



# CROSSROADS

BLOCK WATCH REPORT



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and more!

JULY- SEPTEMBER  
EDITION

# GOALS OF BLOCK WATCH

1

To achieve a major decrease in residential crime through saturation of the block watch program.

2

To increase the identification and reporting of suspicious activities

3

To promote neighbourhood cohesiveness by neighbours knowing each other and looking out for each other, thus create a more cohesive and safer community.

# BENEFITS OF BEING A BLOCK WATCH MEMBER

- Getting to know your neighbours
- Promotes neighbourhood cohesiveness
- A safer community
- Information of localized crime
- Instruction of proper reporting of suspicious activity
- Tips on crime prevention
- Communication line with local police personnel
- Greater deterrence by the criminal element
- My Neighbour Card
- Online quarterly newsletter

**WORKING TOGETHER TO BUILD  
A BETTER COMMUNITY**

# COMMUNITY GROUPS

If you are interested in becoming part of a group that shares information of what is ongoing in our community and other communities, we can recommend the following two community sites:

## [NEXTDOOR.COM](#)

Neighbors turn to Nextdoor daily to receive trusted information, give and get help, and build real-world connections with those nearby – neighbors, local businesses, and public agencies.

## [VISTA HEIGHTS GUARDIANS](#)

Membership to this private group is limited to residents of Vista Heights who want to be aware, and to help fight crime and combat social disorder in our community. We would like to create a safe community for everyone. We do this by sharing information with one another in this private forum.

## **CROSSROADS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

CAs exist in every neighbourhood in Calgary – they are non-profit organizations run by your neighbours and other volunteers that connect you, act as a voice for your area, and offer you endless opportunities close to home.

Join their [facebook pages](#) or visit their [website](#) to sign up for the community newsletter

# UPDATES FROM BLOCKWATCH

The Crossroads Block Watch Newsletter has been going online since April 2021.

In order to welcome new residents that have moved into the community of Mayland Heights and Vista Heights, it has been decided that the District Coordinators will select a block in their area for the delivery of the newsletter. This is one way for us to introduce residents that we have a block watch program in our community. Our community is the only one in the City of Calgary that has an active block watch program. We have been in existence for 37 years and are very proud of this program that we can provide advice to our residents in Mayland Heights and Vista Heights. Our newsletter is published FOUR times a year and if you still want a hard copy of it, you can have one delivered to your place of residence by the following method. Please contact your Block Watch Coordinator or send your request for home delivery to [abe2@shaw.ca](mailto:abe2@shaw.ca). Please leave your name and address so we can continue to deliver the newsletter to you.

The block watch program works closely with the Calgary Police Association and provides you with tips on various topics plus crime stats on a monthly basis on our website. One of the things the Calgary Police stress to us over the years is when You witness a crime in progress, that if you are able to gather some valuable information that would be very helpful. BUT DO NOT PUT YOURSELF at risk when trying to obtain this information. Confrontation of a suspect is not the way to go about this as it puts you at risk. Leave that up to the police. A few years ago an individual actually did this in Vista Heights. He was trying to save his vehicle from being stolen. A very risky thing to do. This individual ended up with stab wounds and ended up in the hospital.

Crossroads Block Watch has an updated website that has lots of information in it that tells you how to secure your home, vehicles and other valuable personal items. There are numerous phone numbers to help you out when you have some issues. Please take advantage of this website as it was created with you in mind. The quarterly newsletter will be printed on the Crossroads Block Watch web page. Login on to our website at: [crossroadsblockwatch.org](http://crossroadsblockwatch.org) or you can also google Crossroads Community Block Watch then click on About Us. If you wish to see additional items included on our website, please let us know. We are here to serve you, our residents.

# CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

BY JOYCE GARDAM

It has very recently been brought to my attention that ERICA MADSEN, BLOCK CAPTAIN FOR MAYLAND DRIVE TO MACKID RD (961 MAYLAND DR. BACKING MIDDLETON DRIVE HAS RESIGNED DUE TO HEALTH ISSUES AND AGE OF 80. ERICA HAS BEEN A WONDERFUL CAPTAIN SINCE INCEPTION AND ALWAYS ENSURED DELIVERY OF THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER. TIME DOES MARCH ON DOESN'T IT! IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT THIS MUCH TIME HAS ELAPSED! ERICA WILL BE TRULY MISSED IN THE PROGRAM! PLEASE CONTACT ALYSHA LEDERHOUSE TO VOLUNTEER FOR THIS BLOCK. THE OTHER ½ OF THIS HUGE BLOCK IS REPRESENTED BY PAUL GARDAM, (MAYLAND DR. TO 959) BRIAN VASSEUR (MIDDLETON DR.) AND MYSELF.

