



GRANDE PRAIRIE RCMP NEWSLETTER

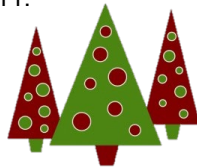
(Away From) Home For The Holidays

Home security is important and should be reviewed frequently to ensure your property is a less appealing target of property crime. This type of crime is usually opportunistic in nature and the easiest places to break into are usually sought out, such as places with doors or windows unlocked, garage doors left opened, sheds, and unoccupied residences or buildings.

The Grande Prairie RCMP are providing the following ways to keep your home safe:

- Don't leave empty boxes in your carport, yard, or driveway. You are advertising that you have a brand new flat screen TV, laptop, iPad or other desirable objects to steal.
- Keep your doors locked even if you are in your home, garage, or backyard. It doesn't take long for a thief to slip in and out of your home.
- Ensure all windows are closed and locked.
- If you have an alarm system, always set it before you leave home.
- Don't keep ladders or tools on the outside of your home as they can be used to gain entry into your home.
- If you are away on vacation, arrange for someone to shovel your driveway. If you have a trusted person, ask them to house sit while you are gone.
- If you don't have a house sitter, ask someone to collect your mail or packages so they do not pile up in front of your house.
- Use timers on indoor lights and tamper-proof motion sensor lights on the outside of your home.
- Keep vacation plans off social media.
- If possible, install a doorbell camera so you know who is at your door before you open it.

If your home, garage, or shed was broken into in Grande Prairie, call the Grande Prairie RCMP non-emergency line, or you can report it online. If you witness a break-in or theft in progress, or if you believe the suspect is still inside or near your property, stay back, and call 911.



From all the Officers and Staff of the Grande Prairie RCMP detachment, we would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!



Too Tired to Travel?



The holiday season can be a busy time. There are gifts to be wrapped, holiday meals to prepare, and the rest of the hustle and bustle that comes with the season. This can also include visiting loved ones. If travelling over the holidays, the Grande Prairie RCMP would like to remind the motorists to be aware of the signs of fatigue before embarking on your trips.

Driving while tired can slow reaction time, affect judgment, decrease awareness and increase the risk of being involved in a collision. Lack of sleep is the most common cause of fatigued driving but other contributing factors include driving alone, driving at night and driving long distances without taking breaks. Taking medications that have side effects of drowsiness and/or the consumption of alcohol are also contributors to fatigue on the roads.

Watch out for the following warning signs of driver fatigue:

- **Constant yawning**
- **Inability to keep your eyes focused**
- **Driving without realizing how much time or distance has passed**
- **Drifting between lanes or missing traffic signs**
- **Not keeping a consistent speed**

Here are the following tips to help keep you alert while driving:

- **Before leaving for a trip, be sure to get a good night sleep**
- **Do not travel for longer than 8-10 hours a day**
- **Take regular breaks; take time to walk around and get some fresh air**
- **Share driving responsibility with someone**
- **Avoid working all day and driving all night**
- **Stop if you feel sleepy while on the road**
- **Have a passenger keep you alert and awake while you are driving**

Everyone gets tired and you cannot always predict when you will begin feeling drowsy. Remember that if you are struggling to stay awake, you should not be behind the wheel.

If a vehicle is driving erratically and you suspect the driver is fatigued, please contact the Grande Prairie RCMP or the local police.



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Detachment Spotlight: The Report A John Program

The Grande Prairie RCMP continues to work towards keeping our community safe through crime prevention and risk reduction programs, like Report-A-John.

At times, suspicious behaviour may be seen within our community that is believed to be related to the sex trade or “John” activity. This type of activities should be reported to the Grande Prairie RCMP.

“John” activity can be described as:

- Anyone who propositions someone or pays for sexual services
- Repeated drives by a location for a sexual purpose
- Slowing down to observe or proposition a person
- Dropping off a known sex trade worker
- Parking and watching sex trade workers

If any of the above “John” activities are seen in your neighborhood, the following information should be provided to police:

- Location, date & time
- Vehicle information
- A description of the offender
- A description of the “john” activity

If suspicious activity is observed, residents are asked to contact the Grande Prairie RCMP. Reporting a “John” can also be done anonymously online through the City of Grande Prairie Website or by contacting Crime Stoppers.

<https://www.cityofgp.com/culture-community/social-programs-and-initiatives/crime-prevention/risk-reduction>

Pawsitive Interactions in Our Community

On December 10, 2021, Members from the Community Engagement and Diversity Unit made a visit to the Bandaged Paws Animal Rescue to donate food, treats, and toys for the dogs and cats waiting to find they “fur”ever homes.

Officers also transported several bags of pet food that had been donated from Bones and Biscuits, a business in Grande Prairie, over to the shelter.

Rescue Pup ‘Heidi’ met with the officers and was very happy to play a couple games of fetch with the new toys and nibble on a few treats.

Cpl. McPhee, Sgt. Graham, and Cst. Ralph with Heidi



Book ‘Em! Giving Literary Works A New Life

During the month of December, book donations were collected at the RCMP Headquarters building in Edmonton, Alberta. The Grande Prairie RCMP detachment was selected to receive some of the books to give to local literature groups. Officers connected with the Grande Prairie Council for Lifelong Learning Society and the Grande Prairie Family Education Society/Healthy Families, who graciously accepted the books from generous Albertans.

Grande Prairie At A Glance

Offence Type	City		Rural	
	December 2020	December 2021	December 2020	December 2021
Break & Enter	21	17	6	10
Theft of Motor Vehicle	10	35	2	11
Theft From Motor Vehicle	34	34	3	2
Possession of Stolen Property	17	23	6	14

All Events	City		Rural	
	December 2020	December 2021	December 2020	December 2021
Total Police Events	2127	2333	454	494

**Police events represent all police calls for service, officer generated files and traffic infractions. Note: These do not represent our final, official crime statistics*

Online Crime Reporting
<https://ocre-sielc.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/alberta/en>

Crime Mapping
 Grande Prairie City
<https://www.cityofgp.com/city-services/emergency/rcmp/rcmp-crime-map>
 County of Grande Prairie
<https://rcmp-k-div.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=572cd3cf20ed45b7bc09065bf79ce0ac>

*Crime statistics cover the period of December 1 through December 30, 2021 and are compared to the same period of the previous year. Note: The figures in the chart are raw and may be changed by our review process. They do not represent our final, official crime statistics.



TO REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY
 call the **Grande Prairie RCMP** at **780-830-5700**
 or your local police detachment.



IF YOU WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS
 you can contact **Crime Stoppers** at **1-800-222-8477 (TIPS)**, online at www.P3Tips.com or by using the "P3 Tips" app available through the *Apple App* or *Google Play Store*.