



## Rural Crime Watch News – January 2019



### Monthly Update to Members of Cochrane Foothills Protective Association

#### Welcome to 2019

The start of a new year often is a time for reflecting on life and family, and considering plans for change. As rural crime prevention continues to be needed, we invite you to participate in your family crime prevention planning as well as joining with neighbours for sharing of ideas and mutual support. CFPA leadership is comprised of volunteers willing to attend community meetings, helping share RCW information and continuing rapport with the responding partners.

Let's ensure we cover the basics of RCW. Continue to Observe, Record and Report to the RCMP and log it on the Reporter. Look out for your neighbours, especially those who holiday elsewhere. This newsletter is possible with ideas from members, media and the network of RCW chapters. Your comments and ideas are welcomed.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

- Watch for **member renewal** notices by email in January. Annual fees are now \$20. E-transfer is available for your convenience, using the CFPA email address in the renewal notice for E-transfers only.
- Our **Rural Crime Watch website** is fully operational. Check out [cfparcw.ca](http://cfparcw.ca). If you do an internet search, you may see interlopers which use our organization name to attract their fee based payment services. We do **not** use any such service and have asked them to cease using our name as it causes significant confusion.
- In February, watch for a short **member survey**. The intention is to harness many ideas and comments from members.
- **Save the Date** The Annual General Meeting of members is planned for the afternoon of Saturday April 6. This includes the usual reports on activities, and a featured speaker. Book the time to come, and meet and share experiences with other members. More information is coming.

#### Vignette for solution from the December letter (a composite of several reported incidents)

The questions for members were – What would you do? Who and how would you call?

Possible strategies might be..... Ralph and Susie recalled their planning for an intrusion. Ralph intentionally paused a few seconds to consider options. He then stood without moving and shouted “Red alert, call 911”. Susie responded by picking up her cell phone and going into another room and calling 911. She shouted “Red alert red alert. Let out the dog” while continuing to an area of the house where she could be safer and still monitor what was happening between Ralph and the intruder. (To them, each shout of “red alert” meant one intruder or vehicle, and to call 911). She then sent a group alert text to the 19 neighbours in their mutual support group using a draft text. She also went to the stashed second set of vehicles keys and pressed the panic buttons for their three vehicles. While Ralph continued to wait and assess the situation, he wanted to see whether the intruder would back away after knowing two people were home, an alert was called and 3 vehicle horns were blaring. He wanted to maintain his safety and possibly deter the intruder. Ralph was obtaining a good description of the intruder and would hand over keys if pressed further. What would you do?

### Security Gate access for emergencies

When an emergency occurs, how do you prepare for access to gated property? Some gates have padlocks and many have access codes on gate openers. The gate access is the owner's responsibility. Emergency calls may relate to a property or people at a property. While most emergency calls come from a person on the property, some come from others such as a neighbour. The mandated address signs are used for the municipal address as well as emergency services. The assigned address appears on the GPS of emergency services dispatch. Emergency calls need to include the emergency address. Emergency services are blocked from easy entry by gates. Fire Services has tools to breach the gate. Personal emergency service (EMS) and Police would not. A blockage or delay results in additional risk. Sometimes Police and EMS call the Fire Department for assistance when there is no code information on file. The damage or destruction of the gate in the case of an emergency is the owner's responsibility.

Where there is an access code, there are several options to avoid blockage or delay. Someone with the code goes to the gate when the emergency service arrives. Or when the emergency call is made, include the gate access code in the call. Or probably the best is to register the access code with 911 emergency dispatch. West of Calgary, the emergency dispatch (Computer-Aided-Dispatch) is centralized and includes fire (Rocky View Fire), as well as EMS now provided by Alberta Health Services. RCMP dispatch is integrated as well. The registry of gate access codes is kept by the central emergency dispatch by referring to the emergency address. Owners can register their code by emergency address and calling 403 264 1022 or email to [911oetteam@calgary.ca](mailto:911oetteam@calgary.ca) and providing appropriate identification and details such as your name, legal address, 911 address, phone number, type of gate and lock details. Please remember to update this registry if you change the access code.

Summary – please display a prescribed emergency / municipal address sign and consider helping yourself and others by using the address and registering the gate access code with emergency dispatch.

### Drone Rules changing

The current drone rules are on the Transport Canada website.

<https://www.tc.gc.ca/en/services/aviation/drone-safety/flying-drone-safely-legally-current-rules.html>

Effective June 1, 2019, the rules are being modified and clarified. Watch for restricted uses in areas surrounding airports. This is a large area considering Calgary International and Springbank airports.

<https://www.tc.gc.ca/en/services/aviation/drone-safety/flying-drone-safely-legally.html>

Invitation to Members If you have any information to share in the next newsletter, please submit to the general RCW email address: [cochraneruralcrimewatch@gmail.com](mailto:cochraneruralcrimewatch@gmail.com). We are Rural Crime Watch, a network of concerned residents, committed to making a safer community through basic crime prevention principles. Our security is greatly enhanced when we work together with neighbours.

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