



Saanich Police Community Safety Office

111—3680 Uptown Boulevard

BLOCKWATCH@SAANICHPOLICE.CA

Hello Saanich Block Watch, this week is Volunteer Week, and the Saanich Police want to take this opportunity to say thank you for volunteering. We are grateful for your willingness to give your time, energy, and talents. Your support of the Saanich Police Department allows us to continue fulfilling our mission and serve people in our community every year.



What are the main objectives of Block Watch??



Only police officers and superheroes should literally fight crime, but you still deserve a **CAPE!** The Block Watch **C.A.P.E.** shows neighbours how Block Watch brings value in four core categories: **communication, advocacy, placemaking, and empowerment.**

Captains go door to door. They meet and invite neighbours into the **COMMUNICATION** chain. You share information with the people you know. With Block Watch you have the Block Watch Office **ADVOCATE** as a resource and contact for your neighbourhood. **PLACEMAKING** Block Watch helps you feel ownership of your neighbourhood and creates a resilient community.

Being a part of Block Watch will bring a sense of **EMPOWERMENT**, providing you with educational resources to be proactive in reducing crime in your neighbourhood.

What is your role ?

CAPTAIN/CO-CAPTAIN ROLE

The primary function of the Captain is to set up communication between the neighbours and serve as the link between them and the Block Watch Office .

- ◆ Building the team
- ◆ Maintain your map and list
- ◆ Communicate and share suspicions occurrences and crime incidents with your team
- ◆ Provide your team with Block Watch information
- ◆ Organize a Block Watch Party / Meeting once per year
- ◆ Identify a replacement when you resign and ensure they complete the activation process.

PARTICIPANT ROLE

- ◆ Sharing an interest in community safety with their neighbors
- ◆ Being aware of who lives in your neighborhood/complex
- ◆ Watching out for each other and each others property
- ◆ Reporting suspicious and criminal activity to police, then to the Block Watch Captain/Co-Captain. The Captain then shares the incident with the team and copies the information to the Block Watch Office.
- ◆ Attend annual Block Watch meeting / Block Party



Hello all Block Watch Captains and Co-captains,
We are very pleased to invite you to a VPD Zoom Block
Talk series presentation:

CCTV: Video Surveillance Tips, Tech and Evidence.

To help support awareness and participation in the Block Watch program the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) has opened this session to the public. When someone registers they will be asked for their city and if they are a Block Watch member. If they are not a member, they will be given the option to be contacted to learn more about joining or starting a Block Watch.

This talk series is open to the Captains, Co-Captains, Participants, Family, Friends, Public, so please share !

PLEASE CONTACT THE COORDINATOR OF VOLUNTEERS AND
CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS AT: BLOCKWATCH@SAANICHPOLICE.CA
TO REGISTER.



BLOCK TALK SERIES

CCTV

Video Surveillance
Tips, Tech and Evidence

Zoom, Wednesday, April 24th
6:30pm - 7:30pm



Back by popular demand, VPD Forensic Video Analyst Mr. Chris Sinkewicz will share his expertise on what Police and Crown Prosecutors look for in surveillance video. He will provide tips for more successful camera placement, equipment guidelines and lighting recommendations to help you capture the most effective images in the event you need to make a police report, and more!

Bring your questions.

This session is open to the public.



WITH SUPPORT FROM



bcblockwatch

Welcome to BEAT THE FRAUDSTER safety series

Beat the Fraudster 50yrs+!

Empower and protect yourself and your loved ones with practical techniques to increase your safety. In partnership with Saanich Police's Community Engagement Division, this **FREE** monthly series covers aspects of financial, technological and community safety.

April to June 2024

G.R. PEARKES RECREATION CENTRE

Friday, April 19th
10:30 am -12:00 pm
#102186, 250-475-5400

GORDON HEAD RECREATION CENTRE

Wednesday, May 22nd
1:00-2:30 pm
#102187, 250-475-7100

SAANICH COMMONWEALTH PLACE

Tuesday, June 11th
9:30-11:00 am
#1021834 250-475-7600

Registration
open now by
phone, in
person or online
(www.saanich/register).

