



Port Moody Police Department Community Matters Newsletter

FALL 2018



Message from the Chief

Earlier this year, both the Port Moody Police and our friends at Port Moody Fire combined our efforts to create a unique community event named *Chat with the Chiefs*. This is a great way for Police Chief Dave Fleugel and Fire Chief Ron Coulson to chat with our residents in an informal and friendly atmosphere...and YES, there is plenty of coffee and treats to enjoy as well!



We hope that by meeting with members of our community in a casual setting, they will feel more comfortable to ask questions, address concerns, discuss topics, or simply learn a bit more about the day-to-day operations of their police and fire departments. If you or your community group are interested in sharing a cup of java with us, please email your request to: media@portmoodypolice.com

Engaging Our Community



Well, it seems that Halloween season is upon us once again, and soon our streets will be flooded with a wide assortment of ghosts, goblins, ghouls, and maybe even a vampire or two. In an effort to ensure our excited little Trick-or-Treaters remain safe, our Patrol Section will be fully staffed, and our officers "ready to roll" with a Halloween-specific Operational Plan.

In addition to our officers patrolling the streets, our Community Services Section has committed to deploying ALL of our available Community Volunteers to various neighbourhoods that night. If you should happen to pass any one of our "florescent-adorned" friends, please wave and say thank you, as their commitment to our community has no doubt made Port Moody much safer.

If you are interested in becoming a Port Moody Police Volunteer please email us at media@portmoodypolice.com

Stats, Facts & Figures

The Port Moody Police are excited to have received our new mobile Electronic Speed Reader Board. The trailer-mounted unit, which is equipped with solar panels and a battery bank, was recently purchased. It will enable the department to focus our resources with "pinpoint accuracy" to locations in which our enforcement is most needed. This is done via a built-in computer which accurately logs the date, time, traffic volume and speed of traffic as it passes through the on-board radar beam.



As drivers pass through the beam, their speed is brightly displayed and recorded. If the speed limit is exceeded the unit will flash a pre-programmed caution message, alerting drivers to slow down to the posted limit. Alternatively police can custom program encouraging messages for those travelling at safe speeds. At the end of the deployment the computer tallies the information which is then easily downloaded and analyzed by officers to establish whether excessive speeds are common.

Research has shown that Speed Reader Boards do work. Over 70% of drivers travelling 10km/hr over the speed limit slow down when they observed a speed reader board. Sometimes our drivers just need a little friendly reminder to slow down and make smarter driving decisions.

While speed is the leading cause of all motor vehicle accidents in British Columbia every year, we are hoping we can use this valuable piece of equipment to assist us in keeping our neighbourhoods, school zones, playground areas, and other high traffic areas remain safe.



Times, They Are A'Changin'...



The legalization of recreational cannabis this October 17th is fast approaching. We have received numerous inquiries from the community asking how we intend to deal with one of the most controversial changes to criminal law since Prohibition.

As a police agency our primary concern is public safety and keeping our roads safe. The PMPD has 60% of our members trained in Roadside Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST), and one Drug Recognition Expert (DRE). As always, our members will be out on the streets, conducting road checks in search of alcohol and drug impaired drivers.

While we are aware that cannabis testing equipment is available to law enforcement agencies we do not feel that we have had sufficient time to evaluate how this equipment will assist our officers beyond what SFST and DRE training provides.

We will continue to monitor the effectiveness of available equipment through our other Law Enforcement partners as it is put into operational use, and we will revisit this decision as required.

We ask our residents to remain mindful of the serious risks involved in all forms of impaired driving as we all wade into "uncharted territory."



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