

NO: R227

COUNCIL DATE: November 1, 2010

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council** DATE: **October 26, 2010**
FROM: **Crime Reduction Strategy Manager** FILE: **7450-30**
Deputy City Manager
SUBJECT: **Newton - Crime Prevention and Community Safety Update**

RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager's Department recommends that Council receive this report as information.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of actions that are being taken or have been completed to date in 2010 in relation to crime prevention and community safety in the community of Newton.

BACKGROUND

The Crime Reduction Strategy Office continues to work with partners and stakeholders in the Newton area to address issues of safety, perceptions of safety, and overall community well-being. The Newton Integrated Services Team (NIST) was established in January of 2010 and is chaired by the RCMP District Commander for District 3 – Newton. The Committee is comprised of a broad range of community service providers and City Department representatives who meet monthly to identify public safety issues related to the Newton area and to develop partner-oriented solutions for these issues.

Corporate Report Ro47 dated March 18, 2010 (attached as Appendix A) provided an overview of Surrey Beautification and Bylaw Enforcement Strategies and served as a foundation for several of the updates provided in this report.

DISCUSSION

The Surrey Crime Reduction Strategy emphasises the importance of key partnerships, collaboration among a broad group of stakeholders and community engagement as cornerstones for its success. The partner agencies and City Departments identified in this report are delivering a wide range of initiatives, which are meeting the objectives and recommendations of the Strategy.

Research indicates that peoples' perceptions and beliefs about nuisance, bylaw infractions and criminal activity are as important as actual crime and disorder rates. For this reason, in addition to taking specific actions to prevent crime, managing resident's impressions of their neighbourhood, including what they see and feel when they are in public spaces is a vital component of maintaining healthy and vibrant neighbourhoods.

The City of Surrey expends a significant amount of effort and resources in beautifying the City and its neighbourhoods and in enforcing the City's by-laws with a view to ensuring that the citizens of Surrey enjoy a high quality of life.

NEWTON INTEGRATED SERVICES TEAM – NIST Summer 2010 Outreach Project

The Summer Safe campaign was implemented as a result of community safety issues identified by the RCMP and the Surrey Fire Department. More specifically, the RCMP had identified a seasonal break & enter trend where entry was gained through insecure doors and windows, and the Surrey Fire Department had identified the prevalence of kitchen fires as a significant safety issue in Newton. A focused crime reduction initiative was developed through the NIST committee as a result of awareness raised on the two issues. The Committee decided to use a partner model as a unique solution to the problem.

In May 2010 members of the RCMP and Surrey Fire Department began to work collaboratively to address these two identified community safety issues. A joint communications plan was established, supporting materials were developed (pamphlets and information cards), and a tactical plan for a door-to-door campaign was developed. The efforts were focused on a specific Newton neighbourhood that had been identified through RCMP crime analysis and Fire Department statistics. This effort was strengthened through partnerships with the South Asian media who advertised the initiative and through all materials being translated into Punjabi, a prevalent first language in the Newton area.

Over 100 police, firefighters, and Surrey Crime Prevention Society volunteers were engaged in a one day, door-to-door blitz across a large part of Newton on June 17, 2010. Together the teams reached 2500 homes in approximately three hours passing along information from the Mayor's office combined with safety messages from the RCMP and Surrey Fire Service. This outreach effort presented the ideal opportunity for the door to door distribution of the new City of Surrey "Improving the Quality of Life for the Citizens of Newton" brochure.

The communication strategy for the Summer Safe campaign was successful in getting the safety message out to a City wide audience including the South Asian press, television, newspapers and radio coverage as well as dedicated live morning news broadcasts featuring both an RCMP officer and a Surrey Fire Fighter. Two Newton area Block Watch families actively participated in support of the campaign as follows;

- One Block Watch Captain agreed that his family would be featured in the photo with an RCMP officer on the "Summer Safe" card.

- A second Block Watch family opened their home to the RCMP media team and reporters for a walk-through to demonstrate the various safety tips that would be transformed into a television media clip.

