

# the Badge of Honour



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

SUMMER, 2010

## Crime Prevention—By the Community, For The Community, Through the Community



community Policing Centre newsletter "the Badge of Honour". In this issue we will be introducing you to our staff and Neighbourhood Police Offi-

cer, reviewing our programs, providing you with an overview of our community events, and taking the time to highlight some of our extraordinary volunteers. It is important that you get to know us and understand the services we provide in and for the community. The West End-Coal Harbour Community Policing Centre is an **information and referral agency which facilitates the interaction between police and the community** with issues relat-

ing to crime and personal safety. We are a **non-profit organization** that works in partnership with ICBC and the Vancouver Police Department. We are **staffed by volunteers** from the community, like you, who care about the safety and general welfare of our neighbourhood. We are a family – your family – and as such, you are welcome in our house anytime. Please come by and meet our volunteers, staff or NPO, express your concerns, or just say hello.

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## Fireworks Light Up Our Lives

The Celebration of Light closed out its 20th Anniversary on July 31, 2010 without a hitch. The Vancouver Police Department did a tremendous job in keeping this yearly event – and our neighbourhood – safe from violence. But they could not have done it so successfully without the help of volunteers from the community and from the Community Policing Centres (CPC). This year, seven of the CPCs across Vancouver contributed volunteers over the course of the four nights; a

third of which came from the West End-Coal Harbour Community Policing Centre. Our volunteers manned barricades that prevented motor vehicle traffic into the West End and provided information, directions, and health and safety advice to the thousands of spectators that enjoyed the fireworks over the past two weeks. Event Volunteer Coordinator Pat Short said "Community Policing Centre [volunteers] usually oversee the barricades along Thurlow". Thurlow is the toughest area to cover because it serves as a secured boundary and West End residents can only use one of two police checkpoints to enter with their automobiles. Being stationed in this area provides the volunteers an opportunity to interact with the public in a

potentially hostile situation and also doubles as practical training for anyone with an interest in policing or security. VPD Constable Anne Longley added that [the CPC] volunteers are usually looking to get into a career in law enforcement. Regardless of their intentions, the Celebration of Light volunteers know that dedicating their time year after year helps to ensure that the West End remains a safe place to work, live, and play. Anyone interested in volunteering for future Celebration of Light festivities or other city-wide events, please contact Pat Short at [patanne@shaw.ca](mailto:patanne@shaw.ca), or stop by the West End-Coal Harbour Community Policing Centre; she is one of ours too! (see 'Up Next on the Docket....Pat Short' , page 3).



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[WWW.WECHCPC.COM](http://WWW.WECHCPC.COM)  
[INFO@WEHCPC.COM](mailto:INFO@WEHCPC.COM)

PLEASE DONATE. THE WEST END-COAL HARBOUR COMMUNITY POLICING CENTRE IS A REGISTERED NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. TAX DEDUCTIBLE RECEIPTS WILL BE ISSUED AS REQUIRED. GOODS AND SERVICES ARE ALSO APPRECIATED. HELP US TO CONTINUE OFFERING OUR SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY.



SAVE A TREE!! Read our newsletter on-line at [www.wehcpc.com](http://www.wehcpc.com), or request to receive it via e-mail at [info@wehcpc.com](mailto:info@wehcpc.com)

## Meet Constable Kelly Risebrough



Constable Kelly Risebrough has been assigned to the West End-Coal Harbour Community Policing Centre in the central business district since August 2008. She has been a police officer for 4 1/2 years, all in the downtown area. Working in this area has shown her how the commitment of the community can make a real difference to those who police it.

"The sense of ownership that people feel means that they do not tolerate crime in their neighbourhood and they are

very willing to work alongside police to make their community safer. How can I not absolutely love my job when I drive around the West End talking to folks who are so engaged in their neighbourhood?"

Working in the West End and Coal Harbour poses many challenges due to the high density of the area and the mix of commercial and residential premises. Constable Risebrough feels the strong sense of community combined with the efforts of the volun-

teers at the Community Policing Centre have led to many successes in dealing with problematic issues on a long-term basis. She consistently strives to build relationships with residents and businesses to assist with their crime prevention efforts.

Outside of work, Constable Risebrough spends time with her family, including her lovely Golden Doodle, Scout. She also loves playing many sports, hiking, and being outdoors. {Reprinted with permission}

## Our New Executive Director

*"I knew right away [Community Policing] was something that I wanted to be involved with for the rest of my life."*

We are pleased to announce the arrival of our new Executive Director, Ms Aleya Trott. A native of Ontario, Aleya has been a resident of Vancouver for nearly seven years. Prior to joining us, she served as both a volunteer and a board member at the Grandview-Woodland CPC and worked alongside our volunteers through the month of February during the Olympics. "I didn't even know Community Policing existed until last

year," she says. "I came across it on the VPD website and I knew right away it was something that I wanted to be involved with for the rest of my life".

