



Burnaby RCMP

Public Safety Report

February and March 2018

“Partners for a Safe Community”

Message from the Chief



Great work by two of our specialized units has ensured that two people are facing serious charges in relation to incidents which took place in Burnaby in February and March.

An alleged serial purse snatcher is facing four charges after diligent policing by the Burnaby RCMP Strike Force Unit. A two-week investigation into purse snatchings led Strike Force to a parking lot in North Burnaby. Within an hour of setting up surveillance, Strike Force had arrested a suspect who was allegedly targeting elderly women.

An alleged prolific car thief is facing eight charges thanks to our hard-working Prolific Offender Suppression Team (POST). After tracking the suspect to a parking lot at Metrotown, POST attempted to block the suspect vehicle. It's alleged the suspect then smashed through police vehicles and drove

at our officers in order to escape. The suspect was arrested the following day. This investigation is a prime example of the risks our officers face on a daily basis to keep the City of Burnaby safe.

In March, demonstrations relating to the opposition of the Trans Mountain Expansion Project have been taking place on a regular basis. Our officers have been consummate professionals throughout these demonstrations, ensuring demonstrators have their right to peaceful, lawful and safe protest while ensuring the companies involved in the project have the right to complete their work. Our members have ensured that policing ongoing demonstrations has not affected our other work in Burnaby and front line policing has remained unaffected by these demonstrations.

Each and every day our Youth Investigative Team (YIT) members work alongside school staff to ensure that kids around Burnaby have a safe and secure environment in which to learn. In February and March, YIT took part in a number of initiatives including a program with youth in custody aimed at helping these youths get out of a life of crime. YIT members have also been working with schools and the City of Burnaby around safety at school zones and has continued regular school zone patrols through February and March.

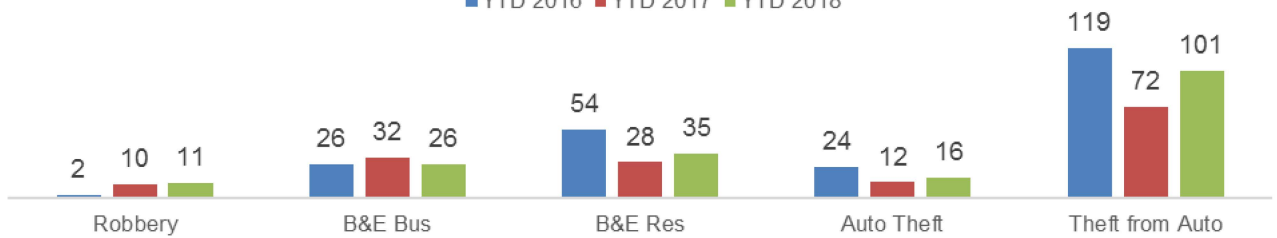
Finally, Burnaby RCMP's Traffic Services issued over 500 tickets as part of Distracted Driving month in March. In addition, Burnaby's Crime Prevention Unit organized a presentation on the dangers associated not just with distracted driving, but with distracted walking too. Such initiatives are important in our City and will hopefully continue to make our roads safer.