This project highlights several positive outcomes.

1. Residents of Newton are more fully informed about safety in their community and how they can help in keeping their community safe.
2. The campaign was an excellent training opportunity bringing many resources together in an effective team process.
3. The mapping component created by the Surrey Fire Department provides an excellent practical resource for community door-to-door outreach that may be required in the event of a large scale incident or natural disaster.

A follow up analysis will be undertaken in one year to determine the effectiveness of the campaign in improving safety in Newton.

HOTELS AND MOTELS PROJECT

RCMP members in the Newton RCMP Community Police Station continue to monitor the hotels on King George Hwy in partnership with Surrey Bylaw Officers.

- Enforcement actions have taken place in relation to non-compliance with required record-keeping and with respect to prostitution and drug trafficking.
- The RCMP is actively tracking calls for service at all hotels along King George Blvd. The numbers of calls for service has significantly decreased over the last year and are generally related to nuisance activity rather than trafficking, prostitution or other criminal activity.

PROSTITUTION

The RCMP has been involved in significant enforcement action targeting the sex trade in Newton - District 3. There have been a significant number of arrests in relation to Communication for the Purpose of Prostitution.

Ongoing enforcement action is planned for the Newton District in 2010. As well, through the RCMP and outreach workers individuals involved in the sex trade in Newton are provided with and encouraged to accept opportunities for services specific to their individual needs (housing options, recovery, and counselling).

DRUG DEALING

The issues related to drug dealing remain an area of focus for the Newton RCMP. The RCMP is continuing with enforcement actions and on-going consultations with all stakeholders involved in the issue.

NEWTON BUS LOOP - Intervention and Enforcement

The Newton Bus loop has at different points in time been subject to nuisance activity, drug and alcohol related offences, youth loitering, graffiti and vandalism resulting in compromised feelings of safety by legitimate users and stakeholders. A variety of partners are working to address these issues at the Newton Bus Loop as follows:

RCMP

Crime reduction at the Newton Bus Loop is treated as a priority by the RCMP District 3 (Newton) detachment. Random and regular patrols occur during the day and evening throughout the year. This enforcement and patrol activity has assisted in reducing crime and increasing public confidence in the area.

For the past two years, the District 3 Newton Detachment has instituted a "High Visibility Campaign" during the summer months beginning in late May for the area in and around the Newton Bus Loop. Every Friday and Saturday night the area has been "flooded" with a visible presence of RCMP, Transit Police, Transit Security, Options Outreach workers, the Inter-Regional At-Risk Youth Link project (I-RAYL), and the Surrey Crime Prevention Society's Newton Volunteer Patrol. The public has reacted very positively to this initiative.

TRANSIT POLICE

The Transit Police attend community events providing outreach and education as well as a dedicated uniformed presence in the community. As an example, they operated a safety and security materials booth at the Newton Festival held on June 12, 2010.

Transit Police also attend Surrey Crime Prevention Society's Newton Community Volunteer Patrol Unit monthly meetings held at the Newton Arena. This partnership allows for sharing of information and observations between the police and the volunteer patrol as well as community business members from the area.

A new partner, the Inter-Regional At-Risk Youth Link (I-RAYL), who assists in addressing the youth specific issues of the bus loop, became involved during the summer of 2010. I-RAYL brings together Pacific Community Resources Society and TransLink to help homeless and at-risk youth aged 10 to 15 who gather at SkyTrain (rapid transit) stations in the B.C. Lower Mainland. I-RAYL links these youth to the supports they need to avoid being victimized or exploited by drug dealers or gang members. It uses resource workers and existing outreach programs to connect youth to housing, addiction services, counselling, school supports and other services to improve their lives.

Specific to Transit Police, the Newton Loop Joint Project took place between June 21 to September 7, 2010 and represented a combined effort between Coast Mountain Bus Company Security, I-RAYL, Options Surrey Community Services, Newton Volunteer Patrol (SCPS) and the RCMP Community Response Team. Patrols of the Strawberry Hill Bus Loop were also conducted.