Crossroads Block Watch has predominately gone on line, with the exception of those residents without computers or random deliveries of the newsletters by the respective district coordinator to ensure Block Watch coverage in their area. Your board of directors is still very much committed to the program and will be in contact with their Block Captains for feedback and recommendations.

Please help John Abramchuk fill positions for the upcoming Casino Nov. 23 and 24/2021 and help him ensure the newsletter is current and appropriate.

A special thank you goes out to all involved in the operation and maintenance of Crossroads Block Watch including our C.R.O.'s in 4 and 5 police districts. EVERYONE CONTRIBUTES TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS WONDERFUL CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAM.

ALYNNE WESTER wrote up a terrific tribute to PAUL MORCK who was also a long time Block Watch captain who recently sold his house on McIntosh and has moved out of the community. Paul will also be greatly missed and we wish him every success in his new community.

As Crossroads Block Watch has gone on line, your feedback is important. Please contact your respective district coordinator and/or provide a written report that can be evaluated by your board for further involvement, consideration. And/or implementation.



# CROSSROADS COMMUNITY BLOCK WATCH ASSOCIATION

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# CASINO NIGHT

Crossroads Block Watch Casino will be held on Tuesday, November 23 and Wednesday, November 24 2021 at Pure Casino formerly Casino Calgary located at 1420 Meridian Road NE just off Barlow Trail NE.

There are two shifts that volunteers may volunteer for. The first shift starts at 11:00 AM and continues to 7:30 PM while the other begins at 7:00 PM and continues until 3:30 AM. The count room shift starts at 11:00 PM to 3:30 AM. Any community residents that wish to volunteer for any of these shifts my contact the following person for more details: Call John Abramchuk at 403-276-6025 or email [abe2@shaw.ca](mailto:abe2@shaw.ca) to volunteer. The Crossroads Block Watch Board is greatly appreciative of anyone volunteering your time for this community's benefit.

Positions that are available are Banker, Cashier, Chip runner and count room personnel.

Remember your Crossroads Block Watch Casino provides funding for the newsletter, website and other valuable information to you the residents of Mayland Heights and Vista Heights.



## HELLO VISTA HEIGHTS

CST. DEREK CHALONER  
DISTRICT 5 COMMUNITY  
RESOURCE OFFICER

I hope you've all enjoyed the longer than usual fall this year.

A few topics we wanted to share this quarter are the following:

### KIJJI/Facebook Market Place

Both KIJJI and Facebook Market Place are great tools to buy and sell items. However, many interactions do not go as planned, leaving many buyers and sellers with a loss of merchandise such as cell phones or clothing, or even worse, getting physically hurt. Calgary police advise Sellers of property on these platforms to be cautious of buyers.

### HOMELESS/ENCAMPMENTS

As a service we know many are frustrated with the amount of homeless and homeless camps in the communities. Calgary Police Service, Bylaw Services, Encampment Teams, and the Alpha House will be conducting regular sweeps throughout the district of offer help to any homeless and panhandlers. The goal is to get everyone willing onto a housing waitlist. However, this takes time. Please report any criminal activity related to homelessness in your community to Calgary police. For encampments, contact the Encampment Team through 311.



Did you know you can use Calgary Police Service district office parking lots to facilitate property transactions arranged online? Follow the tips below for a safer buy and sell experience.

-  When buying or selling, you should meet in-person safely to thoroughly inspect the product before exchanging funds.
-  Meet in a public place, such as a Calgary Police Service district office parking lot. Police will not actively monitor buy and sell interactions, but will be close by if help is needed.
-  If possible, bring a friend or a family member with you.
-  Don't use wire money services, consider using cash or a trusted e-transfer service.
-  Do not give out personal or banking information (e.g. social insurance number, bank account number or address) to strangers.
-  Inform the buy/sell site of any attempted fraud or suspicious emails, ads, or other activity.
-  In the case of suspected fraud, file a police report.
-  Use common sense. If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.