Deanne Burleigh, Chief Superintendent
Officer in Charge, Burnaby RCMP Detachment

Crime Reduction Stats Compared Over 3 Years

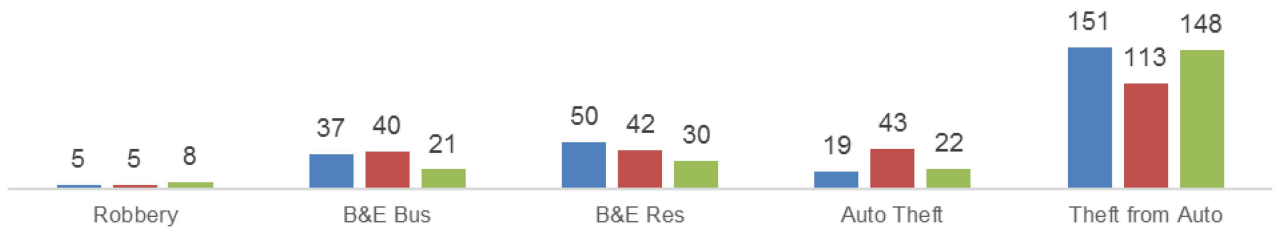
D1 Monitored Crime Types

■ YTD 2016 ■ YTD 2017 ■ YTD 2018



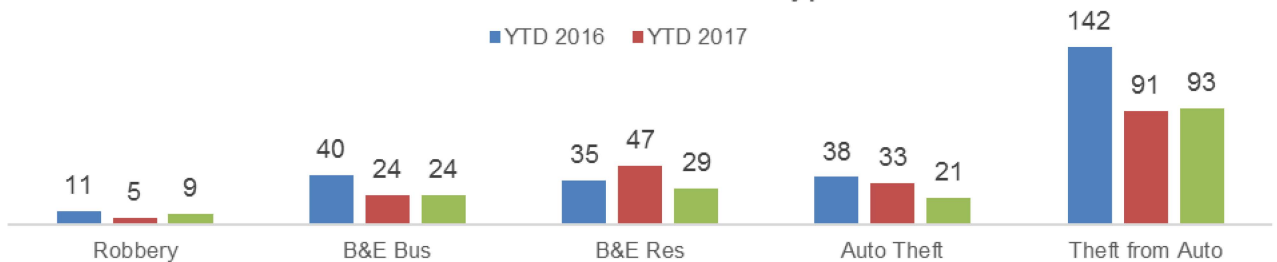
D2 Monitored Crime Types

■ YTD 2016 ■ YTD 2017 ■ YTD 2018



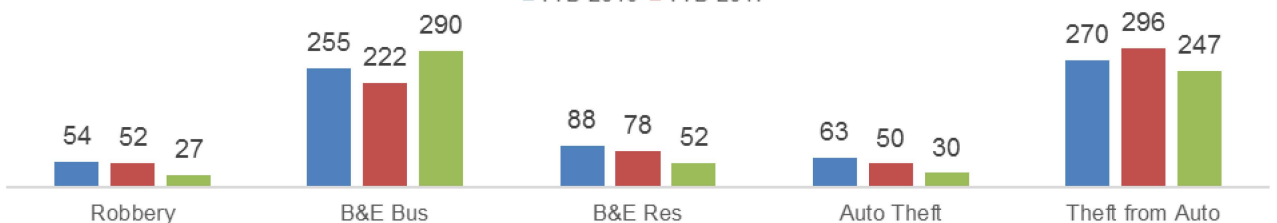
