

# THE COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICER PROGRAM

An Effective and Affordable Method to Bolster Community Safety



As compared to an ad-hoc response to actions in the community The City of North Battleford developed a Community Safety Program that has become a proactive, holistic service based approach based upon four pillars that a Community Safety Co-ordinator has been hired to support:

- 1. Creating Opportunities (Regional Economic, Employment, Quality Life)
- 2. Helping Individuals and families (HUB), (Crime Free Housing)
- 3. Co-ordination of existing programs and developing new opportunities
- 4. Crime prevention and suppression strategies

Community Safety Officers are an important component of pillar # //as/it allows the RCMP to spend their time on more serious crimes.

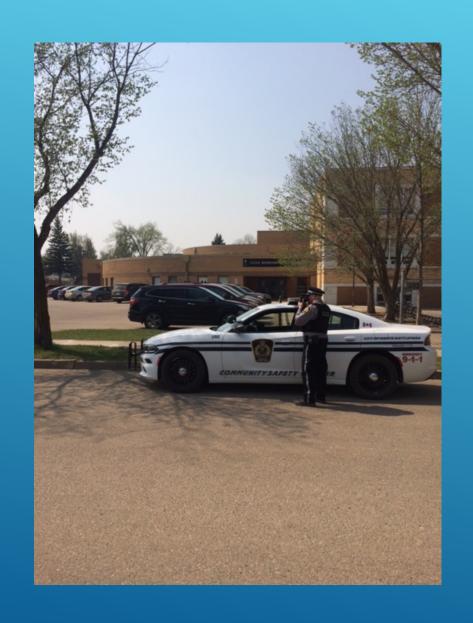
- Community Safety Officers have been granted increased authority under nine provincial statutes which now include traffic enforcement but should not be confused with RCMP officers who have a broader range of enforcement, authority and responsibilities.
- The term community safety goes beyond just the enforcement component. This philosophy allows us to engage and work collectively with many community stakeholders and organizations in order to foster and promote a positive, safe community image.

COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICERS PERFORM VALUABLE ROLES IN THE ENHANCEMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY THROUGH VISIBILITY, PRESENCE & ENGAGEMENT.

#### Part V of The Police Act, 1990,

- Provides that the Minister may appoint any individual as a Special Constable/(Peace Officer). The appointee can enforce the following Provincial Statues;
- The Traffic Safety Act
- The Highways and Transportation Act, 1997.
- > The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Act, 1997
- > The Environmental Management & Protection Act 2010
- > The All-Terrain Vehicle Act
- The Snow Mobile Act
- The Cities Act (property standards, dogs & cats, residential parking)
- The Trespass to Properties Act
- > The Mental Health Services Act
- ➤ Investigate (not in progress) theft under \$5,000.00 c/c Sec. 334(b)

  Mischief under \$5,000.00 c/c Sec. 430, Response to MVA (without injuries)
- Response to single hit alarms.



Community safety officers are available citywide and work 10-hour shifts seven days a week during business hours, evenings and weekends for maximum coverage.

The realignment of municipal enforcement and refocus with community safety officers serves to assist the local detachment of the RCMP by dedicating resources more collectively towards crime prevention.

# WHAT IS THE COST AND THE PROCESS TO START A COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICER PROGRAM?

The first step is to submit a proposal to the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing

This proposal should include information about:

- Community objectives
- Community engagement
- Crime prevention
- Working collectively with the RCMP
- Costs will vary depending on needs and circumstances.

# ONCE APPROVAL IS GRANTED

Criteria will be laid out by the ministry going forward, including:

- Training, certification, appointment
- CSO equipment & Uniform
- Resources, vehicles, equipment and markings
- Operational guidelines
- Fines collection community reference number



## COMMUNICATIONS IS CRITICAL

Records management system (Report Exec) provides:

### Statistical data required for:

- Gap analysis
- Activity breakdown
- Personnel-hours
- Percentage of time spent on activities
- Financial analysis

# **BENEFITS**

- Networking with other communities in close proximity.
- Enhance customer service delivery.
- Training initiatives, community event initiatives.
- Fostering and building partnerships with other community organizations such as the HUB, Citizens on Patrol, Neighbourhood Watch, Boys & Girls' Club and school divisions.



# STATISTICAL ANALYSIS 2015/16

	Month	2016 YTD	2015/16 YTD
Report Exec Categories	#	#	#
School Zone Patrols	114	253	827
Community Patrols	176	386	1,481
Down Town Foot Patrols	27	53	314
Mall Patrols	8	19	57
Assist Agencies (FD, RCMP, EMS, etc)	14	43	175
Animal Compliant & Investigation	93	161	280
Public Intox & Investigation	61	71	182
Residential Parking	57	137	380
Down Town Parking	11	30	85
School Zone Violations	39	74	237
Fire Lane Violations	7	14	70
Handy Cap Violations	23	67	238
Unregistered Vehicle Violations	51	82	404
Suspended Driver Violations	9	15	56
Speeding HTSA Violations	74	117	943
Off Heavy Truck Route (Violation)	2	5	29
Property Unsightly Inspection	16	20	208
By-law Warning/Investigation	7/98	13/58	46/624
Vet Run	0	0	17
CSO Attending Court	1	4	9
Citations Issued Provincial	228	378	1,983
Citations Issued Municipal	347	973	4,326
Incident Activity Events	1,629	3,419	14,822

## DOES REVENUE OFFSET OPERATIONAL

Inception of Program June 1, 2014 to May 5, 2016

**Breakdown: Total Violations = 8,769** 

Municipal (6085) = \$303,992.00

Provincial (2677) = \$633,043.99

Total Revenue Generation: = \$938,185.99

There has been no tax increase to initiate or support this program.

#### WHAT'S NEW & INNOVATIVE CSO PROGRAM NORTH BATTLEFORD

- Electronic Ticketing HTSA & Municipal Parking Enforcement Immediate RMS & Data Entry Down Load (Report Exec)
- Automatic Licence Plate Reader (A.L.P.R.) Pioneered by SGI
   2014/15 NB CSO manual inquires 3000.00 +
- 1908 Property Maintenance and Abate Nuisance (the bylaw)
   Present; current process takes significant resources, time and finances
   (The Cities Act Sec 328 Order Sec 347, Sec 330 ss. 61 & 62, By-Law 1908 Sec 57.1 Sec 58,
  - Step 1: Issue an order for cleanup & follow-up visit in 15 days
  - Step 2: Issue a violation ticket/fine (voluntary payment) if contravention continues and conduct follow-up visit in 14 days; and
  - Step 3: Engage city workers/contractors to remedy and add expense to tax role.

### PROPOSED PROCEDURE FOR BY-LAW CONTRAVENTION

New Process The Cities Act Sec 338 By-law 1908 Now Sec 16 not previous Sec 8 & 9

#### > Step 1:

Issue Summary Offence Ticket information outlining the contravention and summoning them to court. Let them know to contact a CSO to verify compliance occurs before the court date.

#### Challenge:

New Territory proper, detailed accurate disclosure (Past Practice)

#### Benefits:

Enhanced Administrative Capacity and Productivity,

Enhanced compliance, and shorter time frame based on circumstance

Reduced property standard complaints.

Community pride, in appearance. Promotes a positive community image for fostering new growth & prosperity.

# THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?

