



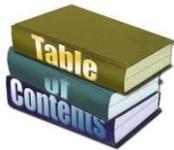
# Newsletter



Summer 2016



Serving our Canadian Volunteers working together with Police and the Community



- Lock out auto crime
- Alberta News
- B.C. News
- Nova Scotia News
- P.E.I. News
- Financial Assistance to CCOPA
- Manitoba News

#### CCOPA Board Contact information

- Bev Salomons - President
- Brian Cornborough - Secretary
- Betty Woolridge - Treasurer
- Harry McLellan – Vice President
- Christine Horvath – Director at Large

#### CCOPA Newsletter Contact information

- Bev Salomons - President
- Leona Gardecki - Newsletter Editor

## COPS help drivers lock out auto crime

From Port Alberni, British Columbia. This is what volunteering with the police is all about.

Article by: SUSAN QUINN; ALBERNI VALLEY NEWS - November 22, 2012 · 2:25 PM



**Citizens on Patrol volunteer Marlene Flory, above, checks a vehicle for a visible garage door opener during a Lock Out Auto Crime patrol at the Walmart parking lot, Friday afternoon**

**For further information check out the link below:**

[www.alberniavalleynews.com/news/180535301.html?mobile=true](http://www.alberniavalleynews.com/news/180535301.html?mobile=true)

## News from Alberta

As of May 2016, there are 71 active Citizens On Patrol (C.O.P.) groups in Alberta. This is an increase of 16 new C.O.P. groups in the past year. As well, there are 7 more communities who have expressed an interest in organizing a C.O.P. program. Since January 2016, over 100 people have joined the Alberta Citizens On Patrol Association (ACOPA). In 2015, 292 people joined ACOPA and in 2014, there were 196 new members in the C.O.P. program.

Over the past year, there has been an increase throughout Alberta in the number of break and enters, theft of vehicles, and theft from vehicles which seems to be what is causing the interest in the C.O.P. program. Whatever the reason, ACOPA has been busy assisting new groups get started and welcomes having so many new groups in communities where citizens are concerned about the criminal activity in their area.

ACOPA has a volunteer Board of 9 elected members, with 4 volunteer members. Besides the ACOPA Board, volunteers look after the website, newsletter, insurance questions and ID cards. ACOPA has an RCMP Liaison Officer from K Division who works with the Board. All C.O.P. in Alberta are required, by the RCMP, to have a Criminal Record Check completed every year.

ACOPA is working with a team that is developing an I Patrol app that can be used by patrollers. This app is free and available for the apple products. The updated app will be available around August of 2016. This app can be used when patrolling to log data, keep track of the time and location, and enables the patroller to add a photo and relevant information on the patrol. At the end of the patrol, a report can be emailed with all the recorded information.

In September 2015, the annual Workshop/Annual General Meeting for ACOPA was hosted by the Leduc C.O.P. group. In September 2016, the Workshop/AGM will be hosted by the Airdrie C.O.P. group. This is an excellent opportunity for patrollers to meet those from other C.O.P. groups around Alberta. The National Board will be attending the Alberta Workshop this year. During the weekend, training is presented from RCMP Officers in specialized areas. Information on the upcoming Workshop can be found on the ACOPA website at: [www.acopa.ca](http://www.acopa.ca).

ACOPA recently started a Facebook page. There is a link on the ACOPA website home page for connecting to the ACOPA Facebook page.

To see where the C.O.P. groups are located in Alberta, go to the ACOPA website and check the link to each of the C.O.P. groups. New groups are always welcomed as are individuals interested in joining the C.O.P. program in their community.

Submitted by: Bev Salomons,  
ACOPA President  
CCOPA President



A priest parked his car in a no-parking zone because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter. Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: "I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses."

When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note. "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket, I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation



### News from British Columbia

With no movement from the RCMP and BC Crime Prevention Association as to assistance in setting up a provincial association in BC, there is little activity to report.

More areas/detachments seem to be moving away from using the COP program and instead renaming all volunteers as volunteers with no affiliation to a specific group. So while many of the former COP members continue in the group, they do not follow the usual protocol established by the COP program and do not give volunteers a sense of belonging.

