

Southwest District 4 Community Advisory Committee Report

February 28, 2017 and March 28, 2017 Meetings

- Police report: Nothing showing increase in crime in our area, Kingsway corridor/Metrotown areas of focus. Police did a successful 5-day drug surveillance disrupting drug activity. Officer made the point that Crime-stoppers is an excellent tool and an anonymous one. Reports can be made without being connected to the person who reports. Asks that we encourage people to report unusual or suspicious activity. There will be follow-up if the tip amounts to anything so you know if your tip was accurate and useful. You can report to any RCMP station also but then could be called on to testify in court.
- Office Manager and RCMP attended a cold and snowy February Speedwatch. The driving habits of parents were a surprise. RCMP gave out several tickets—highest speed 72 kms. Great value in the program heightening awareness for drivers. Volunteers appreciated the support.
- ICBC held a Distracted Driving session at SFU. It was a Good Event and helpful for drivers used to the rules in other jurisdictions. Driver's license is recognized from other countries if a person is a full-time student. When a person becomes a permanent resident they need to get a BC driver's license. Lots of tickets were being issued for distracted driving. A question was raised regarding impairment with marijuana use—it was noted that police don't have the tools to determine impairment currently. RCMP waiting for guidance from the legislation.
- Transit police reported that the incidence of reported sex crimes is down. Youth violence continues around Metrotown—most of the problem offenders have been identified with assistance from local security and police. Crime reduction unit will be focused on this in near future. Incidents on and around transit affect perceptions of safety on transit.
- An accidental overdose occurred in the library. Incident is under police investigation. The staff involved appreciated the concern and support from the firemen who attended the incident and returned the next day with follow-up counseling.
- Security at Station Square continues to manage drug use in washrooms...continue to encourage retailers lock washrooms. During spring break there was a rise in drug use and vandalism. Think they have identified a ringleader. Homeless person sleeping in stairwell has been moved along. Woman who was causing issues in store got aggressive with guards and with other customers. Several calls to 911 did not get prompt response. Eventually called ambulance and she was taken away. Police respond quickly if a weapon is involved. CRT member is willing to follow up on this particular incident.
- Three Crime Prevention vans will be in Hats Off Day Parade...a reminder for other CPOs to enter their vehicles.

Submitted by Mary Gates, CPAC chairperson