

# CRIMINAL PREVENTION



Your Community.  
Your Safety.  
**GET INVOLVED.**

# Have you checked your legal health?



Just as we see a doctor before undertaking a new fitness program or consult an advisor before making a major financial decision, talking to a lawyer can ease your worries and protect you and your family.

Don't wait until a crisis hits. Like many other things in life, dealing with legal issues before they become serious will reduce stress and help you plan for the future.

Do any of these questions apply to you:

- Starting a business?
- Considering a change in your family?
- Do you have a will?
- Are you new to the country?
- Are you considering buying a property?

If yes, visit [practicepro.ca/LegalCheckUp](http://practicepro.ca/LegalCheckUp) where you will find a list of occasions when consulting a lawyer is the right move.

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# MESSAGE FROM **the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police**

One of the key factors in ensuring that every Ontarian has an opportunity to live, work, and play in strong, healthy communities is crime prevention. It's plain to see that when we live in safe neighbourhoods, work in secure workplaces, and enjoy public places free from the threat of crime, our lives can be enjoyable and our future full of hope. That's why Ontario's police leaders place such a strong emphasis on crime prevention as a tool for helping build strong communities.

A definition of crime prevention used by many police services comes from the National Crime Prevention Institute: "Crime Prevention is the anticipation, recognition, and appraisal of a crime risk and the action taken to remove or reduce it." This means that all of us – police, governments, community groups, business owners, workers, and ordinary citizens – have an important part to play in reducing crime.

The Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) supports an annual crime prevention campaign which helps police services take a leadership role in bringing together the entire community to make crime prevention a key element in community building. Our common goal is to reduce crime, as well as the impact, victimization, and fear of crime in cities, towns, and villages across Ontario. Police officers have an important role to play in crime prevention. For example, they can forecast and develop responses to emerging crime trends. But the best defence against crime starts with you.

This booklet provides you with tips on how you can put crime prevention into action. Read it. Act on it. Be safe.



**Chief Paul D. Cook**

NORTH BAY POLICE SERVICE

PRESIDENT – ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

# Community Safety

The best way to deal with crime and victimization is to stop crime before it occurs. All communities are safer when citizens work together to build safe and healthy neighbourhoods and workplaces.

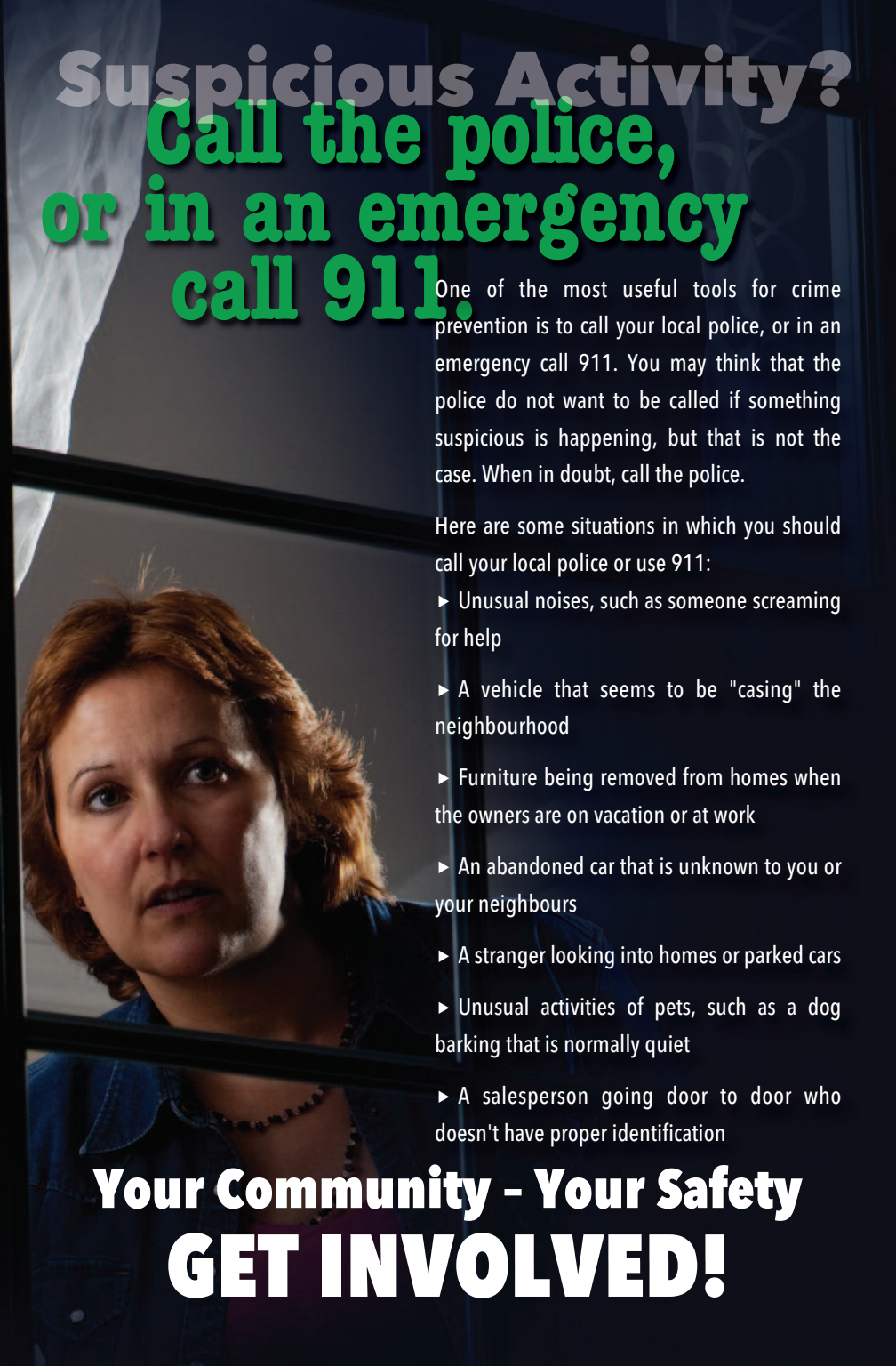
**Public safety is a shared responsibility, in which both citizens and police have important roles.**

