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VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE



from the chief

EVERY DAY, our officers and civilian professionals work to keep the public safe. We respond to

9-1-1 calls and investigate crime, but we also aim to be proactive in our policing efforts to

prevent crime from occurring in the first place.

A key part of proactive policing is education and awareness. Information is very powerful, and as a police department, we make it a priority to provide Vancouverites with information they need to help ensure their own safety and the safety of their friends and family.

When it comes to a sense of safety, we know that the perception of crime in our neighbourhood is equally as important as the actual crime that occurs. That's why it is vital to arm the public with the best and most accurate info available.

As we reflect on 2019, we take a look at a few of the public awareness initiatives the VPD developed and implemented last year to connect with the public.

Some of these educational initiatives were identified due to emerging crime trends, while others were tied to national or international campaigns promoting a topic related to public safety. Other educational initiatives were driven by the community we serve – we aim to maintain a two-way conversation with the community so we can provide information on what people need.

Although this year's report looks at our broader campaigns, it's important to note that our most valuable mode of communication with Vancouverites is in-person interaction. Our officers have more than one million individual contacts with the public each year.

In this report, we're also including our year-end crime statistics for 2019. There was an increase in the overall property crime rate and the violent crime rate. However, there was a decrease in specific major violent crimes like homicides, sexual offences, and bank robberies. Our analysis shows that the property crime rate was impacted by the high number of incidents of theft from automobiles, and the violent crime rate was driven by a high number of assaults. I am pleased to report that the VPD came under budget for the 15th consecutive year.

CHIEF ADAM PALMER
VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

CRIME

| CRIMINAL OFFENCES | NUMBER OF INCIDENTS 2018 | NUMBER OF INCIDENTS 2019 | 2018 RATE /1,000 POP | 2019 RATE /1,000 POP | % CHANGE (RATE) |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|

| VIOLENT CRIME | 5,338 | 5,799 | 7.89 | 8.45 | 7.2% |
|-------------------|-------|-------|------|------|--------|
| Culpable Homicide | 15 | 10 | 0.02 | 0.01 | -34.2% |
| Attempted Murder | 18 | 22 | 0.03 | 0.03 | 20.6% |
| Sexual Offences | 646 | 621 | 0.95 | 0.91 | -5.2% |
| Assaults | 4,064 | 4,521 | 6.01 | 6.59 | 9.8% |
| Robbery | 595 | 625 | 0.88 | 0.91 | 3.6% |

| PROPERTY CRIME | 41,773 | 44,538 | 61.73 | 64.94 | 5.2% |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|--------|
| Break-and-Enter | 4,370 | 4,693 | 6.46 | 6.84 | 6.0% |
| Theft of Motor Vehicle | 1,536 | 1,392 | 2.27 | 2.03 | -10.6% |
| Theft from Auto | 14,606 | 16,483 | 21.58 | 24.03 | 11.3% |
| Theft (Over / Under \$5,000) | 12,353 | 13,121 | 18.25 | 19.13 | 4.8% |
| Possession of Stolen Property | 543 | 616 | 0.80 | 0.90 | 11.9% |
| Fraud | 3,101 | 2,922 | 4.58 | 4.26 | -7.0% |
| Arson | 252 | 244 | 0.37 | 0.36 | -4.5% |
| Mischief (Over / Under \$5,000) | 5,012 | 5,067 | 7.41 | 7.39 | -0.3% |

| OTHER CRIME | 5,948 | 6,443 | 8.79 | 9.39 | 6.9% |
|---------------------|-------|-------|------|------|-------|
| Offensive Weapons | 606 | 862 | 0.90 | 1.26 | 40.3% |
| Other Criminal Code | 5,342 | 5,581 | 7.89 | 8.14 | 3.1% |

| TOTAL CRIME | 53,059 | 56,780 | 78.41 | 82.78 | 5.6% |
|-------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|------|
|-------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|------|

| DRUGS | 2,115 | 1,459 | 3.13 | 2.13 | -31.9% |
|-----------------|-------|-------|------|------|--------|
| Cannabis | 457 | 39 | 0.68 | 0.06 | -91.6% |
| Cocaine | 482 | 342 | 0.71 | 0.50 | -30.0% |
| Fentanyl | 333 | 397 | 0.49 | 0.58 | 17.6% |
| Heroin | 267 | 113 | 0.39 | 0.16 | -58.2% |
| Methamphetamine | 446 | 401 | 0.66 | 0.58 | -11.3% |
| Other | 130 | 167 | 0.19 | 0.24 | 26.7% |

