

CRIME AWARENESS AND CRIME PREVENTION IN OUR COMMUNITY

Notes from Winnipeg City Police Presentation of October 16/2020

This is a compilation of the notes taken by several people during the presentation. There were 15 participants in the Zoom webinar including representatives from 3 buildings at Kenaston Estates. We were also joined by the Building Manager as well as the Property Manager.

The presenters were Constables Chika MODOZIE and Justin Santos of the Winnipeg City Police.

The presentation focused on Crime Awareness and Crime Prevention in our community and included the following information and suggestions:

- No names on the entry way lists for residences. Just list as occupied.
- Be Alert as people trying to get in will push the buzzers and may say they are friends of someone in the building or even The Police hoping someone will let them in. Do not divulge any information AND DO NOT BUZZ THEM IN. If need be, go down to the front door and request ID.
- Update entry systems (this initiative is being looked at by the Board now that the cable infrastructure is installed.) Security Cameras are ideal at entry and exits.
- Doors and locks can be upgraded and changed to a safe product if they follow the procedure for changes to their suites through the application process. Deadbolts are recommended.
- The latch should be checked on the sliding doors to make sure it is intact and latching as they tend to wear out over time. A stick is sometimes positioned at the bottom of the sliding doors to block entry into the unit even if you have a lock on the patio door.
- First floor units should ensure that their gates are secured. First floor units, don't leave your windows open when you are not at home.
- Doors should always be kept locked not giving anyone an opportunity to enter your place.
- The presenters suggested that there should be good lighting in the parking lot and around door entry ways and the use of Motion Sensor Lights on Solar Lights on patios could be one way of doing this.
- The buildings and gates on the Main Floor should be numbered and easily visible in case emergency personnel need to find a specific location.
- There was a discussion about access to the building when someone is moving in or out and the doors are propped open. Some complexes have a system whereby someone from the building will monitor the door during a move.
- Fobs as an alternative to keys for entry is an option as they can be programmed versus having to remaster keys when people have left and not returned the keys as an example.
- The presenters talked about things that we can do to help reduce crime in our lot including an **All Valuables Removed Initiative** where a yellow card is placed in your car windows on the driver's side. This alerts a thief that valuables have been removed from your vehicle and can reduce crime. This initiative has successfully been used in Winnipeg as well as Ottawa and Montreal. We have ordered 50 to begin with. Never leave anything of value in your car in the lot. Remove coins, glass cases, face masks, garage door openers (for other residences) etc.

- Your wallet should be thin in size. For example, never carry your SIN card in your wallet and reduce what you do carry (ATM, driver's license, one credit card) in case of loss or theft.
- There are several resources available through Winnipeg City Police including Crime Watch Stats (www.winnipeg.ca/police) as well as Winnipeg Police e-watch with Safety Tips. The Neighbourhood Watch program is currently suspended due to the Covid protocols in place. We can request a **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design** walk through for our Complex.
- To report a crime there are two options. Call 911 if there is a crime in progress and there is a danger to life or property emergency. Life will be prioritized over property in terms of response. Disruptive behaviour should be reported to 911. Do not knock on the door where the disturbance is happening. Lock your doors and call.
- If there are suspicious vehicles in the lot and may be drug transactions, then safely take down the license number and report this to the non-emergency Admin # 204-986-6222.
- The importance of reporting was stressed to the participants as this can form part of the Strategic Policing Initiative (SPI).
- A suggestion was made by one of the participants that the use of multiple car alarms to create a noise diversion. The Constables spoke about what can deter crime including lack of opportunity, make it difficult to enter and time is of the essence for thieves; lights and noise and evidence of cameras will also be deterrents.

Overall, the presentation was really well received and gives us some good ideas to move forward with.