Small steps are often the best way to start building safe and healthy communities, which could involve such simple things as alerting your neighbours or the police when suspicious activity seems to be happening.

Here are some suggestions for building your local community to enhance security and quality-of-life:

- ▶ Get to know your neighbours, and become familiar with the routine in your neighbourhood
- ▶ Leave a set of keys and emergency phone numbers with a trusted neighbour
- ▶ Keep up appearances – a clean, well-tended neighbourhood is less attractive to criminals and vandals
- ▶ Get involved in a crime prevention program such as Neighbourhood Watch, a program that brings concerned citizens and police together to reduce crime in neighbourhoods

“Police can support, lead, provide a role model, and assist in times of trouble, but the ‘community’ itself has to step up and take responsibility – be accountable – for their safety and security....”



# Suspicious Activity? Call the police, or in an emergency call 911.

One of the most useful tools for crime prevention is to call your local police, or in an emergency call 911. You may think that the police do not want to be called if something suspicious is happening, but that is not the case. When in doubt, call the police.

Here are some situations in which you should call your local police or use 911:

- ▶ Unusual noises, such as someone screaming for help
- ▶ A vehicle that seems to be "casing" the neighbourhood
- ▶ Furniture being removed from homes when the owners are on vacation or at work
- ▶ An abandoned car that is unknown to you or your neighbours
- ▶ A stranger looking into homes or parked cars
- ▶ Unusual activities of pets, such as a dog barking that is normally quiet
- ▶ A salesperson going door to door who doesn't have proper identification

**Your Community - Your Safety**  
**GET INVOLVED!**



# HOME SECURITY

# Myths & Facts

Almost everyone has an opinion on trends in break-and-enters – why they occur or how to prevent them. Here are some facts regarding a few myths about break-ins.

**MYTH** Most residential break-ins happen at night.

**FACT** Most residential break-ins actually happen during the day, when the majority of people are not at home.

**MYTH** A chain lock offers good security.

**FACT** People buy chain locks in the belief that they provide adequate protection when answering the door. But the fact is that chain locks actually offer very little protection against the threat of a forced entry, and can result in a false sense of security when a superior lock is disengaged. A wide-angle peephole on your door is far superior because it will allow you to see who is outside your door while preventing the person from seeing inside your home, and possibly breaking the chain lock.

**MYTH** An alarm system is all that I need to protect my home and family.

**FACT** Unfortunately, this view is NOT shared by the average thief, and you may still be at risk. Residential alarm systems do indeed offer an increased level of security and some deterrence to criminals. However, they should not be considered as exclusive replacements for other home security measures, but should be used in conjunction with them.



# What you should know...

- ▶ Police do not directly monitor burglar alarm systems, and it may take a few minutes before the call is directed to the police.
- ▶ Because of other crime prevention priorities, police cannot always treat residential alarm calls as high priority. So, check with your local police about their policy on responding to alarm calls.
- ▶ Thieves only spend between three to four minutes in a home, and in most cases the criminal will be gone before the police arrive.
- ▶ Most alarms will alert the alarm company through your phone line, which may render your phone line unusable for other calls. So, if you are home when somebody tries to break into your home, it may be impossible for you to call for immediate help. Therefore, if you have an alarm system at home, you may want to consider having an additional phone line, or cell phone for such calls. Check with your alarm service provider on how your phone line is used by the alarm system.
- ▶ Alternatively, an exterior mounted alarm with flashing strobe light could be used. This can alert neighbours to contact the police and/or scare off the criminal. But be sure to verify there are no bylaws or restrictions in your area for such an alarm.