D3 Monitored Crime Types

■ YTD 2016 ■ YTD 2017



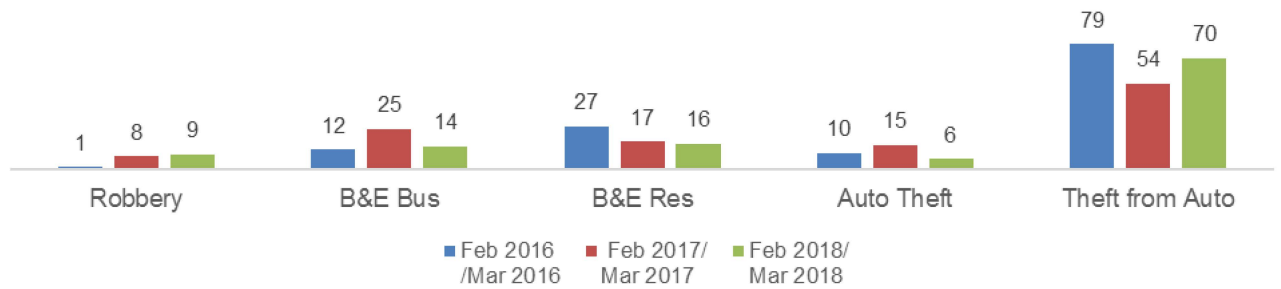
D4 Monitored Crime Types

■ YTD 2016 ■ YTD 2017

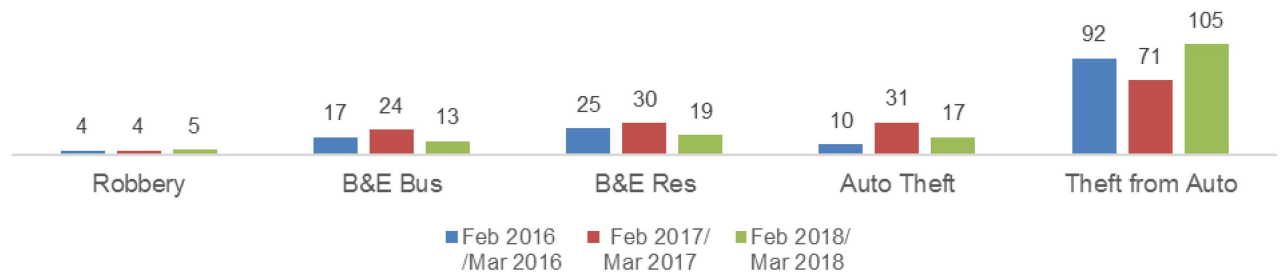


Crime Reduction Stats By Month

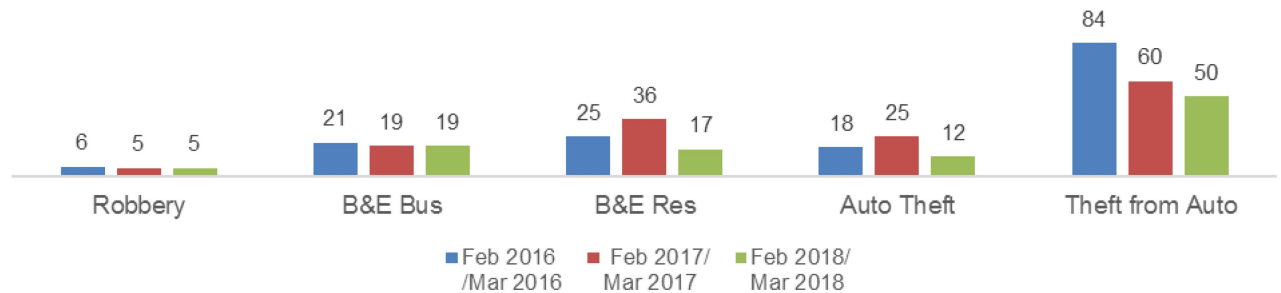
D1 Monitored Crime Types By Month



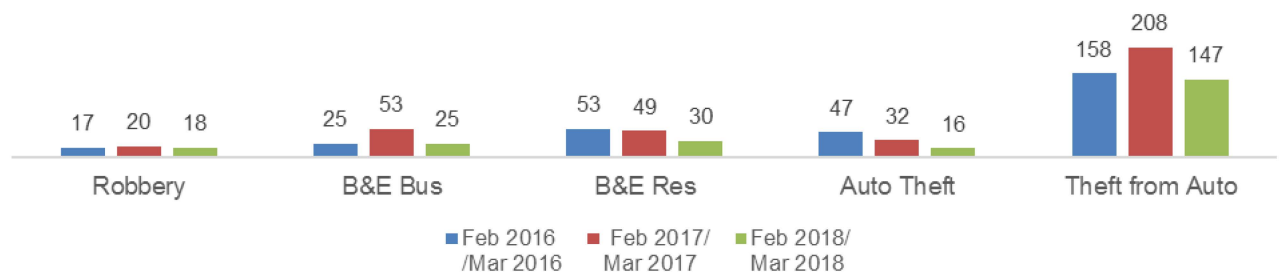
