BUILDING SAFER COMMUNITIES BLOCKWATCH

You have probably read or heard about the increase of crime in our city; unfortunately, some of us have experienced break-ins, vandalism, and property or identity theft. The Calgary Police Service is very busy across the whole city and even with their best efforts, the police cannot prevent all crime. Each and every one of us can contribute additional “eyes on the street” with vigilant reporting to help the police prevent and address crime. The policing system is based on reporting and data. Their compiled data leads to work assignments, patrols, and undercover operations. Do not underestimate the power of one tip. You may see something unusual (that you rationalize as trivial) but when reported, that tip may be the key detail needed to close a case.

Criminals do not want to spend time in strong, cohesive communities where their illegal activities are seen and reported by observant residents. We want to build a stronger neighbourhood network in Bridgeland-Riverside. Working in partnership with the police, this network will involve a grid of areas whose residents are closely connected online and in person.

Crime prevention and safety are the primary goals of this network, but the benefits go beyond that. Bridgeland-Riverside prides itself on being a friendly, caring neighbourhood. By knowing who our neighbours are, watching out for each other, and reporting suspicious activity to the police, we will become a stronger community. We want to attract positive activities and outcomes, and be a desired place to live well, raise a family, grow up, and grow old. Please join our network and be a part of this community building activity. Here are some of the tools to use - you might want to keep this info taped to your fridge!

1. ALWAYS REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY OR BEHAVIOUR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Numbers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-emergency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Downtown Outreach Addictions Partnership (DOAP) Team*</td>
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*The DOAP Team is a program of the Calgary Alpha House that is designed to support emergency services such as police officers and Emergency Medical Services. DOAP is a service that helps link those who come into contact with individuals that have substance abuse issues with the appropriate social service agency. It is also an alternative response to calling 911 for someone who is passed out, intoxicated / on drugs in the community.

2. GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Become a member of the BRCA and participate in community activities: [www.brcacalgary.org/membership](http://www.brcacalgary.org/membership)

We also encourage you to [use the Neighbour Card to get to know your immediate neighbours](http://www.brcacalgary.org/membership). This way, if you see something out of the ordinary, you can contact them, or if you need to borrow sugar or an egg, it’s a lot easier!
3. **JOIN YOUR BRCA BLOCKWATCH ZONE**

Bridgeland-Riverside, let’s work together to make our community safer and prevent crime!

Join [the Facebook group Bridgeland-Riverside Eyes on the Street](http://www.facebook.com/BridgelandRiversideEyesOnTheStreet), where we look out for each other, get engaged, and communicate important news.

In this Facebook group you will find details on how to connect with your Blockwatch Captain.

www.brcacalgary.org/blockwatch