# PROPRE CADR UES KPEES YORU IFNORMAITON DISUGISED.



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Keep private information private by inserting your *Interac*® chip debit card instead of swiping. Only swipe your card if prompted by the terminal. In the unlikely event you do experience fraud, you can count on the *Interac* Zero Liability Policy\* for protection.

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† Interac Association operates exclusively in Canada.

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\*The Interac Zero Liability Policy applies to losses resulting from circumstances beyond your control. Some conditions apply. Read more about this at [Interac.ca](http://Interac.ca).



# Debit Card Safety still important for chip cardholders

Debit cards, ABMs and store terminals are now being upgraded to chip technology to provide greater security for card users. However, given the vast number of debit cards and terminals in the marketplace, the transition will not be completed until 2015. As a result, magnetic stripe transactions will continue throughout the transition, and it is still important to practice debit card safety, even if you have a chip card.

Although 99.99% of magnetic stripe transactions are processed without incident, we recommend following some important debit card safety tips to protect yourself:

- ▶ **INSERT FIRST** – If you have a chip debit card and are not sure whether the store terminal is chip-capable, insert the card first. If the terminal is not chip-capable, it will prompt you to swipe your card.
- ▶ **PROTECT YOUR PIN** – Always shield your PIN with your hand or body to prevent someone from stealing your PIN.
- ▶ **CHECK YOUR STATEMENTS** – Check your financial statements or online records regularly and if you suspect anything unusual, contact your financial institution immediately. If you are a victim of debit card fraud you are protected and you will be reimbursed by your financial institution.
- ▶ **MEMORIZE YOUR PIN** – Only you should know your PIN. If you suspect someone knows your PIN, even a friend or family member, change it immediately.
- ▶ **KEEP YOUR CARD IN SIGHT** – Always keep your debit card in sight when conducting transactions.
- ▶ **REPORT A LOST CARD** – Notify your financial institution immediately if your debit card is lost or stolen.

*For more information about chip technology and security, visit [www.interac.ca](http://www.interac.ca).*

# Identity Theft...

## It Could Happen to You!

When an imposter steals your name, your Social Insurance Number (SIN), your credit card number, or some other piece of your personal information for their use, without your knowledge – **IT'S A CRIME, PURE & SIMPLE.**

Maybe you **NEVER** opened that account or ordered an additional card, **but someone else did**, someone who used your name and personal information to commit fraud.



## Tips to **REDUCE** the risk

### of Identity Theft:

1. Before you reveal any personal identifying information, find out how it will be used and if it will be shared.
2. Pay attention to your billing cycles. Follow up with creditors if your bills don't arrive on time.
3. Guard your mail. Deposit outgoing mail in post office collection boxes or at your local post office. Promptly remove mail from your mailbox after delivery. Ensure mail is forwarded or re-routed if you move or change your mailing address.
4. Put passwords on your credit card, bank and phone accounts. Avoid using easily available information like your mother's maiden name, your birth date, the last four digits of your SIN or your phone number.
5. Minimize the identification information and number of cards you carry.
6. Do not give out personal information on the phone, through the mail or over the internet unless you have initiated the contact or know who you're dealing with.
7. Keep items with personal information in a safe place. An identity thief will pick through your garbage or recycling bins. Be sure to tear or shred receipts, copies of credit applications, insurance forms, physician statements and credit offers you get in the mail.
8. Give your SIN only when absolutely necessary. Ask to use other types of identifiers when possible.
9. Don't carry your SIN card; leave it in a secure place.



# How do I Know if **MY IDENTITY** has been **Stolen?**

## Some of the signs your identity might have been stolen:

1. Bills and statements don't arrive when they are supposed to – they may have been stolen from the mailbox or someone has changed the mailing address.
2. You receive calls from collection agencies or creditors for an account you don't have or that is up-to-date. Someone may have opened a new account in your name, or added charges to an account without your knowledge or permission.
3. Financial account statements show withdrawals or transfers you didn't make.
4. A creditor calls to say you've been approved or denied credit that you haven't applied for. Or, you get credit card statements for accounts you don't have.
5. You apply for credit and are turned down, for reasons that do not match your understanding of your financial position.