D2 Monitored Crime Types By Month



D3 Monitored Crime Types By Month



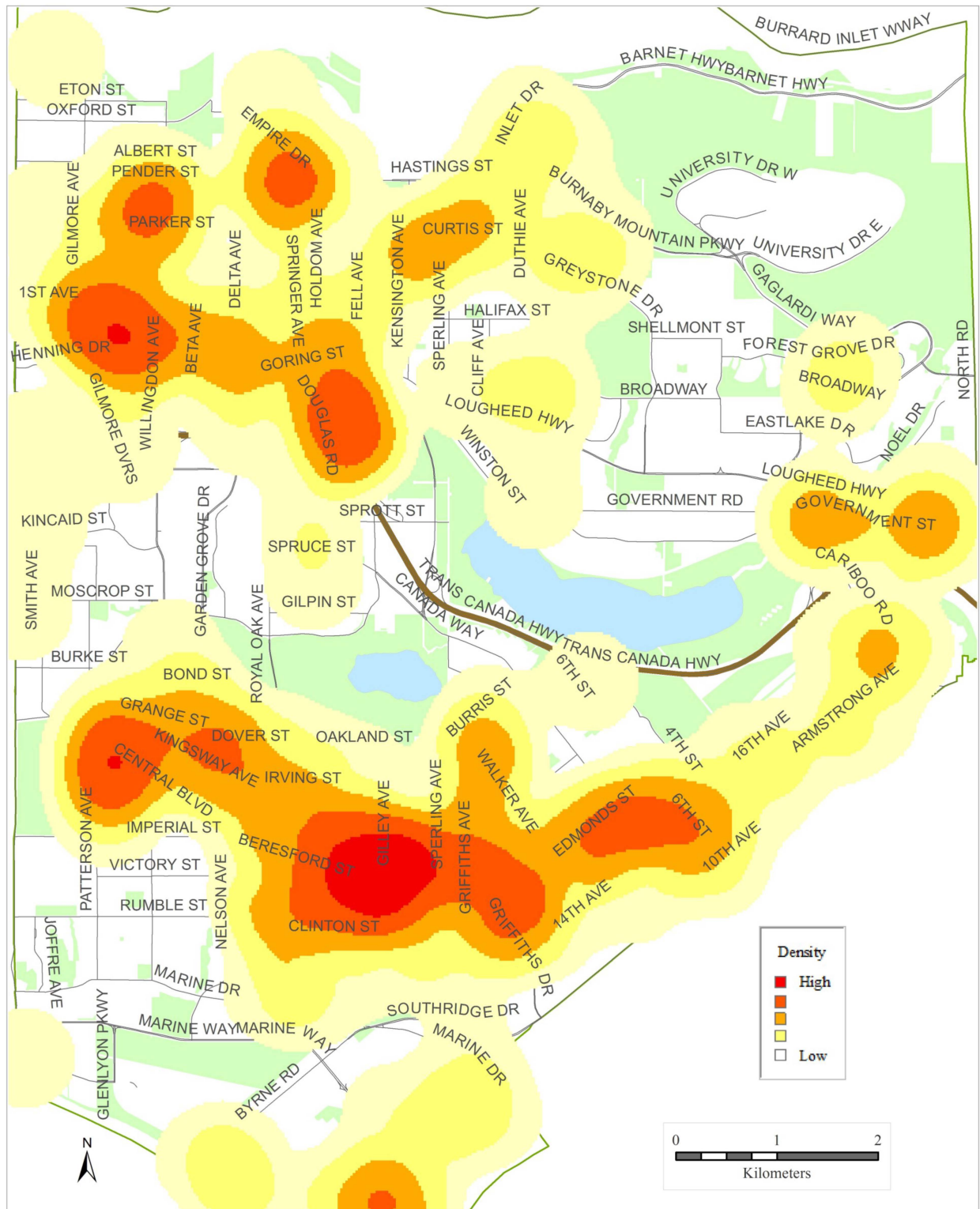
D4 Monitored Crime Types By Month





February 1 to March 31, 2018 B&E Density Map

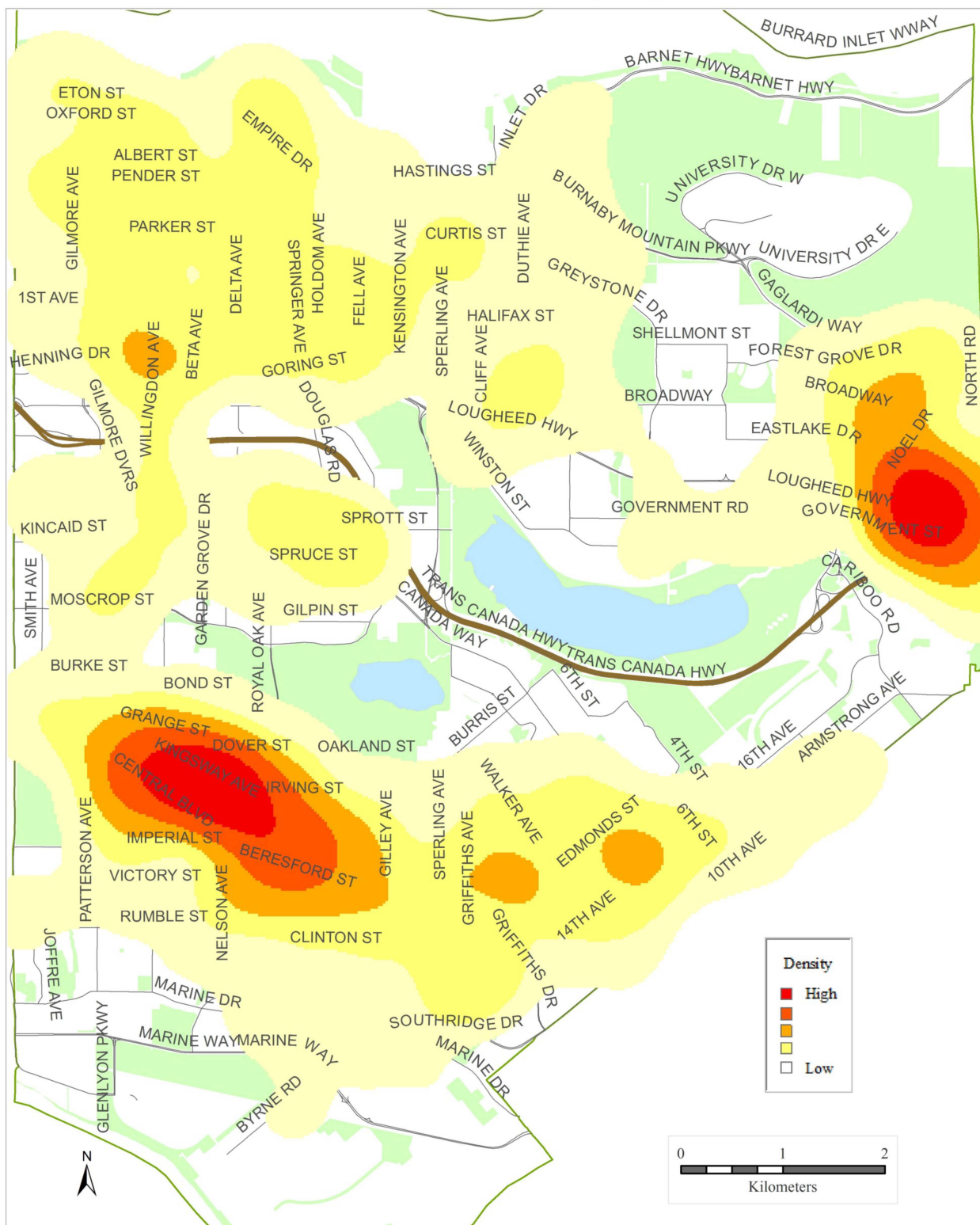
Crime Density Map





Crime Density Map

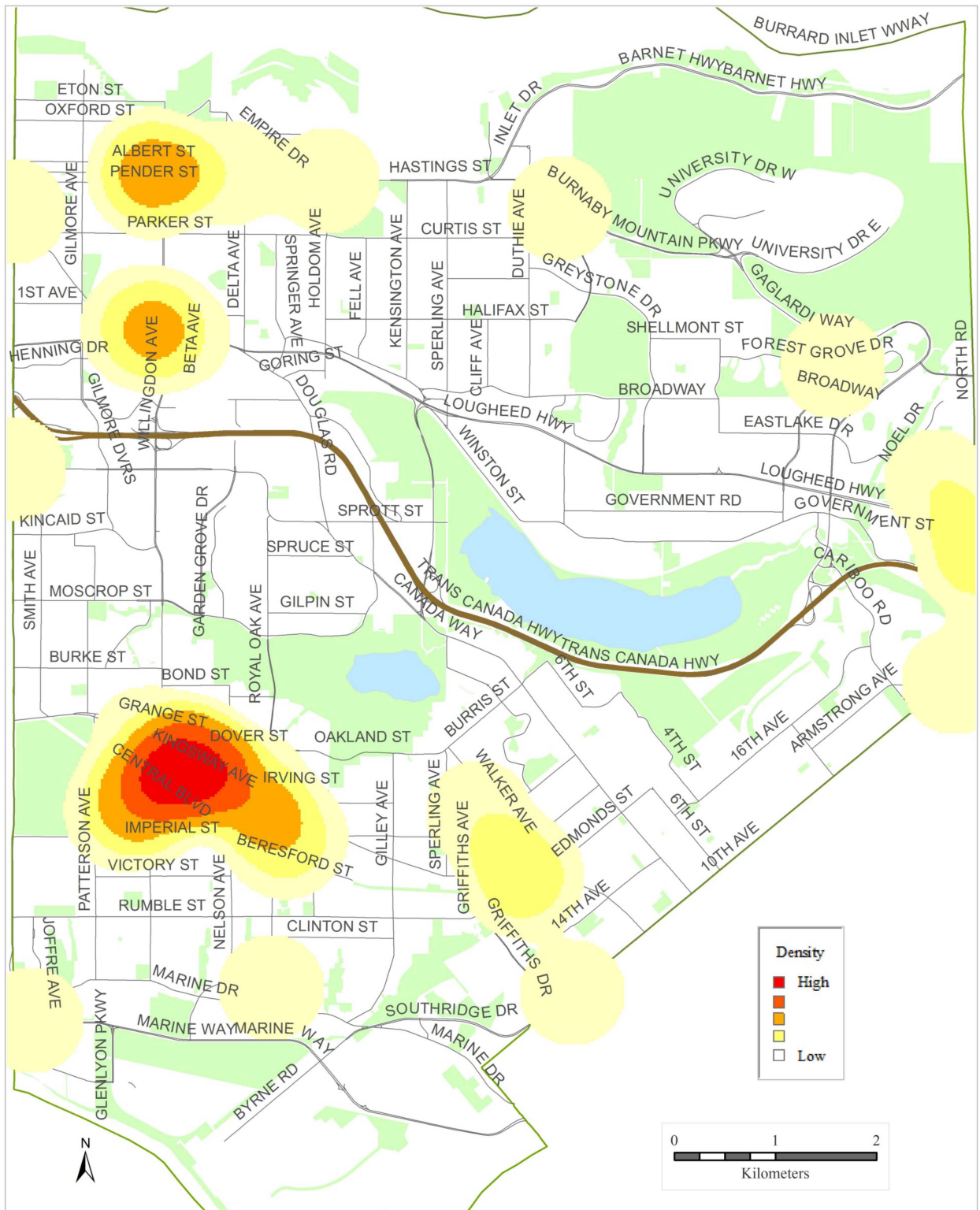
February 1 to March 31, 2018
Auto Crime Density Map