## MESSAGE TO COMMUNITY

CST. BRAD BLIEK  
DISTRICT 4 COMMUNITY RESOURCE OFFICER

School is back in session and hopefully everyone is getting back into their routines. While you are out and about watchout for the kids as they are making their way to and from school. Keep in mind that the city of Calgary residential speed limits changed May 31, 2021. Unless otherwise posted, the speed limit is 40 Km/hr on residential roadways and collector roads. The speed limit in a playground zone, which have replaced school zones, is 30 Km/hr and is in effect 365 days a year between 07:30am and 21:30pm (09:30pm). Lastly, the speed limit in alleyways continues to be 15 Km/hr.



With Hallowe'en quickly approaching, I've provided some safety tips to help ensure everyone enjoys the evening. As well, I have added some reminders on protecting your debit and credit cards. Crime and disorder continue to be relatively low in the Mayland and Mayland Heights areas and comparable to other communities with similar populations. Please, keep watching out for your neighbours and reporting suspicious behaviour. Remember that a crime in progress can be reported to 9-1-1 otherwise utilize the non-emergency number, (403)266-1234. Feel free to contact me if you have questions or are dealing with ongoing community issues.

Check out [www.calgarypolice.ca](http://www.calgarypolice.ca) for more information on what the Calgary Police Service has to offer. Calgary.ca is another resource for tips and information on other municipal bylaws and programs. As always, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.



## A SAD FAREWELL

After living in Mayland Heights for over forty years, Paul Morck, has decided it's time to move into a condo and enjoy travelling in the Dominican Republic and Mexico without worrying about his house. Paul and his late wife Barbara were one of the original organizers of the Block Watch program in Mayland Heights. They did an outstanding job in keeping the Block Watch map up-to-date and delivering the newsletter in a timely manner. It's always sad to see someone that has put a lot of time and effort to make our community a safer place to live in leave.

I know Paul will continue to travel with his many friends and relatives to various places in the Caribbean. So enjoy your travels and be safe Paul. It was my pleasure to personally get to know both Barb and Paul. They were outstanding community members in Mayland Heights.

We, in the Block Watch family, would like to wish you all the best.

Take care.

John Abramchuk  
District Co-Ordinator, For Geo Code District 3208

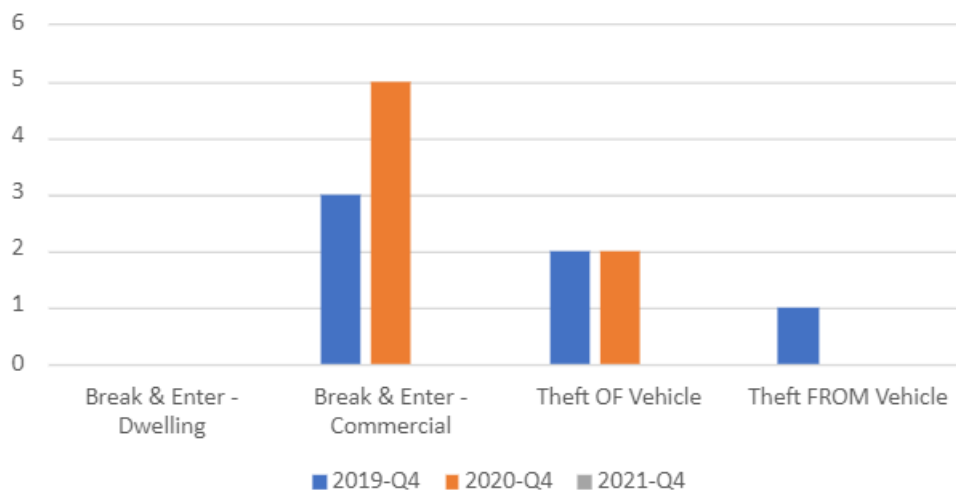


# Mayland Crime Stats

## INDUSTRIAL AREA

MAYLAND						
Accumulated Annual Crime Stats						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	135	124	111	173	162	116
Assault (Non-domestic)	8	2	4	7	7	4
Break & Enter - Commercial	14	18	21	26	25	14
Break & Enter - Dwelling	0	0	0	0	0	1
Break & Enter - Other Premises	0	1	1	2	0	1
Commercial Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0
Physical Disorder	9	10	6	22	12	6
Social Disorder	76	66	61	80	99	80
Street Robbery	0	1	2	1	1	0
Theft FROM Vehicle	14	18	11	25	11	5
Theft OF Vehicle	11	7	5	8	5	4
Violence 'Other' (Non-domestic)	3	1	0	2	2	1