Saanich

PARKS, RECREATION
& COMMUNITY SERVICES



- Breathe and Slow things down!
- Be Rude-hang up-delete, don't respond!
- Check in with two trusted people
- Never send money, give personal or bank info to someone you haven't met

www.saanichpolice.ca 250-475-4321
Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre 1-888-495-8501



Home Security Tips

Doors

- Do you keep your doors locked at all times even when you're home?
- Have you re-keyed your locks since you moved in?
- Do your doors have a wide-angle peephole viewer?
- Are all exterior doors solid core hardwood or metal covered?
- Are entrance doors equipped with 1 good quality dead bolts?
- Do you have 6 – 8 security strike plates?
- Is the strike plate reinforced with 3 screws that pass through the door frame and into the wall stud?
- Is the glass in outside doors shatter resistant?
- Do all out-swing doors have a hinge with a locking pin or non-removable pins?
- Does your door fit snugly in your door jam (e.g. within 1/4 inch)?
- Do you have a patio door bar fastened into both the frame and the door to securely lock the door?
- Have you inserted screws into the top track of your patio door to prevent it from being lifted up and removed?
- Do you leave your patio door open at night for ventilation, securing it with a patio door bar?
- Do not open your door to anyone you don't know.



Garage

- Are garage doors closed and locked when not in use ?
- Does your automatic garage door opener use a rolling code system to prevent code grabbing?
- If the garage door is not equipped with an electronic opener, does it have heavy duty padlocks installed on both sides of the door?
- Is there a switch to shut off the automatic garage door?
- Is the door from the garage into the house equipped with a deadbolt and do you always lock it?
- Can the garage lights be turned on from inside the house?
- Do you have window security bars installed on your garage windows?
- Do you have your garage door opener in a non-visible spot in your vehicle – or ideally not kept in your vehicle?
- Do you remove your keys from vehicles parked inside your garage even if the garage is locked?
- Do you remove all valuables from plain sight in your vehicle?
- Do you have window coverings on all garage windows?



Apartment Security

- Never allow strangers to enter your building without proper screening.
- Use the intercom wisely. If you do not know the person do not buzz the door. If someone claims to have a delivery for you or claims to be police go down to the lobby to let them in.
- Lock your patio door or windows when you are out of the room to prevent a cat burglar entering and stealing your wallet or purse.
- Use your suite door locks even if you intend to stay in the building or just take out the garbage.
- Don't store valuables in storage lockers.

If you have become a victim of a crime or observe what you believe to be suspicious activity in your neighbourhood, report all suspicious persons or vehicles to the police as soon as possible. If something doesn't seem right, trust your gut and make a report!



SAANICH POLICE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Each year, the Saanich Police recruit volunteers to promote various crime prevention initiatives throughout the Municipality of Saanich. These duties include, but are not limited to:

- Ace Mascot Team
- Block Watch
- Speed Watch
- Cell Watch
- Community Events Team
- Fraud Prevention
- Lock Out Auto Crime
- Road Safety
- Safe Place



General Qualifications

- Must be 19 or older at the time of application
- Criminal Record Check
- Be a Canadian citizen or Landed Immigrant
- Take an oath of confidentiality
- Must have class 5 drivers licence and a driving abstract required
- Possesses good interpersonal skills
- Works well independently and as a team player

WHY VOLUNTEER WITH THE SAANICH POLICE !

- Make an important contribution to your community
- Learn more about your community and policing activities
- Improve communication, organizational and team building skills
- To have fun!
- Network with people who share common interests
- Enhance your resume



HOW TO APPLY

- Pick up an application package at the Saanich Police Community Safety Office
- Email your request to : **BLOCKWATCH@SAANICHPOLICE.CA**
- Go to **<http://saanichpolice.ca/community-programs/community-safety-office>** and send in your application