WOODED AREA EAST OF NEWTON RECREATION CENTRE

A stand of large cedar trees exists beside the Newton Recreation Centre between the bus loop and the adjoining business centre to the east. This stand of trees has posed a number of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) challenges. The area has been described as dark with shadows and limited sight lines. The Parks Operations Division, Planning Department, and RCMP recognize these CPTED challenges but also recognize the importance of preserving this stand of old growth trees within the Town Centre setting.

The Newton Wave Pool expansion project which was completed in March of this year required that the Recreation Centre be extended into the wooded area. Through this process the Parks Operations team removed a selected number of these trees and a process of lift pruning was undertaken to the remaining trees. This process has improved sightlines and the penetration of natural light into this area. Parks Operations staff continues to visit the site twice a week to perform grounds maintenance activity. There has been a noticeable improvement in relation to the illegitimate use of this area.

The Newton Wave Pool expansion project also marked a more official change in designation of the wooded area from 'greenbelt' to 'park' allowing for easier enforcement by police officers under the parks regulation bylaw. Park regulation signage and way-finding signage was installed at the entry point to the wooded area.

Parks has also enhanced the litter collection program at this site, by engaging a contractor to supplement Parks staff efforts. Litter picking is now occurring 5 days a week improving the look and feel of the area, including the forested area.

A new communication log book has been added for the front line Recreation Centre staff to track their observations in the vicinity of the Newton Wave Pool and calls to RCMP. This new log book system will assist in identifying further improvements that can be made to the area to prevent crime and nuisance behaviour.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE and YOUTH INTERVENTION PROGRAM

The Surrey RCMP **Restorative Justice Program** is a volunteer-based program designed to support youth by encouraging them to understand the effects of the harm they have done and providing them with opportunities to make amends. The Program focuses on restoration and healing for victims by giving them a voice and addressing their needs and provides alternative judicial measures to youth involvement in the formal court process of the criminal justice system. It directly supports the recommendations of the City of Surrey Crime Reduction Strategy.

There are two models of intervention under this Program:

Community Justice Forum: This approach involves a face-to-face meeting between the victim, the offender and relevant support and/or community support staff. These meetings focus on building understanding by the offender of the harm that they have caused by the crime and repairing the harm rather than on punishment for the crime. A neutral facilitator guides them in discussing these issues, and in the process of developing a fair and reasonable written agreement in response to the incident.

Restorative Conference: This approach is similar to a Community Justice Forum but in addition to the young offender, his/her guardians are also involved in the process.

A volunteer Mentor is assigned to help the young person fulfill their agreement. Some of the conditions of the agreement may include: a verbal or written apology, community service hours, financial compensation, counselling and other suggestions mutually agreed upon.

The Surrey Restorative Justice Program is considered an extra-judicial measures program under the Youth Criminal Justice Act. People involved in the program must meet the following criteria:

- Be between the ages of 12 and 17 years;
- Have no criminal record or current charges;
- Have accepted responsibility for the offence; and
- Are willing to participate in the program.

The Restorative Justice Program was engaged in 25 different incidents related to the Newton area in 2010.

The Surrey RCMP **Youth Intervention program (YIP)** has been operating since 1995 and has been providing professional, early intervention services aimed at reducing criminal behaviour among young people in Surrey. Three counsellors work in Surrey under this Program providing services to its clients in the following areas:

In the **youth counselling component**, assessment and short term counselling is provided to address the underlying causes of crime. The primary goal is to assist youth in understanding how their behaviour affects their family, victim, themselves and the community. The main focus is to encourage personal responsibility and accountability for their actions.

In the area of **family support**, YIP works with the families of the youths with the aim of assisting them in strengthening the family unit and working to resolve underlying issues that lead to conflict.

The third component involves counsellors acting as a **referral source** where they provide information to youth and their families on other programs or services available within the community.

In 2010 to date, there have been 34 referrals to the YIP related to youth and families who reside in Newton.

