



Alberta Citizens On Patrol Association

In the past several months, 11 videos have been produced through the services of videographer Ben Wilson and his assistant Sarah Wray. This newsletter is sharing those videos, some for the first time. To view each video, simply click on the title to play the video. All the videos are also posted on YouTube and are secure.

Please share with your family, friends, neighbours, Liaison Officers, Detachment Commanders, local Council and anyone else you think will be interested. The videos will also get posted on the ACOPA website.

To access the videos, click the blue title or the video itself.

[Why Your Community Needs Citizens On Patrol](#)

Superintendent Dale Kendall, Officer in Charge of the Strathcona Detachment talks about the Citizens On Patrol program and why a community needs to have a C.O.P. program in place. Supt Kendall gives good advice on how the C.O.P. program takes a leadership role, how the volunteers help the community, the role in community events and the importance of working alongside the local police to help keep the community safe.



[How ACOPA Supports New Groups](#)

ACOPA wants new groups to be successful and helps in many ways to get new groups up and running. A potential new group is assigned to one of the ACOPA elected Board members to assist in answering questions, getting the paperwork completed, providing funding, and offer training for new members.



[How To Attract and Engage Volunteers](#)

This video talks about some ideas for engaging volunteers in the Citizens On Patrol program. Each group has different opportunities for volunteer participation. Having a group patrol can be a way to get a number of volunteers out with a plan for what they wish to be looking for. Food always brings people to meetings and guest speakers are recommended to keep the members learning about their community.



[A Day in the life of a Stolen Vehicle](#)

This video is animated and shows what could happen to a vehicle when it gets stolen, including being driven fast, erratically, used for criminal acts, and other ways that make the vehicle no longer desirable. Remember to keep your vehicle locked. Remove valuables and park either in a garage or a well-lit area.



[A Day in the life of the Victim of a Stolen Vehicle](#)

This video relates a quick story of how the victim of a stolen vehicle feels. Many thoughts go through a person's mind, a lot of "what if's". Having a vehicle stolen adds a lot of stress and uncertainties and anxieties thinking about what needs to be done to protect from future theft, home break in, insurance, what condition the vehicle will be in if they ever see it again.



[ACOPA Speed Watch Program](#)

Having a Speed Watch Program is one way for volunteers to assist in keeping an eye on local traffic in troubled locations and be able to show statistics for what is observed. Playgrounds and school zones are good locations to set up and remind the public they need to slow down.



[How to Prevent Auto Theft](#)

No one wants to have their vehicle stolen. It is important to take steps to protect your vehicle, from not leaving the keys in the vehicle, to parking in a garage or a well-lit location, to putting key fobs in a faraday pouch or box, and to not leaving valuables in the vehicle.



Prevent Catalytic Converter Theft

The theft of catalytic converters has become a huge problem in Alberta. This video shares some tips for preventing the theft of catalytic converters by making it more difficult for removal and suggests etching the last 8 digits of your VIN number on the catalytic converter.



ACOPA Patrol APP

Check out this video for an introduction to the ACOPA Patrol APP. The video goes through how to set up a patrol using the app and is available on both the Apple and Android products. The app can be used to record the patrol and is an effective tool for capturing photos and recording what one sees on a patrol.



Equipment

When first starting the Citizens On Patrol program, very little equipment is needed. As the group grows, the need for additional equipment grows, so this video goes through the different stages of what the group can work with and suggestions for what the group can add as they see the need depending on what activities they participate in.



How To Conduct Citizens On Patrol Meetings

It is important for groups to run proper meetings where an agenda is followed with minutes noted and shared, motions made and voted on, discussions for participation in patrols or special events and financial reports shared. Service Alberta asks for a yearly report from registered volunteer groups, so it is important to have that information ready when requested.



Executive Roles

The executive plays an important role in any group. In the beginning, a group can function with the four main executive positions, President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. As a group grows, other positions can be added to fit the needs of what the group wants to do.



Coming later in June

**We will talk about the upcoming Workshop and AGM
taking place in Red Deer, Alberta**

Save the dates

**September 13-15, 2024
Baymont Hotel, Red Deer, Alberta**

[For more Information](#)

[Click Here](#)