Aleya has participated in various community initiatives since she was young and she credits participating in community sports organizations and the Girl Guides of Canada as her reason for being so connected at the community level. "There is no better feel-

ing than being a part of something the community rallies for and supports. Organizations like this connect all walks of life regardless of age, race, sexuality, or creed." Aleya's education includes University degrees in Criminology and Sociology, and a Certificate in Peer Counseling. In addition to working as a Provincial Court Judicial Clerk, she has most recently been working at the management level in the retail sector.

## Office Coordinator Extraordinaire

*"Volunteering at a CPC is a great opportunity to become familiar with neighbourhood issues and observe first hand how the community, including the police, deal with these issues"*

He is the man with the plan. When you see our yellow shirts roaming the streets or participating in an event, Hide Tomotake is usually close behind making sure that everything is going according to that plan. "Volunteering at a CPC is a great opportunity to become familiar with neighbourhood issues and observe first hand how the community, including the police, deal with these issues."

Hide joined us as the Office Coordinator in 2009 and is in charge of organizing and executing all volunteer activities. This position has been part of a natural progression for Hide as he began volunteering with Community Policing in January 2007 in the Foot Patrol and Speed Watch programs. He has since become a Speed Watch Program ICBC certified trainer, a member of the Vancouver Police Depart-

ment's Citizens' Crime Watch team, a certified VPD Bike Patrol instructor, and has successfully completed both Level I and Level II training in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).

Hide is an avid adventurer and outdoor enthusiast. He is currently participating in the RBC GranFondo Whistler; a 120km bike ride from downtown Vancouver to Whistler Village.

## Rockin' In The Community

On July 10, 2010 the West End-Coal Harbour Community Policing Centre participated at "Rockin' In The Park", a festival celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Coal Harbour Community Centre. It was a bright and sunny; a perfect day to operate our child-friendly version of the Police Officers Physical Abilities Test (POPAT). The mini-POPAT is an obstacle course that takes the participant through a range of exercises including jumping over

wooden planks, weaving through small cones, and pulling a sled. The obstacle course is timed and the participants had a chance to write their name and their best result on the course in chalk. Approximately \*\* children ran through the min-POPAT during the four hour event held at \*\*

The participants were also treated to a surprise visit from two District 1 Police Officers who allowed the children to sit in their patrol car and work the radio and lights. The mini-



POPAT is just one of the outreach programs the WECHCPC can deliver at community events. Watch for our next POPAT on September 11, 2010.

## Our Feet Keep Your Streets Clean and Neat

You have seen us checking out license plates, making notes in our booklets, and putting CPNs on your windshield. And, hey, those aren't tickets.



CPNs, or Crime Prevention Notices, are handbills that commend you for doing your part to keep your automobile

safe and deterring theft. CPNs can also remind you when your insurance is due and offer suggestions to better protect your automobile. Writing prevention notices is just one of the responsibilities of our FOOT PATROL team. The foot patrol team is one of three elements in our CITIZEN PATROLS program. This program is one of the most essential elements in a Community Policing Centre. The Citizen Patrols program is our eyes and ears out in the community. Our Foot Patrol volunteers attend a two-hour training session where

they learn such skills as checking for stolen vehicles, recognizing potential crime "hot spots", and mapping graffiti. They are also interested in hearing from YOU about your experiences in the neighbourhood so don't be afraid to approach our volunteers to report your concerns. Our Foot Patrollers work in close contact with our NPO Cst Risebrough to address all street disorder issues. Anyone interested in participating as a volunteer for this program, please contact us at (604) 717-

*\*\*Congratulations to volunteers Luis, Simona, and Nick for finding a stolen Honda Accord \*\**

## Up Next On The Docket...Pat Short

Pat Short has volunteer coordinating in her blood. The West End - Coal Harbour Community Policing Centre was in its infancy when she joined the roster as a volunteer in 1998. The organization was known then as the Davie Street CPC, and as the Community Policing movement evolved, so did Pat's role within it. In January 2002, she left us to take over as coordinator at the Yaletown CPC, but returned in June 2003 when that office closed. Pat

then resumed her coordinators role in June 2006 for an eight month stint as the Executive Director of our CPC. Pat's talents also reach beyond the CPC's doors. Prior to volunteering with us she scheduled volunteers at the admission desk at the Vancouver Art Gallery. She has been recruiting and managing volunteers for the Celebration of Light. She has also been asked to lend her expertise and provide marshals for the Scotia Half Marathon, Sun Run and

the Chariot Festival of India Parade. Most recently she completed a two year stint at the VANOC Headquarters interviewing and recommending volunteers, as well as providing support on the helpline for the volunteers during the 2010 Olympics.