SURREY CRIME PREVENTION SOCIETY

The **Surrey Crime Prevention Society** remains an active partner of the City of Surrey and the RCMP in implementing the recommendations of the Surrey Crime Reduction Strategy. The following provides an outline of support provided by the Society in relation to crime prevention in the Newton area in 2010.

The **SCPS Crime Watch team** was instrumental in identifying thirteen (13) specific incidents in Newton and reporting the observations to the police resulting in thirteen police files. The incidents included;

- Street racing;
- Youth drinking in Bear Creek park;
- Drinking on school grounds;
- Impaired driving;
- Youth fighting; and
- Restaurant theft.

The Society's **Stolen Auto Recovery** program was responsible for the following in Newton:

- The recovery of 13 stolen vehicles;
- The recovery of 4 Stolen license plates; and
- Reporting 1 Uninsured vehicle.

The Society's **Park Ambassador project** began as pilot in Newton and ran from June to September 2010. Its purpose was to place "eyes and ears" in these parks to limit criminal and nuisance behaviour. The project included Unwin park, Chimney Hills park, Cougar Creek park, and Boundary park. These locations were identified by the RCMP as having high calls for service.

The Society's **Newton Volunteer Patrol** is based in the Newton Arena building. It is a partnership between Surrey RCMP, Surrey Parks, Recreation and Culture Department, ICBC, Coast Capital Savings, the Surrey Public Library, Anthem Properties and Safeway. The project provides patrols in the Newton Town Centre parking lots, businesses and Newton Recreation Centre (including Wave Pool, Arena and Seniors Centre) with a view to eliminating criminal and nuisance behaviour.

To date in 2010, **2,746 hours** have been spent by volunteers under this Patrol program. In addition to preventing crime and nuisance behaviour in the area, the patrols achieved the following:

- Six (6) recovered stolen vehicles;
- 12,383 Lock Out Auto Crime notices distributed; and
- 16,885 License Plates checked.

NEW RCMP BYLAW BUSINESS OUTREACH PROJECT

Since April 2010, copies of all new business licences that are issued by the City are provided to the main RCMP office where lists are created for each RCMP District office. The Community Safety Officer (CSO) in each district is then provided with list of businesses in their district for the purposes of follow up. The CSO's make contact with the business owners to welcome them to the community and provide them with an overview of crime prevention information and RCMP contact information. To in 2010, 143 new businesses in the Newton area have been contacted under this initiative.

BEAUTIFICATION

Graffiti Mitigation

Utility Cabinet Wrapping – The City has expanded its utility cabinet wrapping initiative through a partnership with BC Hydro and TELUS. Over the past two months an additional 20 cabinets have been wrapped within Newton Town Centre, including key cabinets around the Newton Transit exchange. The program has been very successful in reducing random and reoccurring incidents of graffiti on utility cabinets.

Partnerships – Surrey Crime Prevention Society (SCPS) has been a long-standing partner with the City and has been instrumental in developing unique community based approaches to addressing graffiti. In coordination with the City Beautification Coordinator and By-Laws, the Society has expanded its graffiti removal efforts on private property within Newton area and specifically within the Newton Town Centre.

Tree Planting

Coniferous trees and shrubs are scheduled for fall planting along sections of King George Boulevard in Newton to deter fence line graffiti and to green the boulevard. Additional locations are being reviewed for specialized landscaping applications at private-public interfaces.

New Youth Mural Program

For the past twelve years, the SCPS has operated a summer student work experience project called the “Spirit of Youth Mural program” in partnership with the Surrey School Board and Human Resources Skills Development Canada (HRSDC). Research demonstrates that areas displaying public art such as murals are less likely to be “tagged” with graffiti. This past summer the SCPS completed a mural project at the entrance to the Newton Recreation Centre Preschool. The project, now completed, ran for 8 weeks through July and August, and included eleven student artists.