Quarterly Comparison Q4: MAYLAND



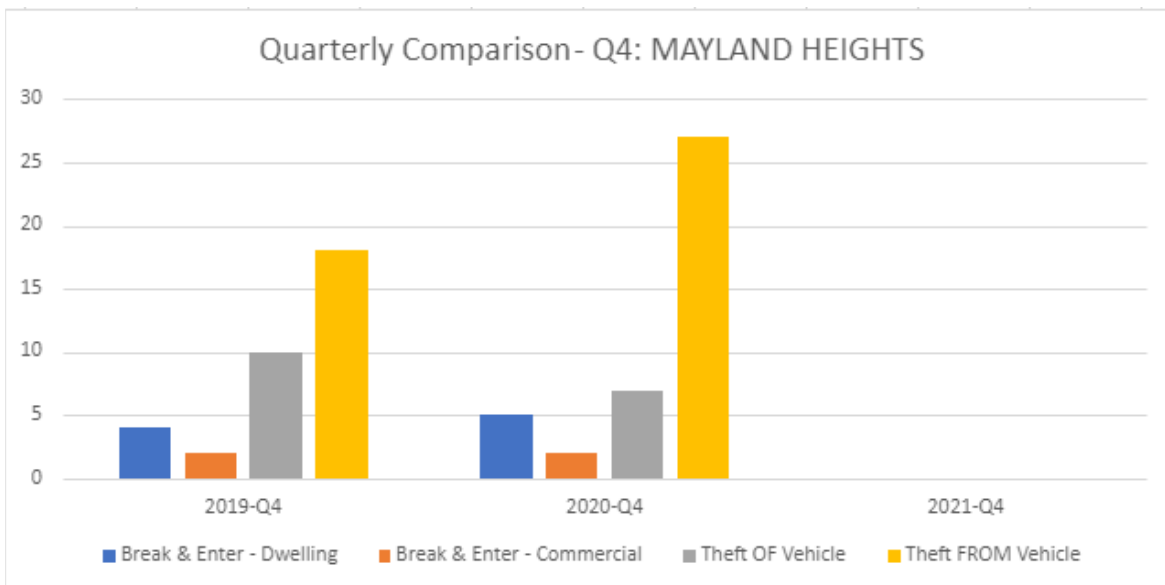
2020/2021 Crime Statistics by month: MAYLAND

Category	2020-09	2020-10	2020-11	2020-12	2021-01	2021-02	2021-03	2021-04	2021-05	2021-06	2021-07	2021-08	2021-09	Total
Assault (Non-domestic)					1		1					1	1	4
Commercial Robbery														0
Street Robbery														0
Violence 'Other' (Non-domestic)									1					1
Break & Enter - Dwelling							1							1
Break & Enter - Commercial		2	1	2			3	1	4	1	2	3		19
Break & Enter - Other Premises								1						1
Theft OF Vehicle		1	1		1			2	1					6
Theft FROM Vehicle	1							1		1	2	1		6
Social Disorder	12	13	5	5	6	4	13	4	11	14	12	9	7	115
Physical Disorder		1		1				1	1	1	1	2		8
Totals	13	17	7	8	8	4	18	10	17	18	17	16	8	161

# Mayland Heights Crime Stats

## RESIDENTIAL AREA

MAYLAND HEIGHTS						
Accumulated Annual Crime Stats						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	942	912	822	935	995	652
Assault (Non-domestic)	10	17	20	20	13	15
Break & Enter - Commercial	10	15	16	11	10	6
Break & Enter - Dwelling	15	14	6	16	11	2
Break & Enter - Other Premises	10	23	22	19	28	10
Commercial Robbery	3	2	4	5	1	1
Physical Disorder	25	34	32	68	71	47
Social Disorder	719	604	553	643	678	483
Street Robbery	0	0	1	3	1	1
Theft FROM Vehicle	104	112	113	99	134	63
Theft OF Vehicle	40	74	48	47	43	20
Violence 'Other' (Non-domestic)	6	17	7	4	5	4