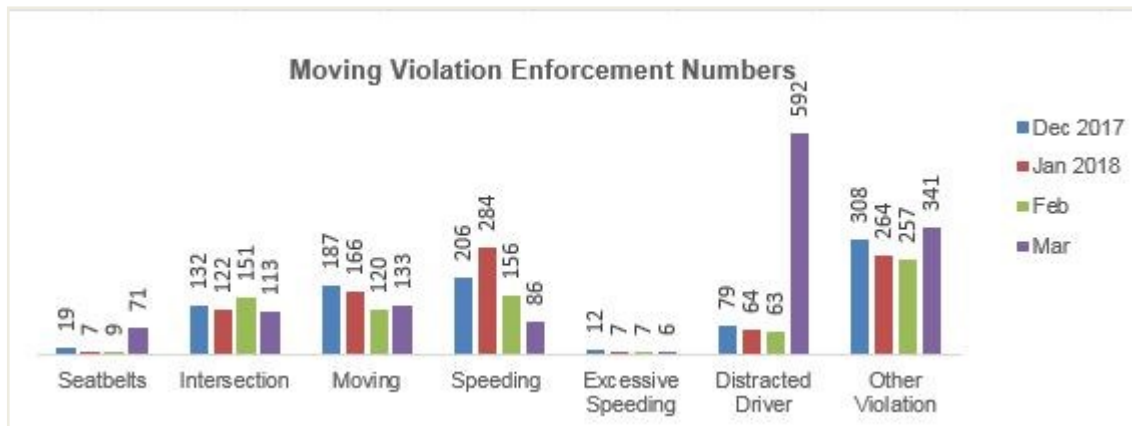
Crime Density Map

February 1 to March 31, 2018
Robbery Density Map



Traffic Operations Statistics

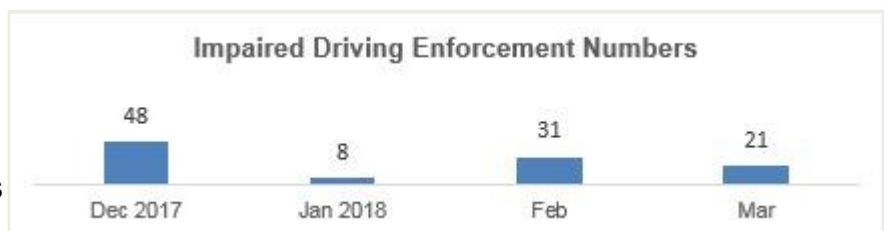
The traffic section continued to enforce high risk driving behavior including impaired drivers, distracted drivers, and speeding.



The month of March was Distracted Driving month and Burnaby RCMP issued over 500 Distracted Driving violations.



During the months of February and March, 387 collisions were investigated by General Duty and Traffic Section officers. 98 involved non-life threatening injuries and there were no fatalities.



Major Investigations

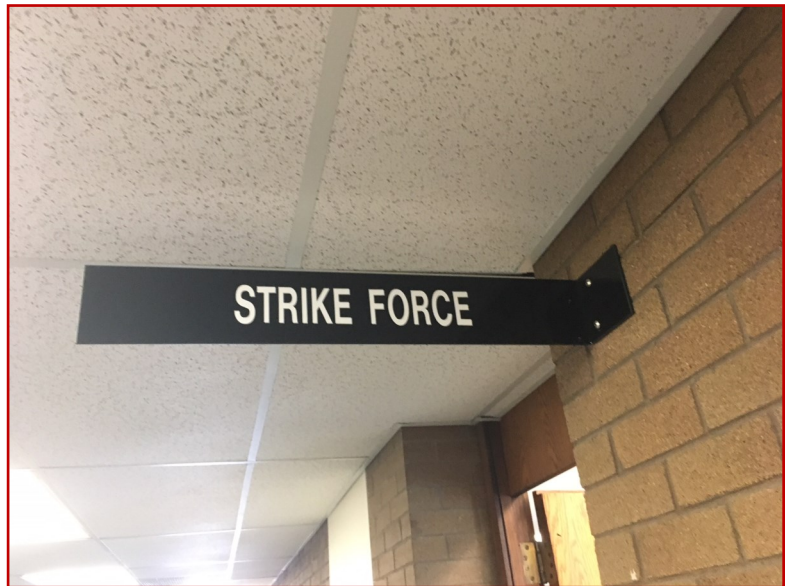
Investigations of a more complex or longer term nature are handled by Burnaby RCMP's plainclothes units such as the Burnaby RCMP's Strike Force Unit. The following details a significant investigation conducted by Strike Force in February and March.

Strike Force

Between February 22 and March 5 an unknown male had robbed four women of their purses in a parking lot in the 4440 block of Hastings in North Burnaby.

Three of these women were elderly.

Burnaby RCMP's Strike Force Unit was engaged in the investigation. No suspect was immediately identified and none of the victims was able to provide a consistent description of the male believed to have been involved in the crime.



On February 7, with the assistance of the Prolific Offender Suppression Team, Strike Force members were following investigative leads in relation to the purse snatchings. The officers set up surveillance in the area where the purse snatchings had previously taken place.

A short time after setting up surveillance, officers witnessed a male allegedly stealing a purse from an elderly female. A foot chase ensued and a 33-year-old Burnaby resident was arrested and taken into custody. The elderly female suffered minor injuries.