It is difficult to imagine a provincial association such as we had in the early 2000's. With no COPs group in many locations, there is no funding or personnel to put on a conference such as we had in the past. We continue to make contacts with police and while we continue to have some good response, it is not enough to bring a provincial association together at this time. I wish all of you involved in COPs the best and keep moving forward for the good of all citizens in Canada.

Submitted by: Brian Cornborough  
Director, British Columbia  
Secretary, CCOPA



### News from various groups in Nova Scotia

We like every other group in NS is struggling to stay alive. We have held public meetings and the 3 or 4 that did show up were not interested in patrolling. We are now partnering with our Crime Prevention group who are helping us with recruiting and publishing new brochures. We will be co-hosting police week in East Hants and will have the new brochures ready to present to the public. We have already had a table at one of the Community events for Ovarian Cancer Awareness fair. People came and we explained to them that they can patrol at their leisure and when they like morning, afternoon or evening. Still no response. We will keep it going for another few months and then see what happens.

From Enfield COP group, Hants East.

## Police Week Event in East Hants Nova Scotia



**Winston Welner and Al Gould of East Hants COP**

May 21, 2016 dawned beautifully, with the promise to be a perfect day for the Citizens On Patrol, Crime Prevention, Crime Stoppers, Victim Services, MADD and Corrections Nova Scotia we all came together for the perfect National Police Week Event in East Hants.

The citizens of East Hants and surrounding area had a wonderful display of police equipment and police officers from special Divisions. There were Police officers on hand to explain to adults and kids how they use all their equipment. The helicopter, the dog Master, ERT Division, Command Division and robot cop. There were a lot of hand outs for the kids and adults. Also, a Police car that kids could get into and blast the siren. There were police officers in attendance for people to approach and really have a good one on one chat with, a BBQ with lots of hot dogs to enjoy. COP had their digital sign out on the Street for people to see how fast or slow they were going. COP members handed out information and applications to prospective new COP members to start up in September.

Other COP groups in Nova Scotia held Police Week events, in Malls and various other places in their community. Knowing our COP and Crime Prevention members I say we all had a good time at National Police Week.

Submitted by: Betty Woolridge, Treasurer

## News from various groups in Nova Scotia

Kings County West participated at the Kingston RCMP Detachment today as they were celebrating Police Week.

Kelli Gaudet, the RCMP member who is in community policing said we were the first group to volunteer to assist her with this project. We did a booth outside with COP and COP Off Road along with a BBQ. Despite the rain, we had a great time. Kelli came along at the end of the day and thanked us for our

Cont'd from previous column

co-operation and a job well done. I feel our group is very close as we participate in other volunteer programs and know just how the other one's tick. We hopefully will get more volunteers and can keep our group alive. Everyone is so busy these days, they do not want to make a commitment.

Submitted by: Liz, member of Kings County COP

Like many groups in Nova Scotia, we are faced with declining numbers as the years take their toll, and very little new recruitment. This is certainly not unique to the Citizens On Patrol program. I know of many other groups that face the same challenge.

We haven't given up though. In the next few months, we will be actively advertising what the COP program is all about and seeking to interest new people in joining. We have produced a brochure that describes the program, which will be distributed far and wide, and is going to be included in Welcome Wagon packages in our area. This was designed for use by all groups in Hants County, not just our own. Neighboring groups have also been advertising.

We're going to share a table at the upcoming Police Week event in Windsor (hoping that it doesn't get rained out) and will be hosting a series of public information meetings. Plans are also afoot to get an article in the local paper.