| TRAFFIC | 2,246 | 1,493 | 3.32 | 2.18 | -34.4% |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|------|------|--------|
| Dangerous Operation of MV | 84 | 86 | 0.12 | 0.13 | 1.0% |
| Impaired Operation of MV | 1,216 | 855 | 1.80 | 1.25 | -30.6% |
| Fail / Refuse Breath / Blood Sample | 158 | 134 | 0.23 | 0.20 | -16.3% |
| Fail to Stop / Remain at Scene | 563 | 176 | 0.83 | 0.26 | -69.2% |
| Driving while Prohibited | 225 | 242 | 0.33 | 0.35 | 6.1% |

POLICE

THE BY

| | NUMBER OF INCIDENTS 2018 | NUMBER OF INCIDENTS 2019 | 2018 RATE /1,000 POP | 2019 RATE /1,000 POP | % CHANGE |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|-------|
| TRAFFIC FATALITIES | 13 | 14 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 6.3% |
| CALLS FOR SERVICE | 265,653 | 265,232 | 392.57 | 386.70 | -1.5% |

| | 2018 | 2019 |
|------------|---------|---------|
| POPULATION | 676,700 | 685,885 |

For more information on our data disclaimers and limitations, please refer to:
vancouver.ca/police/planning/info.htm



REPORT

2019

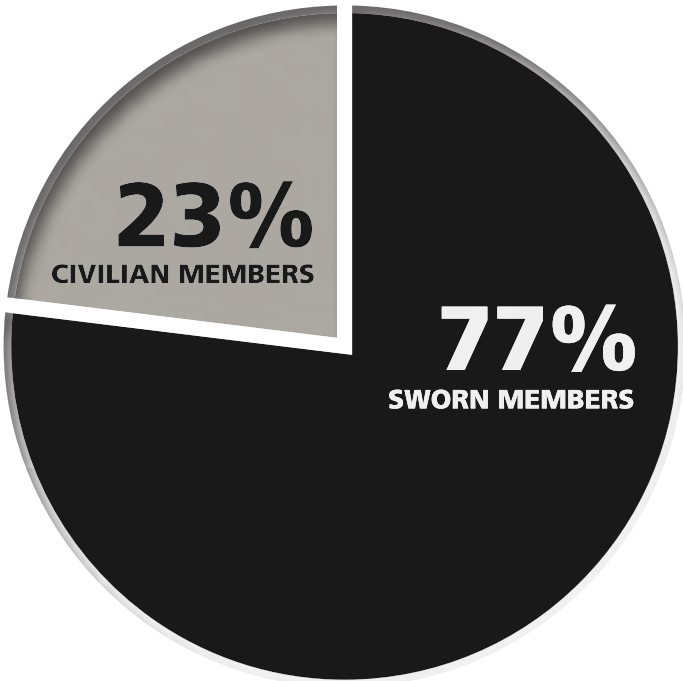
SUMMARY

| FINANCIAL SUMMARY | 2018 (\$1,000) | 2019 (\$1,000) | % CHANGE |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Budget | \$286,756 | \$301,239 | 5.1% |
| Cost | \$286,740 | \$301,225 | 5.1% |
| UNDER BUDGET | \$16 | \$14 | |

This is the 15th consecutive year the VPD has finished the year under budget.

For more details, visit:
<http://vancouver.ca/police/policeboard/financial.htm>

| AUTHORIZED STRENGTH | 2018 | 2019 | % CHANGE |
|----------------------|---------|-------|----------|
| VPD Sworn Members | 1,327 | 1,327 | 0% |
| VPD Civilian Members | 388.5 | 401 | 3% |
| TOTAL POSITIONS | 1,715.5 | 1,728 | 1% |



DON'T JOIN US

Unless . . .

- ☒ **You want excitement.**
- ☒ **You want job security.**
- ☒ **You want a great benefits package.**
- ☒ **You want work-life balance.**
- ☒ **You want to make a difference.**



JoinVPD.CA

JoinVPD.CA

RECRUITING QUALITY CANDIDATES can be challenging these days, in real life and online, with many police services competing for the same thing. Looking to break through all the noise and stand out, the VPD created this campaign to catch people's attention.

