



Chief Cst. John Lo

Welcome to the Chief's July Newsletter!

Quarterly messages for West Vancouver
Block Watch from the Chief Constable
providing high level updates from your
friendly Police Department

Hello Block Watch Captains, Co-Captains, and Participants,

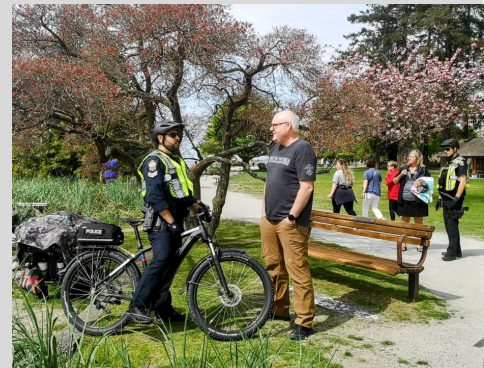
I hope that you are having a great summer! This is typically the busiest time of the year for us with longer days, nicer weather, and more people active in our community.

Unfortunately, the nicer weather can also create opportunities for property crime offenders because homeowners are more inclined to leave their windows and doors open which makes entering your home much easier.

One suggestion that I can offer on how to “target harden” your property is to have a look at your property from the lens of a prospective burglar. Walk around the perimeter of your property and see if there are any easily accessible entry points.

Are there any open windows or doors? And if you had a ladder, would you be able to get in through a window or a door on an upper level? Is there an entry point to your house through the garage and if so, is your garage secure?

Now pretend that you (as the burglar) were able to gain entry to the house. Where are your valuables located? Are they somewhere obvious like in a safe in the bedroom closet? If so, consider moving them to a more inconspicuous place.



Be Safe This Summer & All Year



Keep High Value Items Safe

It is rare these days for large items to be stolen. Televisions, electronics, and appliances are typically not what property crime offenders are looking for.

Suspects can easily carry, conceal, and fence small valuables such as jewelry, cash, and high-end purses.

Consider storing high end valuables in a safety deposit box especially if you will be away from your home for an extended period.

Vacant Homes

If you or someone you know owns an empty home, please ensure no valuables (like the ones mentioned above) are stored in the residence.

It is very frustrating for our members who attend a break-in to find large amounts of valuables stolen from a home that has been vacant for months or even years. You can avoid this through storage of high value items in a safety deposit box.



Some Good News

Property crime in West Vancouver is down 5% this year in comparison to this time last year.

West Vancouver continues to be an extremely safe community.

But please be vigilant in looking after your property and your valuables so that we do not give property crime offenders a reason to target our community.



We Are Here For You

Remember that we are just a phone call away. Please report any suspicious activity to us.

We are here to help!

Thank you for being a part of the Block Watch Program and for looking out for your friends and neighbours.

I look forward to reaching out again in three months with another update!

Chief Constable John Lo
West Vancouver Police

