VOLUME 1 JANUARY 2023

# BUSINESS WATCH

Working to Protect Delta Businesses





### REPORTING CRIME

- Crime in progress: Call 911
- Non-emergencies: 604-946-4411
- Report in person
  - North Delta Public Safety Building 11375 84th Ave, Delta, BC (7am-7pm - 7 days a week)
  - Delta Police Headquarters 4455 Clarence Taylor Crescent,
     Delta, BC (7am-7pm 7 days a week)
- Online reporting (non-emergencies only) at https://deltapolice.ca



#### **CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE**

## SMALL BUSINESS SCAMS

Fraudsters are beginning to target businesses through unsolicited contact. They attempt to steal information by impersonating a reputable organization. Learn more about how to protect yourself.

### GRAFFITI CONTROL AND PREVENTION

Graffiti is becoming a growing issue for both small and larger businesses. How can graffiti be managed by the business community?

## CRIME MAPS & PREVENTION

Crime maps are used to help illustrate different crime trends across Delta. In response to these crimes, Delta police provides crime prevention tips to help keep businesses safe. See below for more information.

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### **SMALL BUSINESS SCAMS**

Small businesses can often fall prey to a variety of scams acting as either a bill for supplies or an order that likely was not placed by the business. An unauthorized advertising or directory listing will forcibly bill a business for an unrequested listing placed in magazines, journals, or an online directory listing. The scam may also appear in the form of subscription offerings to update a listing for a business directory only to require payment later.





#### **TIPS TO PROTECT YOUR BUSINESS:**

- Remember to remain vigilant when taking these calls as they are the most common type of interactions when being contacted by a scammer.
- Double check on orders/deliveries that have been processed before giving any form of payment.
- Never disclose any updated information regarding your business unless you can verify what the information will be used for.
- Always ensure that any agreement for services is signed on paper rather than simply making a verbal agreement.
- Managers can play an effective role in detailing procedures for verification so staff are better equipped to handle these situations.







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## GRAFFITI VANDALISM PREVENTION

#### What is Graffiti?

Graffiti is the act of unauthorized and illegal marking of property, often displayed as stylized symbols or phrases spray painted onto building walls and/or other surfaces. Even though some individuals may perceive certain graffiti as art, graffiti can be used as a means to incite hate and fear in the community and is a general eyesore.



The Delta Police DCPO's (District Community Police Office) volunteers participate in the "T.A.G." Program (Taking Action on Graffiti). Contact us to see if we can help your business with graffiti removal.



## How can Graffiti be Prevented and/or Controlled?

- If you see an individual spray painting graffiti onto a surface, contact the police non-emergency line at 604-946-4411.
- If you are contacting the police, try to make note of the suspect's details (gender/ethnicity/approx. height & weight/clothing description).
- Avoid touching / contaminating any evidence left at the scene.
- Stay on line with police and try to maintain a distant eye on the suspect until police arrival.
- At conclusion of police investigation, remove graffiti immediately. This acts as a deterrent to future occurrences.
- Employ surveillance cameras and motion activated lighting.



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### **CRIME PREVENTION**

CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design)

 The Delta District Community Police Offices offer complimentary evaluations to businesses and private residences. A team of volunteers with specialized training in CPTED principles will attend your business or home and provide an evaluation that indicates how to make your property less appealing to the criminal element.

#### Catalytic Converter ID Program:

- The Delta Police Department has worked with several vehicle repair shops to initiate
  a catalytic converter ID program. Speak with your local shop about engraving your
  license plate or driver's license number onto the metal shell, or by using a forensic
  marking solution. This helps the Police in the event that it is stolen and subsequently
  located.
- B.C. has introduced new metal recycling regulations that help prevent the sale of stolen catalytic converters. The new rules require that the dealers must report any transaction involving a catalytic converter, including info regarding the seller, to the police

#### Community Crime Watch (CCW)

 The Delta Police Department offers the Community Crime Watch program as an approach to prevent, reduce, and report crime. Volunteers patrol targeted areas of crime, in a marked Community Police vehicle and report any suspicious activity or criminal offence to the Police.

#### Inadmissible Patrons Program (IPP)

 The IPP is a public safety partnership between Delta area businesses, public facilities, and the Delta Police Department. The goal of deterring individuals known to be associated to or involved in serious and/or violent criminal activities from entering or remaining in participating establishments in the City of Delta. If you are interesting in joining the IPP program, please contact your local Delta Community Police Office.

#### Community Watch Program

Sign up to take part in a database of homes and businesses with video cameras. Sign
up is voluntary and easily done at deltapolice.ca/cwp. The use of video footage can
help police locate suspects, find missing persons, locate potential witnesses, and
gain information to assist in investigations.

#### **RESOURCES:**

The Little Black Book of Scams 1st Edition:

https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/competition-bureau-canada/en/how-we-foster-competition/education-and-outreach/publications/little-black-book-scams

#### The Little Black Book of Scams 2nd Edition:

https://www.competitionbureau.gc.ca/eic/site/cb-bc.nsf/eng/04333.html

#### **Delta Police Theft Crime Prevention Information Guide**

#### **Images**

https://stock.adobe.com/ca/

#### Delta Police

www.deltapolice.ca

#### Scam Information

www.competitionbureau.gc.ca

#### **Block Watch Society of BC**

https://blockwatch.com/crime-prevention-tips/graffiti-vandalism/



### **CRIME MAPS**

Commercial Break-Ins
October | November | December 2022

Tsawwassen (District 1)



Ladner (District 2)



North Delta (Districts 3 & 4)



