend the District Parent Advisory Committee event titled *It Could Happen to You* an educational presentation on sexual exploitation for Burnaby parents and guardians. Youth Services Supervisor Kelly-Anne Breen attended as a panel member and was asked to give the closing speech at the event.

The Youth Services supervisor is a member of the Burnaby New Westminster Task Force for Sexually Exploited and At-risk Youth.

The Crime Prevention Unit (CPU) hosted a March Safe Community Series presentation, entitled *The Negative Impact of Graffiti Vandalism On Your Community* in collaboration with the Burnaby Anti-Graffiti Unit. Organized and promoted by CPU staff, Anti-Graffiti Coordinator Cathy Wipf and Cst. Shelby Murphy spoke to an engaged group of community members at the Confederation Centre in North Burnaby. Attendees learned about some of the common misperceptions about graffiti, as well as prevention strategies on how to effectively deal with occurrences when they do happen.

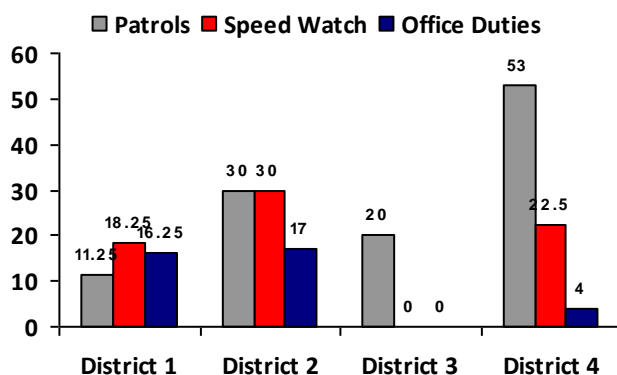
CPU staff facilitated the 2015 Spring Safety Forum on April 16, on behalf of the Officer-in-Charge of Burnaby Detachment. Hosted at the Lougheed Town Centre in collaboration with the North Road Business Improvement Association, this event presented an opportunity for the public to learn more about policing in Burnaby. It was also an opportunity to speak directly to the OIC and to ask him questions about their public safety concerns. Numerous attendees met the Chief, elected officials and multiple public safety partners who were also present to provide information and resources.



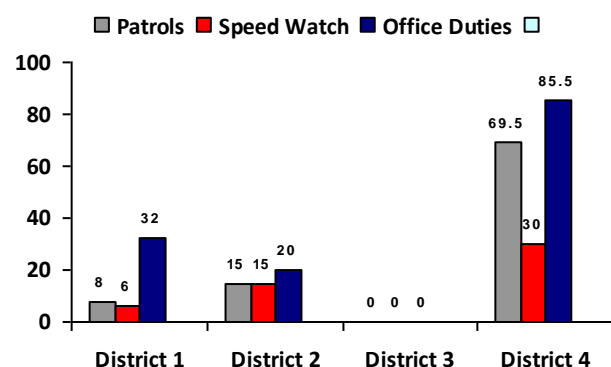
Several Crime Free Multi-Housing property assessments, providing apartment managers and owners with detailed findings on how to make their building more secure against criminal activity, were held. An additional building was certified as “Crime-Free” after making the requisite security upgrades. CPU staff facilitated a residents safety social at this building where they presented on the merits of the program and the importance of taking ownership for simple security precautions for everyone’s benefit.

**Volunteers** are a fundamental component of our District Operations. They staff the front counter at each Community Police Office.

**Volunteer Hours by District  
March 2015**



**Volunteer Hours by District  
April 2015**





## Detachment/Community Events

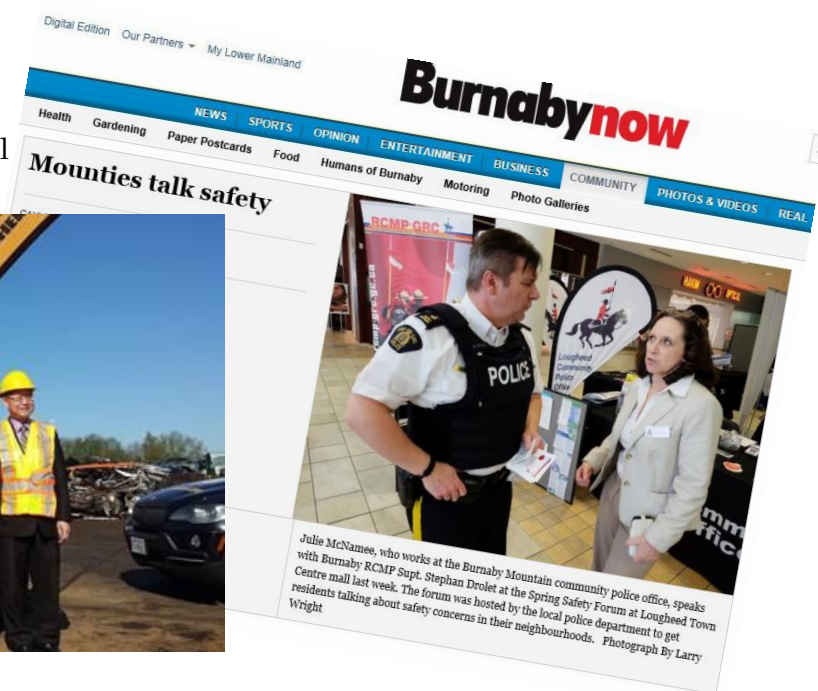


Going door-to-door in the community to warn residents of a stranger attack in April.

Chatting at the OIC's Spring Safety Forum at Lougheed Mall



Crushing crime in Burnaby. Supt. Stephan Drolet and S/Sgt Major John Buis join Justice Minister Suzanne Anton during a CFSEU-BC sponsored event in which a gang crime vehicle was “crushed” at a Burnaby recycling facility in March.





## Contact Us

**Do you have questions or comments concerning this report?**

**Are you interested in volunteering or becoming more involved in your community's safety?**

**Contact us at any one of the Community Police Offices below, call our main line at (604) 294-7922 or explore our website at:**

[www.burnaby.rcmp.ca](http://www.burnaby.rcmp.ca)

### Main Detachment

**Burnaby RCMP  
6355 Deer Lake Avenue  
Burnaby, BC V5G 2J2  
(604) 294-7922**