### 2020/2021 Crime Statistics by month: MAYLAND HEIGHTS

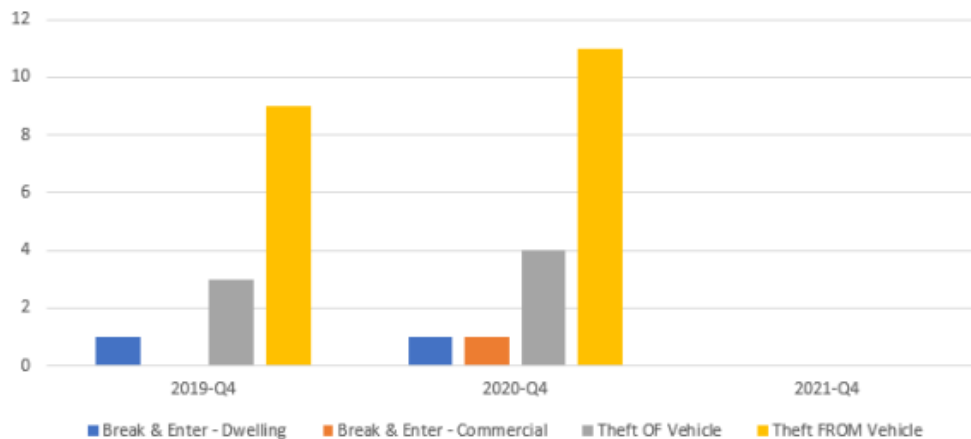
Category	2020-09	2020-10	2020-11	2020-12	2021-01	2021-02	2021-03	2021-04	2021-05	2021-06	2021-07	2021-08	2021-09	Total
Assault (Non-domestic)		1	1	1	1	2		3	2	2		3	2	18
Commercial Robbery		1										1		2
Street Robbery					1									1
Violence 'Other' (Non-domestic)			1					1			1	1	1	5
Break & Enter - Dwelling	1	1	4					1		1				8
Break & Enter - Commercial		2						2	2		1		1	8
Break & Enter - Other Premises	1	3	3	2			3		1	1	3	1	1	19
Theft OF Vehicle	3	3	3	1			1	5	3	4	5		2	30
Theft FROM Vehicle	10	11	11	5	17	9	6	7	6	4	7	6	1	100
Social Disorder	63	71	46	43	52	31	47	55	61	55	74	68	40	706
Physical Disorder	9	4	6	2	5	5	7	4	4	6	10	4	2	68
<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>965</b>

# Vista Heights Crime Stats

## RESIDENTIAL AREA

VISTA HEIGHTS						
Accumulated Annual Crime Stats						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	432	470	468	475	694	430
Assault (Non-domestic)	6	10	12	14	26	10
Break & Enter - Commercial	6	4	4	9	3	0
Break & Enter - Dwelling	7	5	6	7	6	2
Break & Enter - Other Premises	1	7	5	6	9	4
Commercial Robbery	2	4	3	0	0	2
Physical Disorder	16	17	12	24	29	21
Social Disorder	332	347	350	358	550	346
Street Robbery	1	1	1	1	4	1
Theft FROM Vehicle	40	42	43	30	43	18
Theft OF Vehicle	17	27	30	22	18	19
Violence 'Other' (Non-domestic)	4	6	2	4	6	7

### Quarterly Comparison Q4 - VISTA HEIGHTS



### 2020/2021 Crime Statistics by month: VISTA HEIGHTS

Category	2020-09	2020-10	2020-11	2020-12	2021-01	2021-02	2021-03	2021-04	2021-05	2021-06	2021-07	2021-08	2021-09	Total
Assault (Non-domestic)	1	3	1	2			2	2	2	1	3	2		17
Commercial Robbery							1			1				2
Street Robbery			1										1	2
Violence 'Other' (Non-domestic)	1				1	2			3	1				8
Break & Enter - Dwelling				1		1						1		3
Break & Enter - Commercial				1										1
Break & Enter - Other Premises		1		2				3			1			7
Theft OF Vehicle		1	3		7	2		3	3	1	1		2	23
Theft FROM Vehicle	4	5	3	3	5	6	3	1	1	1	1			33
Social Disorder	49	49	59	33	36	33	49	36	30	37	44	45	36	536
Physical Disorder	2	5	2	2	1	2	4	2	2	1	4	4	1	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>664</b>



# KEEP HALLOWEEN TRICK-OR-TREATERS SAFE

Halloween is a fun and exciting time of year for kids of all ages, but it can pose some potential hazards. The Calgary Police Service would like to remind parents, drivers and homeowners about a few tips that will make Halloween safe and fun for everyone.

## Tips for Trick-or-Treaters and Parents

- A bright costume with reflector tape will make children more visible to drivers.
- Costumes should not be highly flammable or interfere with easy walking.
- If children are wearing masks, the masks shouldn't interfere with their vision: better yet, use face paint instead.
- Try to trick-or-treat while it's still light out.
- An adult should accompany younger children.
- Older kids who are mature enough to be unsupervised should travel in a group.
- Parents should help their kids plan a route and set a time to be home.
- Remind children never to go beyond the doorway, and not to talk to strangers.
- Parents should also remind children to stay on the sidewalk and only cross the street at intersections.
- Let your children know not to take shortcuts through alleys and abandoned areas, but to stay in populated, well-lit areas.
- It's a good idea for kids to carry a flashlight and to have a cell phone or some change for a pay phone in case there's a problem.
- An adult should inspect the candy to make sure it hasn't been tampered with.