The suspect was subsequently charged with three counts of robbery and one count of theft under \$5,000.

This file was a great success by Burnaby RCMP Strike Force in capturing an alleged repeat offender who was targeting a vulnerable sector of our population.

Prolific Offender Suppression Team (POST)

On March 29, 2018, a vehicle was stolen from a parking lot in Southeast Burnaby. Burnaby RCMP's Prolific Offender Suppression Team (POST) were engaged and began an investigation into the stolen vehicle. On April 5, 2018, POST was conducting surveillance into a series of vehicle thefts in the same area and observed the stolen vehicle being driven by a male with a female passenger.

POST immediately began surveillance of the vehicle which drove to the upper parking lot of Metrotown mall and parked, backed in to a parking space. Police activated their vehicle emergency equipment and blocked the vehicle in order to arrest the occupants.

The driver is alleged to have ignored police commands and rammed through the three police vehicles and to have struck a further three civilian vehicles causing extensive damage. Three police officers suffered minor injuries in the incident, no civilians were injured. The stolen vehicle fled the scene with extreme structural damage and was dumped in a residential area in Southeast Burnaby.

The driver of the vehicle was arrested the following day on an outstanding warrant by Coquitlam RCMP. A number of charges were approved against the 20-year-old male driver including possession of stolen property over \$5000, three counts of assault of a police officer and one count of leaving the scene of an accident.

Mental Health and Homelessness

Throughout February and March, Burnaby RCMP's Homelessness Coordinator, continued to address a large homeless camp, in the area of North Road and the No 1 Highway, which had been occupied for an extended period. Although the camp existed on private property, it fell within the geographic jurisdiction of the City of Burnaby and had been the site of multiple police attendances.

Burnaby RCMP's Homelessness Coordinator liaised with outreach workers, property owners and the dedicated railway police service to ensure the cooperative evacuation of the property with subsequent clean up of the area to render the private property safe for service providers, first responders and the public.

Thanks to the relationships that the Burnaby RCMP's Homelessness Coordinator had built with occupants of the homeless camp, he was able to provide those being moved from the camp with outreach information for local providers who could assist them after they were moved. The clean up of the large property took place at the beginning of March and continued for two weeks. The clean up proceeded without incident.

A post clean-up meeting involving the City of Burnaby, the private railway police, the private property owners and the Burnaby RCMP was held at City Hall. The private railway police said they would continue to patrol the area, with minor assistance from the Burnaby RCMP and the City of Burnaby.

Community Response Team (CRT)

Some of the more notable investigations involving Burnaby RCMP's Community Response Team in February and March are below.

Arrest of Prolific Offender

On February 1, 2018, members from CRT were conducting patrols at a homeless camp at Central Park. Upon arrival, members were able to identify a prolific offender who was the subject of an arrest warrant. The offender was arrested without incident and brought before the Courts.

Rescue of Missing Elderly Citizen

On February 8, 2018, CRT members responded to a report of a disoriented male that had approached a worker at a construction site. With the assistance of EHS it was determined the male was diabetic and suffering from hyperglycemia. Through translators, the male's family was contacted where it was learned the male was suffering the early stages of dementia. The male was released from the care of EHS and his family took him home.



Proactive Enforcement leads to arrest of Drug Dealer

On February 14th, 2018, members of CRT were conducting proactive enforcement in a hot-spot area. Members observed a suspicious male in a vehicle and behaviour consistent with drug trafficking was observed. Through surveillance additional grounds were gained and the driver was arrested. The search incidental to arrest resulted in the seizure of drugs, cash, cellphones, and the vehicle the suspect was driving.

Arrest of Prolific Cellphone Thief

On February 15th, 2018, members from CRT were conducting proactive enforcement when a well-known prolific cellphone thief was seen. The male was surveilled for a brief period where he was seen to take a new cellphone/smartphone from a local business. The suspect was arrested and held to be brought before the Court.

Crime Prevention Unit and Victim Services

Crime Prevention Unit (CPU)

In February, CPU staff were out in the community throughout the month, actively promoting public safety education and programs. Crime Prevention staff met with three Block Watch groups, as well as hosting a part two Block Watch training and establishing brand new blocks in the community. CPU staff also provided personal safety and security information to three groups of new Canadians, through a collaboration with School District 41 continuing education.

In March, the Burnaby RCMP Crime Prevention Unit was pleased to partner with ICBC Road Safety to host an impactful presentation on the dangers of distracted driving and walking. Keynote speaker Ted Swan is passionate about changing dangerous distracted road behaviours. He shared some of his insight and experience gathered over many years being a Paramedic first responder to the traumatic incidents which stem from being distracted on the road. Many audience members expressed appreciation for this captivating presentation.



LOWER MAINLAND DISTRICT REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE – **CONNECTED TO OUR COMMUNITIES**

Partners for a safe community

Burnaby RCMP Crime Prevention Unit & ICBC
Safe Community Series

HEADS UP: THE DANGERS OF DISTRACTED DRIVING & WALKING

Wednesday March 21st, 2018
6:00 to 8:00 pm
Fortius Sport & Health
Forum Room
3713 Kensington Avenue
Burnaby B.C.