City Banner Program

The City Banner Program provides visually attractive and community-oriented graphics that enhance the streetscapes of Surrey. Banners create a welcoming atmosphere and help celebrate special City events and programs. New seasonal banners have been designed specifically for Newton and a full replacement is scheduled for mid-October. A total of 150 poles within Newton will feature these new designs.

Light Pole Painting

Traffic Operations is undertaking a program to paint all Newton Town Centre light poles and fixtures. The light pole painting will refresh the look and feel of Newton streets with a more contemporary colour that will match the existing street furniture. In total, 129 poles and fixtures on city streets, within the Newton Bus Exchange and on the Wave Pool and Arena properties will be painted.

New Self-Watering Planters

Decorative self-watering planters have been ordered for placement on 137th Street and around the Wave Pool and Arena. Twenty six new planters will replace the previous large round planters. The new planters have a contemporary design and colour to match the existing street furniture and the new street light pole colour.

Seasonal Lighting

Installation will begin shortly on a seasonal lighting plan for Newton Town Centre, including decorative lighting on light poles on 72nd Ave. Plans are also underway to install permanent tree lights on 28 large trees around the Newton Wave Pool. These lights will provide passive lighting which will serve to improve aesthetic control, and reduce vandalism. These types of lighting systems work to improve public safety by providing a passive sense of security.

Litter Collection and Sidewalk Maintenance

Parks and Engineering Operations have increased litter collection activities, particularly on the Newton Wave Pool and Civic Arena property. Engineering Operations regularly conducts a full maintenance sweep of all sidewalks and other Civic infrastructure within the Town Centre – removing weeds from sidewalks and from around street poles and signs and replacing older garbage cans and other infrastructure. The Fire Department is involved in repainting all fire hydrants in the Newton area.

Facility Painting

Facilities Management has recently repainted the exterior of the Newton Arena and will be repainting the exterior of the Wave Pool. The painting will refresh the appearance on these civic facilities.

Brownfield Management

The City is coordinating with Imperial Oil and Dogwood Petroleum, owners of the brownfield site at the NE Corner of King George and 72nd Ave, to test a new decorative fence screening product. The project will not only serve to improve the appearance of the 72nd Ave and King George Boulevard intersection, but it will also serve as a pilot project for the potential future beautification of the sites of other decommissioned gas station.

BYLAW ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY

The City's strategy with respect to by-law enforcement has two components:

1. Parks, Public Open Spaces, Roads and Road Allowances: The City's inspectors and traffic commissionaires proactively monitor for by-law infractions and take timely action to have them corrected; and

2. Private Properties:

- a. The City’s inspectors monitor work for which City permits are issued to audit for compliance with relevant by-laws;
- b. The City’s By-law enforcement inspectors respond to complaints received from the public related to by-law compliance; and
- c. With respect to immediate hazards to public safety, the City’s by-law inspectors act proactively to eliminate the hazard as soon as possible.

The City’s by-law inspectors generally work with property owners to achieve resolution of by-law infractions without the need to take enforcement action. This approach assists in developing healthy community relations and saves tax dollars on expensive court proceedings. However, where compliance is not achieved on a voluntary basis, the City takes enforcement action where appropriate.

Bylaw Enforcement Activity Levels

The following table documents Newton specific bylaw enforcement activity for the City of Surrey for the period from January to August 2010:

Year to Date File Totals for NEWTON	Opened	Closed
Unsightly Property/Dumping/Graffiti/Other	490	449
Massage Parlours identified for investigation	1	0
Abandoned Houses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located or reported that require securing and /or the owner has been contacted & advised to demolish 	20	17
Controlled Substance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identified by the Electrical Fire Safety Inspection Team or the RCMP where Safety inspections / Electrical & Building Inspections / Remediation & Certification suitable for occupancy is required. 	33	35
Miscellaneous	26	12
Total	570	513

In addition the following initiatives have been undertaken to assist in addressing issues in the Newton area. These include:

1. Continual Liaison with Engineering & Parks to address garbage that has been dumped.
2. The Bylaw Department has realigned the workload of its officers, which has allowed for a more equitable distribution of the workload across the City’s districts.
3. The Bylaw Department has met with and is working with the Surrey Crime Prevention Society in locating and addressing graffiti and related cleanup procedures.

