

## **ABOUT SVCPC**

The SVCPC is a registered non-profit, charitable and non-partisan volunteer organization, delivering its services from a storefront office at 5657 Victoria Drive.

The work at the centre is carried out under the direction of its annually elected Board of Directors, with the assistance of hundreds of community volunteers, two full time and one part time staff members and with the assistance of the Neighborhood Police Constable.

The mandate of the organization is to help improve community safety through the implementation of various crime prevention safety programs and initiatives and to encourage community involvement.

The SVCPC works in partnership with the City of Vancouver, the Vancouver Police Department, local Business Improvement Associations, ICBC, other service organizations. It also relies on support and of local residents and businesses.

### **OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday to Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sunday: CLOSED

### **SVCPC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership Fee:

Students \$5.00 Individual \$10.00 Family \$20.00

Small Business \$20.00 Corporate \$50.00

Charitable Tax No:895315075RR0001

## **YOUR CAR**

- Lock doors after entering or leaving cars.
- Do not leave anything in plain view.
- Look inside the car before you get in.
- Have keys ready as you approach your car.

## **BE ALERT**

- Keep an eye out for suspicious people, and cars. Try to remember or write down their descriptions, including description of the vehicle: make, model, color, license plate numbers, dates and times.
- Remember distinguishing characteristics.
- Keep a cordless phone with you at home.
- For Senior citizens, consider a program like Lifeline (604.872.5433)

Consider purchasing a cellular phone and carry it with you at all times.

## **CONSIDER JOINING A BLOCK WATCH PROGRAM**

Get to know your neighborhood.  
Get to know your neighbors.  
Get to know the vehicles on your block.  
Get to know your community.

## **CALLING THE POLICE**

- If you see a crime in progress call 911
- If you have friends or family members whose first language is not English, teach them the English word for the language they do speak (e.g. "Cantonese") to help them summon help through the 911 emergency number. 9-1-1 has a translation service available in 170 languages.
- Stay calm and provide all the information the 9-1-1 call-taker requests.

# **SOUTH VANCOUVER COMMUNITY POLICING CENTRE**

## **HOME SECURITY**

*Crime prevention through cooperation,  
joint participation and volunteerism in  
the community*



5657 Victoria Drive (@ East 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue)

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Email: [volsvcpc@telus.net](mailto:volsvcpc@telus.net)

[www.southvancouvercpc.com](http://www.southvancouvercpc.com)

## YOUR HOME

1. Make a visual check of all entry points before leaving your home and make sure they are closed and locked.
2. Install good locks and use them.
3. Do not leave indicators that you are away.
4. When someone comes to your door get a good vantage/observation point. Do not open doors to strangers.
5. Keep valuables in a safety deposit box at your bank or in another safe place. Do not keep large amounts of money at home.
6. Keep an inventory of important documents and other valuables with serial numbers and pictures of re-saleable items and engrave your property with your BC driver's license. Engravers can be borrowed from a Community Policing Centre.
7. Keep all entrances and garages well-lit.
8. Draw window shades or drapes after dark.
9. Change your routine often.
10. Maintain your yard.
11. Do not hide your keys under a mat.
12. Beware of impersonators: ask for official identification (like a badge) and secondary identification (like a card). You can also call 911 to verify that you have police officers at your door.

## GOING ON VACATION

- a. Secure all entry points before leaving.
- b. Discontinue all deliveries: mail, milk etc.
- c. Tell your neighbor that you will be on holidays.
- d. Leave a radio playing and 1-2 lights on timers that turn on when dark outside.
- e. Consider a house-sitter.

## CRIME PREVENTION TIPS TO IMPROVE SECURITY OF TARGET AREAS AGAINST BREAK & ENTERS AND HOME INVASIONS

### DOORS

It is recommended that you invest in solid wood doors with one way viewers and reinforced door frames.

### LOCKS

Invest in deadbolts with a minimum of a 1" throw and 3 1/2 "screws in the strike plate and hinges.

### WINDOWS

- ✓ Keep your windows visible to neighbors / not hidden by shrubs or other obstructions.
- ✓ Place highly visible decals on the glass door near the latch mechanism to indicate that an alarm system, a dog, or a block watch, operation identification system is in place - if applicable.
- ✓ Consider reinforcing all accessible windows (especially those on lower levels) with secondary blocking devices, such window bars (if they are living quarters ensure they are removable from the inside to ensure a fire escape route if possible).
- ✓ Block accessible windows so that they open no more than 3 inches for ventilation.
- ✓ Use anti-lift devices to prevent windows from being lifted out.

### SLIDING GLASS DOORS

- > Sliding glass doors at the rear of buildings are often used as entry by burglars. It is recommended to use blocking devices called "charley bars" or other track-blockers that can be screwed down to prevent sliding the door fully open from outside.
- > To prevent the lifting of your door you should keep the door rollers in good condition and install anti-lift devices such as

a pin that extends through both the sliding and fixed portion of the door.

- > There are also numerous locking and blocking devices available in any good quality hardware stores that will prevent a sliding door from being lifted or forced horizontally

### LIGHTING

- ⇒ Specially selected and strategically installed and used lighting can also serve as crucial crime prevention tool.
- ⇒ Use of motion sensor lights is recommended to help monitor exterior areas. Motion sensors and porch lights should be in cages so that they are not broken or turned off.
- ⇒ Motion sensors should be left on at all times.
- ⇒ Porch lights at both the back and front of your residence should be lit if you do not have motion sensors.

### ALARMS

Do your homework on companies. Ask people who have alarms. Get a minimum of three quotes. Are they registered with Better Business Bureau? Registering with the False Alarm Reduction Program is required. Further information can be obtained at 604-871-6150.

### ILLUSIONS

If you live alone, do not broadcast this information! Make your home appear as if many people live there. Leave out toys, dog dishes, leashes, large boots.

Volunteer with your neighborhood Community Policing Centre - For volunteering and Block Watch information visit our office at 5657 Victoria Drive.