

NO: P004

DATE: December 10, 2018

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

TO: Mayor & Council

DATE: 2018-12-07

**FROM: Dwayne McDonald, Assistant Commissioner
Officer in Charge, Surrey RCMP**

FILE: 7400-01

SUBJECT: Inadmissible Patrons Program

RECOMMENDATION

The Surrey RCMP recommends that the Public Safety Committee receive this report for information.

INTENT

This report is intended to provide the Public Safety Committee with information on a new initiative developed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Surrey, the Inadmissible Patrons Program (IPP).

BACKGROUND

Like all municipalities in the Lower Mainland and urban centres across Canada, the City of Surrey is facing challenges related to gang activity and the violence associated to it. The Crime Reduction and Community Safety priority of the Surrey RCMP 2018-2022 Strategic Framework includes strategic objectives related to gangs, guns and the street level drug trade, as reflected in Appendix I. The Surrey RCMP has developed a number of strategies and initiatives to address gangs and gang related violence based on identified best practices, ranging from community outreach and prevention to early intervention and enforcement. While considerable effort is directed at preventing youth from entering the gang lifestyle, a strong enforcement presence targeting those involved in organized crime helps send the message to gang members that they are not welcome in Surrey. Community engagement and partnerships remain fundamental to this multi-pronged approach.

DISCUSSION

The Inadmissible Patrons Program was designed to discourage and deter violent criminal activity in and around restaurants and licenced establishments in Surrey. The IPP was developed in consultation with local business, public partnerships and the police and builds off the successes of similar programs in other jurisdictions. The IPP allows police to remove “inadmissible patrons” from participating establishments. An Inadmissible Patron (IP) is a person whose lifestyle, associations and activities poses a risk to public safety either directly or from third parties. This definition reflects that it is the high risk behavior of these individuals and groups that is of chief concern.

Program Objectives

1. Patron Safety: To reduce the threat of collateral violence to restaurant patrons by deterring individuals whose activities or lifestyle pose a risk to public safety from frequenting participating restaurants.
2. Staff Safety: To reduce the amount of interaction between restaurant staff and individuals whose activities or lifestyle pose a risk to public safety, and any associated intimidation, fear or harassment.
3. Public Safety: To deter public violence caused by organized crime groups and their associates by making it known that they are unwelcome in and will be removed from participating restaurants.

Partners and authorization

The Inadmissible Patrons Program (IPP) is a public safety partnership between the Surrey restaurant industry, the British Columbia Restaurant & Foodservices Association (BCRFA), Restaurants Canada, and the Surrey RCMP. The IPP partners are committed to providing a safe environment for everyone who visits local restaurants and licenced establishments.

The IPP is based on a voluntary agreement between a business establishment in Surrey and the Surrey RCMP. The IPP relies on an Authorization Agreement signed by the owner or designate of each participating location. The Agreement authorizes sworn members of the Surrey RCMP to act on the location’s behalf to deny entry to and/or remove any persons they determine to be Inadmissible Patrons under the BC Trespass Act.

The Surrey RCMP is responsible for determining if an individual meets the criteria of an IP and ejecting them. Ejection criteria for an IP include:

- Involvement in organized crime and/or gangs;
- Associates of organized crime and/or gangs;
- Involvement in the drug trade;

- History of serious/violent criminal activity; and
- History of firearms offenses.

Marketing and training materials have been developed to assist participating businesses with implementing the program at their respective establishments, including an established protocol for contacting police, suggested best practices and program decals. The City and Surrey RCMP issued a joint press release on December 6, 2018 to announce the program. The Surrey RCMP will work with community partners to promote program participation, conduct introductory information sessions with participating establishments and meet regularly with the IPP membership.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The implementation of an Inadmissible Patrons Program supports the Sustainability Charter 2.0 theme of Public Safety. Specifically, it supports the following Desired Outcomes (DO):

- Public Safety DO1: Residents are safe and have a strong sense of security in all neighbourhoods and throughout the City;
- Public Safety DO2: Police and fire services provide timely and reliable responses across the City;
- Public Safety DO3: There are minimal community safety issues in the city, and the public is fully engaged in preventing and reducing crime;
- Public Safety DO4: Local residents and businesses are connected and engaged within their neighbourhoods and with the broader community - including police, public safety partners and social service agencies - to enhance safety; and
- Public Safety DO5: Surrey is recognized and perceived as a leader in establishing and maintaining collaborative partnerships for community safety and well-being.

CONCLUSION

The Inadmissible Patrons Program (IPP) is a public safety partnership committed to providing a safe environment for staff and patrons of Surrey restaurants and bars. It will also contribute to a continued police pressure on organized crime and gang members and send a clear message that they are not welcome in Surrey.

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