

TESTIMONIAL

BC ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE



The Block Watch program is an invaluable tool in our communities. It helps us to build stronger relationships with our residents and has provided us with an effective avenue for crime prevention and reduction at the most local level.

The program helps us help residents create safer neighbourhoods and is well known to foster a greater sense of safety and well-being. We are proud to support the Block Watch program and encourage all residents to get involved.

TIPS TO START A GROUP

- Begin by contacting your local Block Watch office to complete the application process and receive any program materials and training.
- When meeting your neighbours, keep the conversation light and friendly and share why you're interested in getting involved.
- If you are in a multiplex, check in with the strata or building manager to ensure their support for Block Watch.
- Block Watch isn't responsible for patrols or chasing criminals. Instead, the program offers training to increase your security and teach you how to recognize and safely report suspicious or criminal activity.
- Assure everyone that their personal information is kept confidential and compliant with the BC Personal Information Protection Act.

JOIN BLOCK WATCH



Contact the Saanich Police Block Watch office to learn how to join or start a group in your neighbourhood or complex.



(250) 475-4365



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Saanich Police Block Watch
760 Vernon Avenue
Victoria, BC V8X 2W6

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BLOCK WATCH SOCIETY OF BC



blockwatch.com



@bcblockwatch



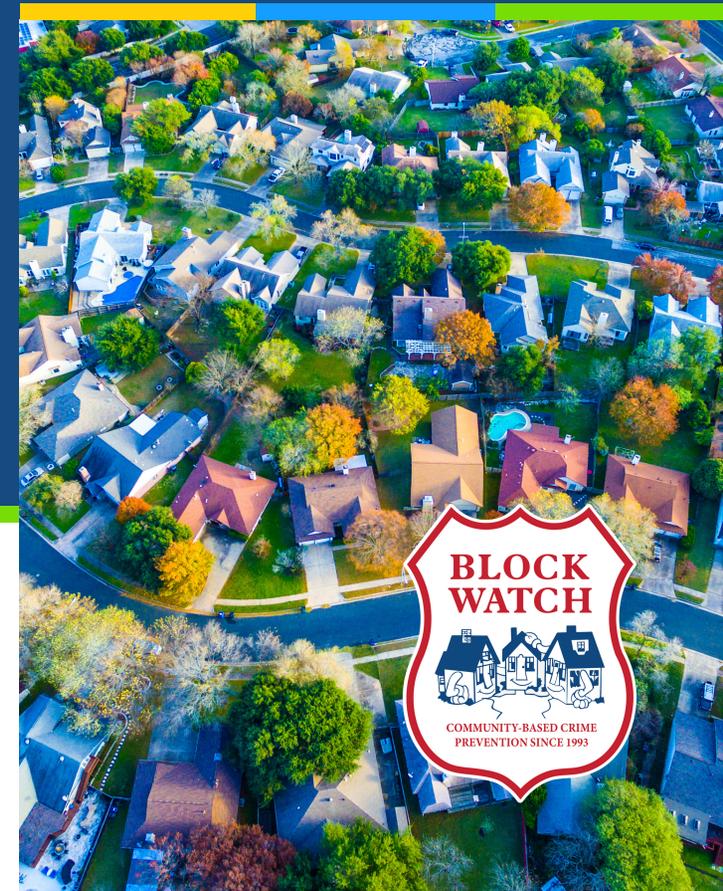
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BLOCK WATCH

COMMUNITY SAFETY

NEIGHBOURS LOOKING OUT FOR NEIGHBOURS



WORKING TOGETHER TO BUILD SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

ABOUT

Block Watch is a free crime prevention program that encourages neighbours to work together to build safer and inclusive communities. Your local municipality, police agency or Indigenous office will provide a crime prevention advocate who will educate and support residents to help foster a stronger sense of community, security and safety by working together.

With trained neighbours who know each other, it becomes easier to identify suspicious or criminal activity and report it to the police. Block Watch groups can be started in residential neighbourhoods and multi-family dwellings and complexes. Proactive Block Watch groups can make a significant difference in preventing crime.



GOALS

- **C**ommunication
- **A**dvocacy
- **R**esilient communities
- **E**ducational resources

PROGRAM BENEFITS



Benefits of participating in Block Watch:

- Opportunities to connect with your neighbours to foster a greater sense of community.
- Gives you a line of communication with your local Block Watch office. Depending on your area, this may also include access to a police officer.
- Enhances your awareness of criminal activity in your neighbourhood, allowing you to take proactive measures to increase your personal security.
- Provides education about security enhancements that can improve the protection of your home and property.
- Explains how and when to report incidents to the police or bylaw enforcement.
- Keeps you informed with consistent updates on crime trends in your area.
- Acquire the skills to be an effective witness.

WHAT'S INVOLVED

If you are interested in starting or joining a group, contact your local Block Watch office for details.

There are different roles you can consider:

Captain/Co-Captain

As the Block Watch Captain or Co-Captain, you will have a genuine interest in reducing crime in your neighbourhood or complex.

The primary functions of the Captains are to recruit neighbours to join your Block Watch group and set up a communication chain.

You will also serve as the crucial link to share information between your community and the Block Watch office.

Participant

Participants are the residents in the neighbourhood or complex who agree to be part of the Captain's group. A participant's key role is to be aware of their surroundings, be familiar with what suspicious activity looks like and to report incidents first to the police and then to the Captain.

