

# Newsletter

November  
2018



## Alberta Citizens On Patrol Association

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- Edson, Viking, Pincher Creek, Olds, Linden COP groups
- Crime Map
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- New ACOPA Board
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**Newsletter produced by:**  
High River Citizens On Patrol  
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**A.C.O.P.A. WEBSITE**  
[www.acopa.ca](http://www.acopa.ca)

Have you seen the videos created for ACOPA? If you missed the AGM in Sexsmith, please check for them (there are 5!) at [www.acopa.ca](http://www.acopa.ca) on the right hand side under 'Quick Links'. They are wonderful resources for all to use in getting the word out in how COP can be an amazing addition to your community. Thank you to all that were involved in their creation!

### Note from Past President....

After eight years as President of ACOPA, it was the right time for me to step down. I will stay on the Board as Past President for a one-year term in the role of advisor. I have enjoyed getting to know so many people from COP groups and will be watching to see the progress of all the groups going forward. It was a great pleasure working with "K" Division over the eight years and especially having the support that was received for ACOPA and the COP groups. The video project was a great success. If you have not viewed them, go to the ACOPA website and check under Quick Links. Welcome to the new Board members and congratulations to Garth Kohlsmith for taking over as President. Wishing the ACOPA Board a successful year.

Bev Salomons

### A message from our President...

Hello everyone. For those of you that do not know me, my name is Garth Kohlsmith and I have been a C.O.P. member since 2011 with the C.O.P. group in Westlock.

I was elected to the ACOPA Board as a Director in 2015 in Leduc. In 2017, at the AGM in High River, I was elected as Vice President, at the recent AGM in Sexsmith I became President, elected for a 2-year term.

I am really enjoying being a member of this volunteer group and since being on the board, have been working closely with Past President, Bev Salomons. I am pretty sure her plan for me was to advance in the board and she has been grooming me for the position of President for the last year. I would like to thank her for all the help she has given me and hopefully will continue to do so in the future.

We have a lot of new board members and I look forward to working with them for next few years. Being new, we may be making a few mistakes, so please be patient with us. If you have questions, please contact one of the board members and they will gladly try to help you.

We want to remind our members to go to our website at [acopa.ca](http://acopa.ca) and check out the videos that ACOPA has made. They are very well done and very pertinent to what our groups of volunteers are doing.

In closing, thank you for the continuing volunteer hours you give to this group.

Garth Kohlsmith

## ACOPA News

### Alberta RCMP's Crime Map a new tool for Albertans

October 10, 2018  
St. Albert, Alberta

Today, the RCMP in Alberta provided a demonstration of Alberta RCMP's new Crime Map tool. The online tool enables the Alberta RCMP to directly engage with citizens on what they care about most: their own neighbourhoods.

The Crime Map enables Albertans to access current and verified information regarding criminal incidents in their neighbourhoods. Equipped with accurate information, Alberta RCMP hopes citizens will use the map to develop sound crime prevention habits for their families and their communities, and encourage citizens to report suspicious activities.

The map citizens have access to is a small indication of the analytical work the RCMP does in locating the individuals that harm communities the most. Through an internal version of the application and combined with other technologies, Alberta RCMP can develop geographical crime hotspots to guide targeted enforcement initiatives.

#### How does the Crime Map Work?

The RCMP crime map displays reports of criminal incidents as received by the RCMP within the last 14 days.

Crime types presented on the map include: theft from motor vehicle, theft of motor vehicle, break and enter, theft over/under \$5,000, mischief and missing persons reports.

These crime types were selected as information on these crime types can inform local crime prevention strategies.

In the interest of privacy, the exact location of each crime occurrence is not plotted. Locations are estimated to a nearby road.

#### Where can I find it?

Albertans can access the map through a participating municipality's website.

As website configurations are unique to each municipality, we ask citizens to visit their participating municipality's website to access the map.

#### Quotes

"Through the Crime Map, we hope to raise Albertans' awareness level about criminal activities in their backyards so they can report suspicious activity and help us make their neighbourhoods safer."

-Superintendent Mike Good, Operations Strategy Branch, Alberta RCMP

### Alberta RCMP's Crime Map a new tool for Albertans cont'd

The Crime Map helps the RCMP respond more quickly and accurately to community concerns. If there's a rash of break-ins, that's an opportunity for us to go out and talk to residents, educate them on how to proactively safeguard their property and give them resources to protect themselves."

-Inspector Pamela Robinson, Detachment Commander, St. Albert RCMP

"This tool gives our residents access to local and accurate crime-related information. Providing up-to-date information, which has been vetted by an authoritative source, is essential to ensuring that citizens have a clear picture of crime-related issues in our community."

-Councilor Sheena Hughes, City of St. Albert

#### Contact information

Corporal Laurel Kading  
Media Relations Group  
780-868-5157

#### LINDEN COP

Linden Citizens On Patrol is very passionate about keeping our communities safe. When people are having a function, whether it be a wedding, a grad, a ladies' night, or cabaret, we make ourselves available to drive home anybody who is impaired! We do it strictly on a donation basis. Usually the organization will donate something to us and then each individual will pitch in for gas money.