PARKS RECREATION and CULTURE

The Community Development Services section of the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Department works cooperatively with community organizations in Newton by offering facility tours to new immigrants and refugees in the area. Over the last year, the team has held nine tours with 169 participants. The tours support integration, increase knowledge, awareness and access to services, and serve to increase participation in community recreation and leisure services and programs. The following table documents the month to month results in relation to this initiative:

Date	Agency	# of Participants
February 24, 2010	DIVERSEcity	6
April 20, 2010	PICS	20
May 4, 2010	DIVERSEcity	15
June 22, 2010	DIVERSEcity	25
July 21, 2010	DIVERSEcity	20
July 14, 2010	Welcome Centre	30
July 15, 2010	Welcome Centre	30
July 26, 2010	DIVERSEcity	23
Total # of participants at Newton in 2010		169

NEWTON RECREATION CENTRE

The Gymnasium and Mat Room additions to the Newton Wave Pool were completed in April of 2010 and were designed to expand leisure recreation choices to meet current and future needs in the Newton area. The new space which includes a 7555 square foot gymnasium built to national sport standards and a 3661 square foot mat room used for wrestling, martial arts, dance, fitness and tumbling has increased recreation opportunities for the residents within the Newton community. These additions represent a 30 percent increase in multiuse recreational space for community recreation programs in the Newton area.

The *Newton Recreation Centre* continues to develop partnerships to run sports tournaments for youth. To date in 2010, the following tournaments have allowed for unique outreach and youth engagement:

- Team Izzit – 3 on 3 basketball tournament in partnership with the RCMP is scheduled for October 16 and over 100 youth are expected to participate.
- Basketball Tournament organized by Kiddha Magazine geared towards older youth between the ages of 17 and 20. This was a charity tournament with all funds going towards the Surrey Food Bank.
- Youth basketball tournament was hosted in May and open to all youth in the community.

In 2010, there has been a decrease in the number of youth-related calls to RCMP related to the area of the Newton Wave Pool in comparison to 2009.

Youth Services has moved to the Newton Wave Pool and the programming offered by this Section is now able to better engage with the at-risk youth within the Newton Town Centre. For example, the new mat room is currently being utilized by three community wrestling clubs which offer new opportunities to children and youth in Newton. Attendance numbers of the three clubs is approximately 150 members utilizing the facility seven days per week. Access to the new gymnasium is currently experiencing an average of 200 youth participating in gym-based “drop in” programs on a weekly basis including badminton, basketball, volleyball, and floor hockey to name a few.

Examples of Specific Youth Community Partnerships that have been developed and utilize the new Newton athletic facilities on a weekly basis include:

- The Ministry of Children and Family utilizing the gymnasium for Provincial youth probation officers and the youth they work with to participate in sport activities.
- The WRAP program and SD36 working with at risk youth and utilizing the mat room for martial arts, wrestling and tumbling.
- The Alternate school programs from the Newton and North Surrey Learning Centres as well as the TREES program are now utilising gym space for a variety of activities for students to fulfill their physical education requirements.
- A group from SOURCES Community Services which engages youth with special needs are using the gymnasium for participation in alternate sports including wheel chair basketball and badminton to name a few.

A number of Hip Hop sessions have been coordinated by MOYO and the RCMP in the outside area adjacent to the recreation centre. Through this project, they have brought in professional youth break dancers who set up and begin to dance, inviting the otherwise ‘difficult to reach’ youth to these sessions. It has been an excellent relationship building tool for high risk youth. Another similar initiative was the introduction of pickup basketball in the outdoor plaza of the Recreation Centre twice a week during youth drop in times.

A group of youth called CYCON - Community Youth Council of Newton works with Community and Recreation staff to act as a voice for youth in the community and assist in special events and offer program/service ideas. This group meets bi-weekly and is becoming very active in the community.