The bright pink colour, which stands for empathy and compassion, along with a little tongue-in-cheek humour and reverse psychology, combined to make an attention-grabbing statement. The lighthearted approach illustrates a lighter side to policing and police officers, possibly appealing to people who may have never considered public safety as a career.

HANDS OFF!

IN RECENT YEARS, Vancouver Police have noted an alarming increase in the number of groping incidents reported in the city. In response, the VPD developed this campaign to warn potential offenders that any sort of unwanted sexual contact is a crime, and partnered with Metro Vancouver Transit Police and BarWatch to raise awareness.

While unwanted sexual touching can happen anywhere, it's most prevalent in crowded places, so posters were displayed in bars, transit stations, and on buses and SkyTrain, in addition to a social media campaign.

GROPPING =
SEX ASSAULT

A SEXUAL ASSAULT IS ANY SEXUAL CONTACT YOU MAKE WITHOUT CONSENT.

#HANDSOFF

#GROPE TO JAIL



HANDS OFF!

GROPPING IS
A SEX ASSAULT

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#GROPE TO JAIL



A SEXUAL ASSAULT IS ANY SEXUAL CONTACT YOU MAKE WITHOUT CONSENT.

Who's watching it ...when you're not?

Who's watching it...when you're not?

PROPERTY CRIME is an ongoing issue in Vancouver, and the VPD is always looking at different tactics to tackle it. The Who's Watching It When You're Not? campaign began in 2015, and aimed to show how easily a thief could steal someone's property if they aren't paying attention.

The campaign continues to be a strong reminder of simple steps people can take to help prevent becoming a victim of theft, primarily by keeping an eye on your belongings at all times.



S.A.F.E.
(Safety awareness for Elders) is an ongoing campaign that covers a range of safety concerns most relevant to seniors – from fraud prevention and cybercrime, to elder abuse. Brochures and posters were printed in larger text and translated into several languages, offering education and tips on staying safe.

保護耆英另有措施



S.A.F.E.
Safety Awareness for Elders
(耆英的安全意識)

保護自己防止虐待，請上網遊覽 VPD.CA 緊急狀況？請撥打 911

#BeSafeBeStrong



VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT
Beyond the Call



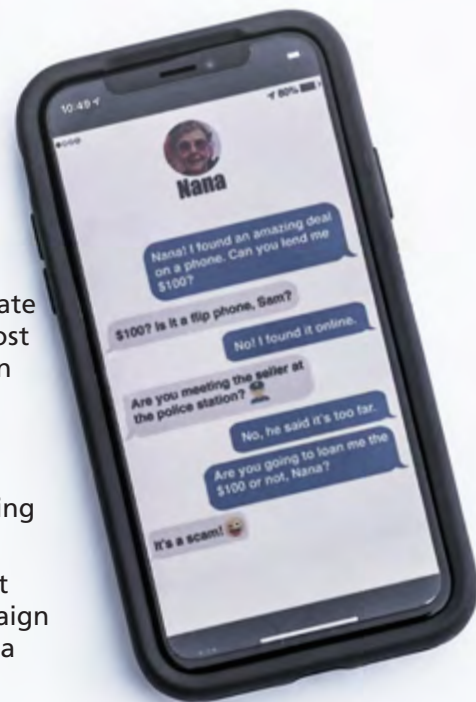
#NANAsays

FRAUDSTERS are using more and more elaborate and convincing tactics that can fool even the most skeptical consumers. Surprisingly, the generation that grew up with the Internet has become the largest group of people defrauded online.

The #NANAsays campaign, funded by the Vancouver Police Foundation, was aimed at raising awareness of online fraud with millennials.

The traditional assumption that seniors are most often victimized doesn't hold true, so the campaign plays on the unexpected, with fraud-aware Nana texting advice to her millennial grandchild.

It's important to stay aware of the types of scams taking place, and to stay as vigilant online as you do in the real world.





LOVE WHO YOU WANT, PLAY WHAT YOU WANT

is a community and police sports initiative promoting the inclusion and acceptance of LGBTQ2S+ youth and adults to love who they want, and play or attend the sport they want, without fear.

In a recent study, 84 per cent of gay men and 88 per cent lesbians – both spectators and players – reported being targets of verbal slurs and homophobic slurs. Seventy per cent of LGBTQ2S+ youth said they felt sport was not a safe place for them. (source: *Out on the Fields*)

The campaign has included community events and the distribution of t-shirts, with the goal of raising awareness and making playing or watching sports an inclusive experience.