This is one of our successful fundraising projects and it also keeps us very visible in our communities! For more information, please contact Flo Robinson, President, Linden Citizens On Patrol! 403 818 4495



## ACOPA News

### EDSON COP

Edson Citizens on Patrol held its 3rd annual Candy Patrol on Halloween night. The annual event is sponsored by the local Bannister GM dealership. Citizens on Patrol members drive around handing out candy to kids and parents while keeping an eye out for any unusual activity. This year Edson RCMP Traffic Services Cst. Dale Hutley joined Citizens on Patrol and was a hit with many kids.

When the Candy Patrol first started three years ago, Edson COP was the only group doing it. Since then, the Edson Fire Department, EMS and RCMP have joined in on the fun.

While the Candy Patrol was a huge success and a lot of fun for the kids and COP volunteers, it quickly turned serious as a Citizens on Patrol member came across a suspected impaired driver. The driver was pulled over and subsequently arrested and charged.

Thank you to our COP volunteers Julie Vanderhoek, Trudy Boyles, Edson Mayor Kevin Zahara and Cst. Dale Hutley for taking the time to participate and to Bannister GM that provides the candy and vehicle for the event.



**PINCHER CREEK COP** – submitted by Robyn Dowson, President  
In June, we were invited to a BBQ, hosted by the Pincher Creek RCMP detachment. We had an awesome time and got to meet our newest officers and they got to meet most of us that attended. After the meal, we also had a member of Victim Services, give us a talk about what they do. She also told us about their new Service dog "Wicket", who is a great asset to helping calm victims. Some of us got to meet Wicket at the SPCA function that I've mentioned below. The picture above was taken after the BBQ, showing off our new group flag, with our logo.

On September 2nd, 5 of us, plus our Liaison Cst. Starzynski, went to the Boat Club to give out brochures (made by our detachment) to the residents and to chat with those that were closing up their RV's for the winter. The Boat Club is located near the Oldman River Dam and people can purchase lots to place their RV's there all year, if they wish. Last winter there were many places and sheds vandalized by thieves, who had cut the fence (as it has a locked gate) and accessed the area on side by sides. We informed the residents that if they were leaving valuables behind, that they should be taking pictures and writing down serial numbers for their items. The list should be taken with the resident to have with them available should anything happen. We also suggested hunting trail cameras, which some already had and also looking out for their neighbor's property, should they see something amiss. We had a very positive response from all we chatted with and the manager emailed our brochure out to all, so if any weren't there that weekend, they received it. We gave out over 150 brochures during our 2 hours there. The Boat Club manager emailed our group later to tell us of his appreciation for patrolling down there during the summer, as well as for this blitz.

On September 4th, 3 of our members helped our Liaison, who is also the Community RCMP, to give out coloring books etc. on their first day back to the books, at Livingstone School in Lundbreck.

On September 29th, we once again hosted a Flagger Training Course at the Lundbreck Community Hall. We now have trained 13 members from various groups. We may host another one next year, if there is any interest shown.

On October 6th, 6 of our members did security patrol for the local SPCA fundraiser "Raising the Woof" at the Pincher Community Hall. We had a nice dinner and a great time watching for those going outside with liquor, or thinking they should drink and drive. It was an awesome event for our group to support and they were so grateful that we were able to help them.

On Halloween Night, 3 of our members sat at the Lundbreck Community Hall, giving out candy bags until 8:30 PM. We had recently updated the brochure about our group and how to join and we asked the parents if they would like one. All seemed interested, so we're hoping we will recruit some new members in the future. Later 2 pairs of members, staggered their patrolling times around the area until 1 AM.

In December, we look forward to having a Pizza Christmas Dinner, once again hosted by our local Detachment. We are also planning to hold another Auto-Theft Awareness Blitz in the Castle Mountain parking lot, once skiing gets underway.



## ACOPA BOARD 2018-19

### Updated list of Board Members: October 2018

#### Elected:

- |                         |                   |  |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--|
| • <b>President</b>      | Garth Kohlsmith   | <a href="mailto:president@acopa.ca">president@acopa.ca</a>         |
| • <b>Vice President</b> | Greg Mathias      | <a href="mailto:vicepresident@acopa.ca">vicepresident@acopa.ca</a> |
| • <b>Treasurer</b>      | Sandra Broderick  | <a href="mailto:treasurer@acopa.ca">treasurer@acopa.ca</a>         |
| • <b>Secretary</b>      | Beth Endresen     | <a href="mailto:secretary@acopa.ca">secretary@acopa.ca</a>         |
| • <b>Director 1</b>     | Kimberly Hurst    | <a href="mailto:director1@acopa.ca">director1@acopa.ca</a>         |
| • <b>Director 2</b>     | George Dowson     | <a href="mailto:director2@acopa.ca">director2@acopa.ca</a>         |
| • <b>Director 3</b>     | Darlene Kirby     | <a href="mailto:director3@acopa.ca">director3@acopa.ca</a>         |
| • <b>Director 4</b>     | Chantel Frechette | <a href="mailto:director4@acopa.ca">director4@acopa.ca</a>         |
| • <b>Director 5</b>     | Ron Pettigrew     | <a href="mailto:director5@acopa.ca">director5@acopa.ca</a>         |
| • <b>Director 6</b>     | Dustin Jendrick   | <a href="mailto:director6@acopa.ca">director6@acopa.ca</a>         |
| • <b>Past President</b> | Bev Salomons      | <a href="mailto:pastpresident@acopa.ca">pastpresident@acopa.ca</a> |