PERSPECTIVES FROM A FIRST RESPONDER
TED SWAN
GIFTED COMMUNICATOR, PARAMEDIC, EDUCATOR
HEAR THE DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF DISTRACTED DRIVING & WALKING

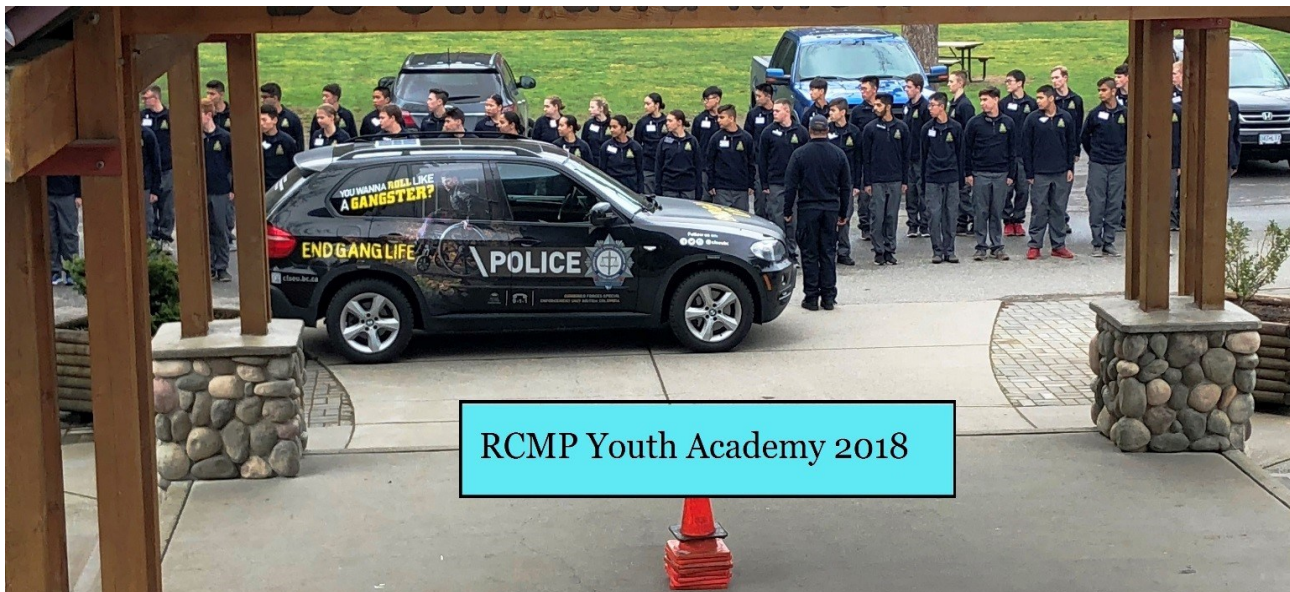
• **Free Admission , RSVP by March 12 to crimeprevention@burnaby.ca**
• Please let us know how many will be in your group.
• Space is limited, reserve your seat soon!

Continuing work to “target harden” properties in Burnaby, Crime Prevention staff conducted several security assessments for residential addresses. Crime Prevention staff are CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) trained. Such training and assessment experience permit staff to conduct audits and provide detailed security recommendations, to make the property less vulnerable to criminal and nuisance activities .

RCMP Youth Academy

This year the RCMP Youth Academy was held between March 30 and April 5th and as per previous years, our Burnaby Auxiliary members provided a very strong contribution.

Six Burnaby RCMP Auxiliaries attended the Chilliwack site and collectively they volunteered over 335 hours to help with the continued success of this event.



Auxiliary Program

Auxiliary member Michael Wu, a regular contributor whenever Chinese translations are required, assisted on a found property file that required him to attend the Vancouver Chinese Consulate in order to locate and communicate with a Hong Kong couple. This couple's wallet containing money, credit cards and passports was lost at a Walmart store and turned over to the police. With the assistance of Auxiliary Wu the couple was located, contacted and their belongings returned to them.

Victim Services

In February and March, Victim Services opened 242 files and completed 285 hours of Crisis Intervention.

Since March 2017, Victim Services has seen an increase of 12% in client files being opened. In order to help meet this increase and the daily files that Victim Services open, two more Auxiliary Victim Services workers were hired. This hire will also allow the Victim Services Unit meet the demand for after hours and weekend service.

In February, two Victim Services Caseworkers were court appointed to provide support to a victim and witnesses of an attempted murder investigation from 2016. The Victim Services Unit spent close to 70 hours preparing and supporting the victims and witnesses for court.

Community Police Offices

March was Distracted Driving Month and Burnaby RCMP's Community Volunteers contributed hugely to the initiative. To launch the month, volunteers from District 3 and District 4 worked with Burnaby RCMP Traffic Services and ICBC. Volunteers were stationed with signs reminding drivers to leave their phone alone. Burnaby RCMP Traffic Services stationed a little further down, issued tickets to drivers who chose to ignore the initial warning.



In addition to assisting with the Distracted Driving Launch, volunteers conducted Cell Watch patrols during March. Over 1200 vehicles were checked and 17 drivers were identified as being distracted while driving. These patrols assist Traffic Services in identifying potential areas for future enforcement.

Community volunteers were also busy conducting foot patrols in neighbourhoods around the City of Burnaby. Volunteers checked for stolen vehicles, insecure vehicles, expired decals, missing plates, vehicles which had valuables left in plain view and monitored for any vehicle break ins.

Youth Investigative Team (YIT)

Burnaby RCMP's Youth Investigative Team (YIT) is comprised of six members. One sergeant and five constables. Each of these constables work with schools and youth groups around the City of Burnaby on initiatives involving young people.

In March, YIT took an active role in the planning and presentation of the TATTOO program at Youth Detention Centre. TATTOO stands for Talking About The Topic Of Opportunity which is basically mini lessons on topics like high risk behaviour, gang life, substance abuse and addiction, healthy relationship and the importance of empathy. YIT member, Cst. Tarape, assisted in facilitating four of seven days of the TATTOO program over two weeks. These lessons and the opportunity to participate are seen as a reward for youth inmates who have minimal behavioural issues and can function well with others. The buy-in for the youth is that they have a fast-food or other meals brought in after the sessions. "The breaking-bread" portion of the 2.5 hour classes are as important as the lessons considering the facilitators are life-skills advisors, volunteers, guest speakers and Police. Conversation happens naturally and it's promising to see how these young people have gained some skills and perspective that will hopefully carry on through their release. The inmates vary between accused and convicted and face charges and convictions for things as serious as attempted murder to less serious breaches and drug charges.