## Tips for Homeowners

- Turn on your porch light to let children know they're welcome.
- Remove obstacles such as lawn ornaments and gardening tools from yards.
- Place decorations out of the way so that nobody trips.
- The safest way to light a jack-o'-lantern is with battery-powered lights. If you use candles, make sure the flame can't come into contact with a child's costume.

## Tips for Drivers

- When children get excited, they tend to forget the most basic safety rules, especially around traffic. If you're driving, slow down and be extra cautious in residential areas.
- Drive defensively: expect children to dart out from between parked cars.
- Watch carefully for people using pedestrian crossings.

If you notice any suspicious treats or activities, call police at 266-1234. For more safety tips, visit [www.calgarypolice.ca](http://www.calgarypolice.ca)

# SWIPED: HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM CREDIT CARD AND DEBIT CARD FRAUD



It takes just seconds to become a victim of credit card or debit card fraud — and it can take a lot longer to repair the damage done to your finances. The most common way people fall victim to this type of fraud is by losing a credit or debit card with an easily compromised personal identification number (PIN), or through the counterfeiting of a credit card that is temporarily out of the owner's hands (the thief may copy the information from the credit card and use it to make a duplicate card).

Protect yourself from fraud. You can save yourself a lot of time and trouble by taking these simple precautions, recommended by the Calgary Police Service:

- Always know where your debit cards and credit cards are — care for them as carefully as if they were cash.
- When you use your card (at a restaurant or gas station, for example), try to keep the card in sight at all times.
- Watch carefully to ensure your card is only swiped in a proper debit machine. “Skimmers” are devices used to steal credit or debit card information. They are about the size of a napkin holder and can easily be concealed.
- Use an unusual PIN — not your phone number, licence plate, birth date, or something simple such as four zeros.
- Cover your hand when entering your PIN to prevent others from seeing it, even at Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs).
- If you think your PIN has been observed, change it.
- Do not allow anyone access to your accounts. Never give your card and PIN to anyone.
- Never provide your credit or debit card number to anyone by phone unless you called them and you know they are a trustworthy company.
- When you are shopping over the Internet, stick to trusted websites that use up-to-date security measures (look for the padlock symbol on the web page).
- Don't write your PIN down for safekeeping. If you really need it in writing, store it in a secure location such as a bank's safety deposit box, well away from your cards.
- When you use your debit or credit card, double-check that you have replaced it in your wallet following the transaction.
- Know what you are spending and check your statements to ensure they match your purchases. If there's a discrepancy, immediately notify your credit card company or bank.
- Store all the information from your cards in a safe place to make it easy to report them if they are lost or stolen.
- Regularly check your wallet. If you discover a card is missing, cancel it immediately — don't wait (if you wait, you might be held responsible for any misuse of it).
- Only carry the cards you need. Leave the others in a secure place.
- When you receive a new card in the mail, sign and activate it immediately, and destroy the old one.
- Check your credit report regularly — this is free of charge once a year through Equifax Canada ([www.equifax.ca](http://www.equifax.ca); 1-800-465-7166) or Trans Union Canada ([www.tuc.ca](http://www.tuc.ca); 1-800-663-9980).

Visit the Calgary Police Service Web site at [www.calgarypolice.ca](http://www.calgarypolice.ca) for more information on crime prevention.



# COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Q: I am in the community. How do I become involved in Block Watch?**

**A:** Contact your respective District Coordinator or the Chairperson. If you do not know how to contact these individuals contact the **District 4 Police Office** at (403) 428-6400 for **Mayland Heights** or the **District 5 Police Office** at (403) 428-6500 for **Vista Heights** and ask for the CRO.

**Q: How do I report an incident?**

**A:** Obtain as much information as possible - description of the suspect, direction or travel, vehicle make, colour and license plate. **Report this activity to Calgary Police Service** at (403) 266-1234. **If this is a crime in progress, always call 911.**

**Report online:**

at <https://www.calgary.ca/cps/report-a-crime.html>

Click on this link and follow through with reports you can submit online.



**CROSSROADS COMMUNITY  
BLOCK WATCH ASSOCIATION**

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