#### Volunteers on the ACOPA Board

- |                             |                |  |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--|
| ○ <b>Newsletter</b>         | Tammy Beach    | <a href="mailto:newletter@acopa.ca">newletter@acopa.ca</a>                 |
| ○ <b>Webmaster</b>          | Henry Salomons | <a href="mailto:webmaster@acopa.ca">webmaster@acopa.ca</a>                 |
| ○ <b>ID cards</b>           | Mike Prosper   | <a href="mailto:IDCards@acopa.ca">IDCards@acopa.ca</a>                     |
| ○ <b>Insurance Liaison</b>  | Bruce Paterson | <a href="mailto:Insurance@acopa.ca">Insurance@acopa.ca</a>                 |
| ○ <b>Casino Chairperson</b> | Leona Gardecki | <a href="mailto:casinochairperson@acopa.ca">casinochairperson@acopa.ca</a> |



## ACOPA BOARD 2018-19

Thank you, to this group of people who will be spending numerous hours making sure our Citizens on Patrol groups can operate!

## **Loss Prevention Screws**

If anyone is interested in ordering the loss prevention screws that were handed out at the Workshop in Sexsmith, here is the information:

The company supplies pre-packaged (with your message included in the packaging) high security, universal fit license plate screws (stainless steel)

1 tool to fit (this 5 lobe pin security drive differs from the industry standard of 6 lobe pin)

### **PART # LP.KIT.A (4 screws & 1 tool)**

Desc: Pre-Package with custom label, 4 high security License Plate screws & 1 tool

QTY: 50/100/150 packages @ \$3.99 each

QTY: 200/250 PACKAGES @ 3.85 each

QTY: 300 PACKAGES @ \$3.55 each

QTY: 500 PACKAGES @ \$3.50 each (includes no charge shipping)

### **PART # LP.KIT.B (2 screws & 1 tool)**

Desc: Pre-Package with custom label, 2 high security License Plate screws & 1 tool

QTY: 50/100/150 packages @ \$3.49 each

QTY: 200/250 PACKAGES @ 3.35each

QTY: 300 PACKAGES @ \$3.99 each

QTY: 500 PACKAGES @ \$2.95 each (includes no charge shipping)

All prices Canadian dollars, shipping from Surrey BC.

Custom label included at no extra charge or fee

Call the Order Desk (1.888.584.6283 ext. 500) to place your order

please refer to QUOTE # B0815P

Visa, MasterCard, Amex, wire transfer or company check by courier accepted.

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## **OLDS COP**

Olds COP, Rural Crime Watch and the RCMP are presenting information about Community Crime prevention at the Synergy Alberta Conference, Nov 6, 2018 in Red Deer.

### **Session Title: It takes a village - Community Based Crime Prevention**

In 2017, many communities and rural areas in Alberta saw an unprecedented spike in property crime. In the Olds area, overall Criminal Code offences increased approximately 50% from what had been reported in previous years. Break and enters and vehicle thefts had nearly doubled. Despite the significant increase in crime, policing resources remained the same and were stretched thin with heavier caseloads. A community approach was needed to help support the police in combatting the rising crime rates. Olds is embracing community crime prevention initiatives and getting the community involved as the "eyes and ears" for local police. It comes down to the belief that every person has a role to play in ensuring safety and sustaining a high quality of life for the people who live there. This can look like neighbours getting to know neighbours, being aware of normal activities in your area and recognizing suspicious activities that are unusual in your community. Learn how one community made a shift to enhance Olds Rural Crime Watch and Olds Citizens on Patrol community crime prevention programs.

Synergy Alberta is an umbrella organization for grassroots community groups dealing with rural issues.

The National Post featured Olds COP in a news story which was picked up by in several newspaper across Canada including the Calgary Herald. <https://nationalpost.com/news/canada/citizens-on-patrol-in-olds>

National Post also created 7 minute video related to the COP story.

Here is the link: <https://youtu.be/XlaW4j9HFM>

**VIKING COP**

On Oct. 27th the Viking COP members participated in the 4th Annual Haunted Halloween Museum Event. This year's theme was Alien Invasion and was put on by the Viking Agricultural and Historical Societies. The Viking Lions Club handed out candy to the children and the COP members sold Hot Dogs, popcorn, pop and bottled water along with Alien Balloons. There were around 240 people who attended this event and the weather cooperated as well. A good time was had by all.

Cheryl Lefsrud, COP Member



Check out this amazing story of a Constable giving back to the community!

<https://alberta.ctvnews.ca/alberta-story-deanna-hagen-1.4073285>

# Thank you

Thank you to the Sexsmith Citizens on Patrol group for hosting a top notch AGM!

Your hospitality was amazing and the workshop topics on point! Next year's AGM is in....Drumheller!