The Newton Community Festival hosted on June 12 at the Recreation Centre celebrated its 15th anniversary and served as the opening celebration of the Recreation Centre gym and mat room expansion. The Festival is a free family event, which features live entertainment, diverse food, artisans fair, local business expo, a custom car show and much more. The primary goal of the event is to celebrate the diversity of the growing Newton community. It gives residents an opportunity to come together as a community. The Festival is organized in partnership with the Newton Community Festival Committee and other organizations. In addition, to entertainment, the festival allows residents an opportunity to meet local businesses and discover the many different services available within the community. There were over 6,000 in attendance at this Festival in 2010.

The Parks Operations Division carried out a variety of initiatives in the Newton area in 2010. One program was an increased presence of the Eco Ranger program in Cougar Creek Park this

past summer. The Eco Ranger program is designed to provide a noticeable presence in the park and engage in conversation with the park patrons. Most often these conversations focus on the sensitive ecology of the site. This year the Parks department hired a bi-lingual volunteer who was able to provide outreach in both English and Punjabi. The feedback on this initiative in the Newton area has been very positive.

The **Partners in Parks Program** is a municipal, community-based volunteer program, which offers a wide range of opportunities for public involvement in Park Operations and Urban Forestry & Environmental Services. The programs are designed to foster and encourage community engagement in enhancing the physical environment of City parks. The following activities under this program were focussed on the Newton community:

- **Lend-a-Hand:** High school and Elementary school students assist in maintaining the park adjacent to their school once a week for a period of six months. Responsibilities include picking up litter and removing graffiti.
 - Participating Newton schools include:
 - Boundary Park Elementary
 - Cougar Creek Elementary
 - Beaver Creek Elementary
 - Khalsa School
 - Princess Margaret Secondary
 - Tamanawis Secondary
 - Sullivan Secondary
 - Newton Elementary School
 - Chimney Hill Elementary School
- **Bulbs for Beauty:** Each fall, classes, community groups and individual volunteers participate in the annual Bulbs for Beauty program. This Program is a partnership between the Parks Division, local schools and community groups. Bulbs for Beauty provides an opportunity for volunteers to show their community spirit and beautify neighbourhood parks.
 - Newton Parks included in Bulbs for Beauty are:
 - Newton Hydro Right-of-Way
 - MJ Norris Park
 - Princess Margaret Park
 - Unwin Park
 - City Hall
 - Newton Reservoir Park(fall 2010)
 - Newton Dog Off Leash and BMX Park
- **Park Play:** In the summer of 2010, **6,990** children participated in free activities, sports, games and crafts in their local parks throughout the City of Surrey. Three teams of two leaders visited 30 parks during the summer months with the objective of enhancing sense of community in each park, encouraging positive play opportunities and maintaining a safe and comfortable atmosphere in parks. Park Play has also helped build youth and child friendly communities in Surrey Parks and their surrounding neighbourhoods.

- The Operations Park Play team reached over **1,200** children in Newton Parks in 2010 including the following parks:
 - Panorama Village Park
 - Hydro Right-of-Way (68th Ave & 125th St)
 - Pioneer Park
 - Evershine Park
 - Beaver Creek Heights Park
 - Goldstone Park
 - Chimney Heights Park
 - Parkwood Village Park
 - Strawberry Hill Park
- **Let's Stop Graffiti:** Parks Operations provides graffiti removal kits to volunteers and community groups, so they can clean graffiti quickly and easily from their local parks. Sports groups, Lend A Hand schools and individuals are involved in this program in Newton.
- **Bin Keepers:** Volunteers adopt garbage and/or recycling bins in their neighbourhood park to ensure that trash and recyclables are put where they belong. Currently Parks Operations South has **78** active Bin Keepers that are contributing a huge effort in decreasing litters in their neighbourhood parks including Newton parks.

In addition to these direct programs, Parks Operations has also been involved in community processes in Newton that have led to the safety, enhancement and maintenance of Newton neighbourhoods and parks.