## West End - Coal Harbour Community Policing Centre

HELPING THE RESIDENTS OF VANCOUVER'S WEST END & COAL HARBOUR  
MAKE THEIR COMMUNITY A SAFER PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY SINCE 1997

FOR UP-TO-DATE CRIME AND SAFETY ISSUES IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLEASE REVIEW OUR SLIDE SHOW DISPLAY SCREEN IN THE FRONT WINDOW OF OUR OFFICE. THERE YOU WILL FIND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION ON WANTED SUSPECTS, "HOT SPOTS" FOR CRIMINAL ACTIVITY, AND OTHER INFORMATION THAT AFFECTS THIS COMMUNITY.

### CRIME ALERT:

**BURRARD ST (E), BEACH  
AVE (S), NELSON ST (N),  
BROUGHTON (W)**  
**-PROPERTY CRIME IN THIS  
AREA HAS INCREASED.  
ITEMS TARGETED:  
LAPTOPS, IPHONES,  
IPODS, CAMERAS, CASH  
THEFT FROM AUTO,  
THEFT OF AUTO IN THIS  
AREA HAS INCREASED.  
POINTS OF ENTRY:  
UNSECURED WINDOWS,  
SMASHED WINDOWS,  
PUNCHED LOCKS.  
PLEASE REPORT ANY  
SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOUR  
TO THE VPD AT (604)717-  
3321 OR IF A CRIME IS IN  
PROGRESS CALL 9-1-1**



**WANT TO VOLUNTEER?  
BASIC REQUIREMENTS ARE:  
- 18 YEARS OF AGE OR  
OLDER  
- A MINIMUM OF 4 HOURS  
PER MONTH  
- COMPLETING A CRIMINAL  
RECORD CHECK**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
PLEASE CONTACT US AT  
(604)717-2924 OR AT  
INFO@WEHCPC.COM**

**SAFETY TIP:  
PLEASE SLOW DOWN. BACK  
TO SCHOOL IS AROUND THE  
CORNER. REMEMBER THE  
SPEED LIMIT IS 30KM/HR IN  
A SCHOOL ZONE. VIOLA-  
TION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE  
AND THREE (3) POINTS  
AGAINST YOUR LICENCE.**

## Community Policing is Unique in Vancouver

Internationally, the concept of Community Policing has proven to be a well-accepted and effective policing strategy. It is relatively new to Canada, so leave it to Vancouver to put a unique spin on it. Most Community Policing Centres (CPC) across North America are run by police departments and detachments, whereas in Vancouver, eight of the ten CPCs are operated by community members. In 1992, the first CPC was founded in Chinatown. Five years later, our doors opened on July 4th under the name of the Davie Street CPC. We were located in the Mole Hill housing complex and were responsible for the area from Burrard Street to Cambie Street, and from English Bay to Nelson Street. We initially consisted of four volunteers who were trained to take reports from victims of crime and to refer people to other agencies appropriate to their needs. Within a year the number of volunteers increased which allowed the office to establish foot and bike patrol units. By 1999 an elected board was established, and in 2001 the Davie Street CPC moved to the Shoppers Drug Mart at 1135 Davie Street. In 2005, CPCs across Vancouver finally won a significant commitment from the city, so the Davie Street CPC catchment grew to cover all of downtown west of Burrard Street to Stanley Park, and from English Bay to Coal Harbour. It was then that the Davie Street CPC became known as the West End-Coal Harbour Community Policing Centre. To learn more of our history, and meet our current staff and volunteers, please visit us on September 25, 2010 for our Community Policing Day Open House.

### CELEBRATE COMMUNITY POLICING DAY AT THE

WEST END-COAL HARBOUR COMMUNITY POLICING CENTRE  
OPEN HOUSE  
1267 DAVIE STREET

SEPTEMBER 25, 2010 FROM 10:30AM TO 5:30PM

RAIN OR SHINE

MEET THE VOLUNTEERS, STAFF AND NPO

TOUR OUR FACILITY

LEARN ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS

INTERACTIVE FUN FOR CHILDREN

"ASK A OFFICER" - GET TO KNOW YOUR VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT  
MEMBERS

ALL ABOUT ME ID KITS

LIVE DEMONSTRATIONS

BICYCLE IDENTIFICATION AND SAFETY INFORMATION

HOURLY GIVEAWAYS

FUN PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES  
AND MORE