School Zone Enforcement

Throughout February and March, YIT continued regular patrols of school zones in the morning and afternoon rush hours. Some of this enforcement was in response to concerns raised by school staff and parents at school's around the City. YIT has also been working with City of Burnaby Traffic Planners to set up ongoing dialogue between the city and police on how best to have safety concerns around school zones addressed.

As Burnaby is home to a relatively large Arab community, including many Syrian refugee families, with often several youths in each family, it is important for Burnaby RCMP to reach out to the community and work with them promoting a safer community for everyone. YIT member, Cst. Dupont, met with a group of Arabic mothers from the Edmonds Community School on March 8. The mothers had many great questions for police regarding what is allowed in terms of raising children, leaving children alone at home, what to do if kids threatened to call police and what to do in case of becoming aware of a domestic violence issue. This was a great conversation with the community members while having a meal they had prepared themselves at the school.

Youth Services Unit (YSU)

In March, the Burnaby RCMP Youth Services Unit participated in a number of initiatives and events. In early March, YSU staff attended the LGBTQ2S+ Conference hosted by Burnaby Intercultural Planning Table. The purpose of this event was to learn about newcomer experiences and how services can be improved for this population.

In mid-March, the Youth Services Restorative Justice Coordinator co-facilitated a Pro-D day Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) Review and Refresher course as a component of the Safe and Caring Schools' Educational Series. This event was held at Byrne Creek Centre for Dialogue for half a day. VTRA Training is comprehensive skill-based training structured for professionals in school jurisdictions and community systems (school principals, police, student services coordinators, therapists, etc.) who are, or will be, conducting visual threat and risk assessments at schools.

Youth Services Referrals for February & March:

Youth Services Number of Referrals 2018			
	Feb	Mar	YTD
Counselling	10	8	26
Restorative Justice	23	16	54
- Retail Theft Circle	18	13	39
- Community Justice Forum	5	3	15

Crime Prevention Victim Services Unit Liaison

Burnaby RCMP is working with the Burnaby Homelessness Task Force, Fraser Health, Purpose Society, Burnaby School District and the Look Out Society preparing four drug dialogue sessions to take place this fall in the City Burnaby. The events are being hosted in four different venues around Burnaby. The focus of these sessions is to develop an open discussion with those who are active drug users, their family, friends and service providers.

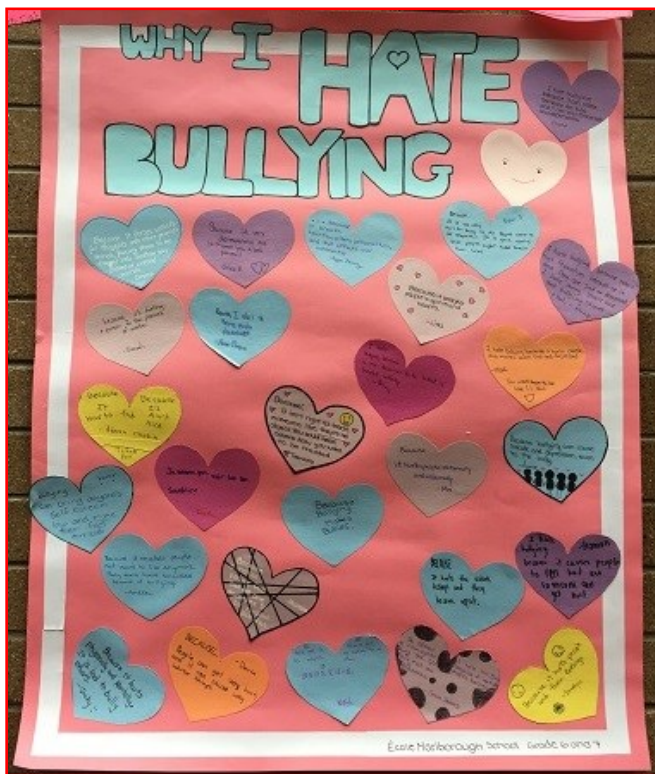
The Burnaby RCMP Crime Prevention Victim Services Unit Liaison Officer Cst. Albertina Yep has participated in two planning sessions for this initiative with additional sessions planned for every two to three weeks leading up to the summer. These events are funded by a grant awarded to the Homelessness Task Force by the Canadian Institute on Substance Use Research.

Through February and March, Cst. Yep, along with the Burnaby RCMP Crime Prevention Unit spoke at meetings in neighbourhoods around the City. During these meetings Cst. Yep has been able to address the Burnaby citizen's questions and concerns around issues such as; when to report suspicious activity, what police response is and what to expect when filing a report. Cst. Yep has also been able to provide tips on improving safety at home and in the community.

Detachment/Community Events

Pink Shirt Day

February 28 was Pink Shirt Day. This year's theme was "Nice Needs No Filter". The Detachment received messages from students with their answers to the question: "What does kindness mean to you?".



Pink Shirt Day

Burnaby RCMP teamed up with Transit police in the annual Pink Shirt Day hockey game against students from Burnaby Central School.





Detachment/Community Events

Polar Plunge!

In March, 2018 Burnaby RCMP Detachment members were 'Freezin' for a Reason' at Kitsilano Beach. Members took part in a Polar Plunge to raise funds for Special Olympics B.C. Burnaby detachment raised just under \$1,500 through a raffle, and bake sale.



Before:



After:



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) 646-9999 or explore our website at

www.burnaby.rcmp.ca

Main Detachment:

**Burnaby RCMP
6355 Deer Lake Avenue
Burnaby BC V5G 2J2
(604) 646-9999**

