

RICHMOND CITIZENS CRIME WATCH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 14, 2005
Richmond City Hall Rm. M.1.002

1. Sign-in Sheet: Darren Gallvitz, Jim Howard, Vena Lanji, Steve Scott, Kevin Sutherland, Fermie Wilder, Emil Schattner, Darshan Chahal, Darren Sutherland, Virginia Dick, Rod Bruchet, Jane Bruchet, Barbara Hickey, Kjeld Christensen, Earl Van-Ochten, Pauline Sturton, Garry Vicze.

Guests: Alex Lee (ICBC), Cst. Jack Harrison (RCMP)

2. Call to Order: 19:10

3. Introduction of Guests and New Members: Rod introduced Cst. Jack Harrison, sitting in for our out-going liaison Cst. Tai Chang; and Alex Lee from ICBC.

Our 4 new members were not in attendance tonight. They are Lisa Stewart, Ken Parr, Alex Odinstov, and John Engloueu. We welcome them to our program.

4. Vision and Mission Statement: Read by Rod Bruchet

5. Report from Alex Lee (ICBC): Crime Watch has had an impact on the reduction of auto theft in Richmond. Statistics show that Richmond shows more favorable auto theft stats than cities with no Crime Watch programs in place.

Counter Attacks are out of ICBC's hands. At this time it is the Solicitor General is working with the RCMP E-Division to employ Counter Attacks. There is no word at this time however on when and where future Counter Attacks will take place.

Crime Watch is making a difference in the community and should consider joining the Richmond Safe Community Alliance. Alex will pass this message on the Rod.

6. Report from Cst. Jack Harrison (RCMP): The Richmond RCMP detachment appreciates and highly recognizes the Crime Watch program. Keep up the good work.

We still don't know who will be replacing Cst. Tai Chang as our RCMP liaison officer. The nature of the liaison position requires lots of movement and usually the job is only a one-year posting.

Once again, thank you to all Crime Watch volunteers for their efforts and hours dedicated to the Crime Watch program in keeping our community safe.

7. Executive Reports: Rod Bruchet (Coordinator) thanked all members for continued support and dedication. The past year has been full of challenges, with the move, etc. Our numbers are down, but things are starting to get better now. We will be having a media

blitz soon to get more members. We have new applicants now that are waiting to be trained and 4 new trainees at present time.

Rod thanked fellow executive members. A special thanks to Jim Howard, who had to give up his position as Assistant Coordinator (Operations) due to a new job. Jim has decided to stay on with Crime Watch in some capacity.

Thanked all members for supporting him in his role as Coordinator of the past year.

Rod recognized Cst. Tai Chang's dedicated service to Crime Watch as our Liaison. He was an excellent support link with the RCMP. Tai is presently in training for a gambling task force in Burnaby.

Maria Salzl says she would take over the liaison duties if we cannot find a replacement for Tai Chang.

Rod spoke about our move to YVR. It is a different setup there from Steveston. We are very welcomed at the YVR detachment and have been asked to take part in special operations at the airport. We now have high speed Internet on two new computers in our own office. We are also waiting to hear back from Dilbir Bains regarding the donations of laptops from VGH.

Upcoming events: Halloween and training for dispatch and road training.

Virginia Dick asked about photo ID cards for people who have not yet received them. Darren Gallvitz will start a list of people who still need their photo taken.

Darren Gallvitz (Assistant Coordinator – Administration) thanked all members for their dedication and perseverance during the past year.

Darren stated that Gas Vouchers have been calculated for volunteers who have driven their own vehicle on patrol from Jan. 2005 – Aug. 2005. Once the vouchers are signed, Darren will submit them to Finance for gas reimbursement. We are currently getting reimbursed for \$0.20 on the kilometre.

Compared to last year, our stats are way down in all areas. The table below shows our year to date stats for this year, compared with the stats from this time last year:

	Hours	Calls	Plates	Hits
2005	794.75	28	32,869	10
2004	2,260.90	74	96,432	27

There are a number of reasons for this difference: we have had an increase of LOAs (Leave of Absences), some members have gotten discouraged with the changes made and have left the program, we have not taken any new members in, and there have been cancelled shifts due to lack of interest.

Darren also announced the opening of the Members Area on the Crime Watch website. Our website address is: www.vcn.bc.ca/rccwp The members area can be accessed by clicking on the “Members Area” button and then by selecting “Member” from the username list and typing in the password: “patrol03”. Please note that there is no personal information contained in the members area and only first names are used. Please visit this site regularly for helpful information and updates. As it is a work in progress, some areas are still not finished, but check back often, as the whole site will be ready very soon. If you have any suggestions on how to make the webpage or any other aspect of our program better, you may use the online suggestions form.

Vena Lanji (Treasurer) thanked all members and stated that we have had a good year in terms of planning and changing for the better. There has not been any more money coming in to the Crime Watch account at this time. We will be assessing what equipment is to be needed for the coming year(s) and then put in for some grants.

Darren Sutherland (Training) thanked everyone who came out to the training sessions. Darren and Kevin Sutherland have been looking into a CAD (Computer Assisted Dispatch) system for Crime Watch and BCIT have agreed to present the CAD idea as a project for BCIT students to work on. If the project is selected, the CAD program will be very valuable and beneficial to our Crime Watch program.

Fermie Wilder (Patrol Supervisor, Scheduler) said that the move to YVR has been wonderful and that the RCMP members there have been very friendly and supporting toward Crime Watch volunteers.

Fermie mentioned that some volunteers have been slow to respond to patrol scheduling and requested that the newly appointed scheduler make sure that volunteers respond ASAP to monthly scheduling, as the job can be very difficult with cancellations and last minute changes, etc.

Jane Bruchet (Patrol Supervisor) announced that due to work commitments, she will no longer be able to continue on as a Patrol Supervisor.

Steve Scott (Patrol Supervisor) thanked everyone for making an effort to come out on patrols. Things are now getting better. There were 13 volunteers out on the last shift (Sept. 10th). Things are all set up to go for the coming year.

<Break: 19:57 – 20:10>

<Ticket Draw: 20:10 – 20:12>

8. Elections:

These were the election results for the new executive:

Elected Position	Name
Coordinator	Vena Lanji
Assistant Coordinator/ Operations	Rod Bruchet
Assistant Coordinator/ Administration	Darren Gallvitz
Treasurer	Steve Scott
Training Coordinator	Darren Sutherland

These were the election results for the Appointed Positions:

Patrol Supervisors (2)	Scheduler (1)	Equipment Manager (1)
Fermie Wilder	Fermie Wilder	Ken Parr
Steve Scott	Rod Bruchet	
Darren Gallvitz		
Darren Sutherland		
Rod Bruchet		

The positions for Patrol Supervisors, Scheduler, and Equipment Manager will be appointed by the executive at the next executive meeting.

9. Adjournment: 20:45

**Minutes recorded by Darren Gallvitz*