1. **Evershine Park Action Committee:** Parks Operations and the Surrey RCMP Block watch Program have worked with residents to ensure the Evershine Park is safe and clean throughout the year. Residents have invested themselves in their neighbourhood park, removing litter and graffiti, and discouraging negative park usage. Together with Parks staff and the Surrey RCMP, the community hosted a picnic at the park in August to celebrate their achievements. More than **150** residents attended the picnic.
2. **Boundary Park Community:** In partnership with Surrey RCMP Block Watch, Parks Operations worked closely with the residents to remove bollard rocks, crown raise trees to open more sightlines in to the park.
3. A local **Girl Guide** troop volunteered in April to clean up the Utility Right of Way located at 12719 - 88 Avenue.
4. Two **Park Blitz's** occurred in May to educate and create awareness about keeping the City's local parks clean, safe, healthy and beautiful. The two sites visited were a utility Right of Way (12624 - 75 Avenue) and Cougar Creek Park

DOMESTIC ABUSE SPECIFIC PROGRAMS

The Surrey Women's Centre **Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)** provides a coordinated inter-agency (including the SMH Emergency Department) 24/7 response to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence and human trafficking. The project was originally scheduled to run from February 2010 to April 2010 as a pilot, but has since been extended by virtue of its success in meeting its objectives.

This collaborative partnership addresses the urgent medical, emotional and forensic needs of victims following sexual assaults and has established an individualized aftercare plan to manage the ongoing emotional and social impacts. Victims are provided the information necessary to make informed choices regarding their medical and legal options.

SART also coordinates care with the Emergency triage staff, physicians, social workers, the Surrey RCMP and other justice personnel or social service agencies.

The SART Team assisted 48 women during the initial pilot project. Full findings of the pilot project will be released to the community in October 2010 as part of the Final Evaluation Report.

SURREY COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC ABUSE (SCADA)

SCADA was formed in January of 2010. The City of Surrey Crime Reduction Strategy budget is providing \$3,000 to support a one-day conference for Surrey-based service providers in the area of Domestic Abuse. The conference is being held in partnership with Kwantlen University in Newton on November 9, 2010.

FOCUS ON SENIORS

The Focus on Seniors Task Force has held six forums in Surrey since June 2008. The next forum is scheduled for October 23, 2010 at the Newton Seniors Centre and will be offered in Punjabi. The Focus on Seniors project will also be highlighted as a 'model of success' at the B.C. Crime Prevention regional symposium in Surrey on November 6, 2010.

SURREY EMPLOYMENT RESOURCE CENTRE – NEWTON

Since January 2010 the Newton Surrey Employment Resource Centre has experienced increased demands for service due to the national and local economic downturn and the concomitant effects on the local labour market.

The client information gathered since January 2010 includes over 26,000 phone calls and/or in-person inquiries about the free employment services to the community. Approximately 1,400 unemployed Surrey residents attended one of the daily information sessions to register and work together with one of the 14 employment counselors to create a 'return to work action plan'. Clients' needs include job search skills enhancements, resume writing, interview skills, career decision making as well as requests for provincial funding to attend post secondary training or education.

The Newton Surrey Employment Resource Centre advises that 909 clients have secured employment or have become successfully self employed to date in 2010. The services are funded through the Canada-British Columbia Labour Market Development agreement for unemployed Canadians and new Canadians who are eligible to work in Canada.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The accomplishments and dedicated efforts of a range of partners who are actively engaged in implementing the recommendations of the Crime Reduction Strategy as outlined in this report demonstrate the growing level of community engagement and collaboration in Surrey. This is consistent with the civic engagement goals of the Surrey Sustainability Charter.

CONCLUSION

The Council-approved Surrey Crime Reduction Strategy sets out a vision for crime prevention and reduction in Surrey. This report provides a synopsis of initiatives that have and/or are taking place in the community of Newton in 2010 that support the objectives of the Crime Reduction Strategy and enhance the safety and liveability of the community of Newton for its residents and business owners.

Colleen Kerr
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Appendix A - Corporate Report Ro47