From Ardoise COP group, Hants County,  
written by Andrew Harvie



## Prince Edward Island



### News from Prince Edward Island

Printed on May 12/16 – The Guardian, by Dave Stewart

Stratford Town Council held their regularly scheduled Council Meeting and closed with a presentation by Commanding Officer, Chief Superintendent Joanne Crampton to Mr. Harry MacLellan for his work with Citizens on Patrol, a community-based crime prevention volunteer group. Mr. MacLellan was the first person to step forward in 2008 to volunteer with the program which was implemented by RCMP. Mr. MacLellan has worked diligently to recruit new citizens to the group and work closely with RCMP to watch over the community for any unusual or criminal activity, creating a safer neighborhood and fostering excellent relationships with police officers. In 2008, a new RCMP Officer to Prince Edward Island, Cst. Tara McBride began the program as part of the Field Coaching Program which every new RCMP cadet undertakes as they begin their career after training. The Field Coaching Program sees that every new RCMP member develops a community project that enhances community safety and this was the project that Cst. McBride embarked upon. She researched other successful community policing initiatives across the country and met with the Town of Stratford and RCMP administration and began recruiting citizens. Cst. McBride noted, "Harry was the first person who volunteered and he assisted me with recruiting as well as getting the program off the ground. Between June and October of 2008 we were able to gather enough volunteers to begin training and roll the program out to the streets. Harry quickly stepped up to be Chair of the Citizens on Patrol Committee and he's worked diligently ever since. It will be a big loss to see Harry go, but it's been an honor to work with him and I know that the officers who have worked with him over the past few years feel the same way. RCMP will miss his enthusiasm and contribution."



## RCMP in Prince Edward Island



Shown in the photo left to right:  
P.E.I. RCMP Commanding Officer,  
Chief Superintendent Joanne Crampton, recipient of award  
Mr. Harry MacLellan and his wife, Kathy MacLellan and RCMP Queens  
District Commander, Staff Sergeant Mark Crowther

Mr. MacLellan worked with RCMP to establish a similar program in Cornwall which is proving very effective and began work with the Souris area to do the same. His reputation was apparent when five uniformed RCMP members attended the presentation to support and thank Mr. MacLellan. In addition to recognizing Harry, the officers on hand bestowed a gift to his wife, Kathy, for her patience over the years as her husband assisted police in community safety activities and numerous Citizens on Patrol meetings.

Citizens on Patrol work within their communities to curb criminal activities. Their input is vital to police as there is no one better to provide information than those who work, live and value their neighborhoods. The volunteers do not have authority to make arrests or take any action so as to minimize any threats to their safety. Instead, the group is focused on staying aware of what's happening in the neighborhood and providing information to police whenever required. It's a close and effective working relationship that benefits many.





Recently a request was made to all Citizens On Patrol groups in Canada to assist the CCOPA by means of a voluntary yearly membership donation, suggesting \$1 for every active member of your C.O.P. group to assist CCOPA in the work they have set out to do to promote the C.O.P. program cross Canada. While CCOPA recognizes that many groups struggle with finances, those groups do not need to be concerned with this request. Groups who do follow through with this request are recognized below and your assistance is greatly appreciated. In September, the CCOPA Board will be attending the Alberta Workshop that will be hosted by the Airdrie C.O.P. members the weekend of September 16 and 17. The Board is looking forward to seeing how Alberta operates and meeting C.O.P. volunteers from Alberta. The next visit to RCMP Depot is scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup> for a presentation to the Cadets in Training on the Citizens On Patrol program. Through these presentations, the Cadets will be better prepared to step into the role of C.O.P. Liaison Officer when that opportunity arises.

Thank you to the following who have made generous donations to the Canadian Citizens On Patrol Association.

Group Name	Province	Amount
Cochrane COP	AB	250
Stratford COP	PEI	200
Harry MacLellan	PEI	35
West St. Paul	MB	125
Alberta COPA	AB	5000
Beachville/Lakeside/Timberlea	NS	10
East Hants COP	NS	20
Chestermere COP	AB	30
Didsbury COP	AB	20
Okotoks COP	AB	20
High Level Community Policing Society	AB	16
Pincher Creek COP	AB	50
Gull Lake COP	AB	100
Viking COPS	AB	35
Town of Beaumont	AB	50



## News from Manitoba

The Manitoba Citizens on Patrol Program (COPP) began its operations in 1991, forming partnerships between local law enforcements, Manitoba Justice and citizen groups desiring to make their communities a safer place.

In 2001 Manitoba Public Insurance partnered with Manitoba Justice to improve support for all the groups across the Province. Manitoba Public Insurance works with the groups to incorporate Road Safety programming into their activities while enhancing their community safety message.

With over 50 groups spanning all corners of the Province, our dedicated members volunteered over 22000 hours in 2015, working to make their communities safe for their family, friends and neighbors.

Mission Statement:

To work with law enforcement and partners to prevent crime and create a safer environment for all

Submitted by: Christine Horvath, Vice Chair  
MB Provincial Advisory Committee  
Member at Large CCOPA