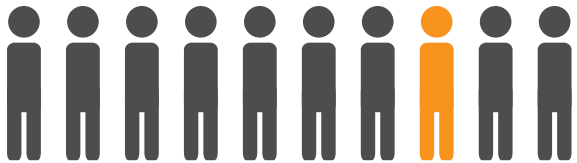
## What to do:

- Call your financial institutions and the police
- Put a fraud alert on your credit report
- Contact Canada Post if your mail is missing
- Keep records of steps taken to clear your name and re-establish your credit
- To replace ID cards like health, driver's licence, SIN call 1-800-O-Canada





# Nearly 1 in 10 Canadians report being a victim of identity theft.



**Your personal information is extremely  
valuable to identity thieves.**

Contents within your vehicle contain personal  
information that can put you at risk of identity  
theft.



Are you at risk? Take a personal risk assessment  
survey at: [iD.RSR-GLOBAL.COM](http://iD.RSR-GLOBAL.COM)

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[iD.RSR-GLOBAL.COM](http://iD.RSR-GLOBAL.COM)



# Who steals vehicles?

## Why??

Vehicle theft is no longer a crime committed just by teenagers out for a joy ride. It's big business run by organized crime rings to make a huge profit at your expense.

- ▶ About half of all stolen vehicles are used to commit another crime or are driven – often recklessly – for simple purposes of transportation (this is called 'destination theft'). In these cases, the thieves are usually amateurs who take advantage of owner negligence by grabbing the first vehicle they can find that's been left unsecured.

- ▶ In the other half of cases, vehicles are stolen by professional thieves involved in organized crime rings.

- ▶ Some theft rings steal vehicles to order. That is, a specific make and model of vehicle is scouted and stolen, then often resold at an incredibly low price. The new owner is typically in for a rude surprise, because the ring will often steal the vehicle back and resell it to someone else, or the vehicle will be seized by police.

- ▶ "Chop shops" strip stolen vehicles and sell off components, often to legitimate businesses that are unaware the parts are stolen. This is a big business that accounts for millions of dollars a year in profits for criminals.

- ▶ Theft rings under the control of organized crime frequently export stolen vehicles for sale overseas. The huge profits from this activity are used to finance other criminal activities, including drug trafficking, money laundering and terrorism.

# 10 Ways to help reduce auto theft

When leaving your vehicle remember.....

1. Never leave your vehicle running unattended.
2. Lock all doors.
3. Remove all valuables.
4. Completely close all the windows.
5. Park in well-lit locations.  
Avoid isolated areas.
6. Install an alarm system with a kill switch.
7. Install a steering wheel locking device.
8. Install a locking fuel cap.
9. Install a vehicle tracking system.
10. Install an ignition or fuel kill switch.



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To OLG and our  
community partners,  
They're not just  
festivals, concerts,  
and events.  
They're  
memories  
that last  
a lifetime.

OLG  
Pour OLG et ses  
partenaires communautaires,  
ce ne sont pas seulement  
des festivals, des concerts  
et des événements.  
Ce sont des  
souvenirs  
qui durent  
toute la vie.

OLG is proud to work with communities in Ontario and be part of bringing over 200 local events to life, like the 2014 Crime Prevention Campaign.

OLG est fière de collaborer avec les collectivités de l'Ontario et de contribuer à la création de plus de 200 événements locaux, comme la campagne 2014 de prévention du crime.

Know your limit  
Play within it  
Dépasser ses limites  
Ce n'est plus du jeu

knowyourlimit.ca  
depasserseslimites.ca

olg.ca **OLG**



# YOU HAVE WON!!!

# Lottery Emails

A hand is shown holding a fan of Canadian 100 dollar bills. The bills are fanned out, showing the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II and the number '100'. The text 'BANQUE DU CANADA' and 'BANK OF CANADA' is visible on the bills. The hand is positioned on the right side of the image, with the fingers gripping the bills.

There has been an ever-growing number of **scam LOTTERY emails** advising consumers they have hit the jackpot. You need to consider the following when you receive a solicitation of this kind.

- ▶ You cannot win without first buying a lottery ticket.
- ▶ Legitimate lotteries do not notify winners by email.
- ▶ They do not randomly select email addresses to award prizes to.
- ▶ They do not use free email accounts (Yahoo, Hotmail, etc.) to communicate with you.
- ▶ They do not tell you to call a mobile phone number.
- ▶ They do not tell you to keep your winnings secret.
- ▶ They will never ask a winner to pay any fees up front (like taxes or a security deposit) to receive a prize, lottery or sweepstake!
- ▶ **Remember, if you don't recognize who sent you the email - DELETE IT!**

# No traffic. No stress. No brainer.

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- Ottawa – Toronto \$39\*
- London – Toronto \$29\*
- Toronto – Windsor \$39\*
- London – Windsor \$31\*
- Sarnia – Toronto \$39\*

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Fares may vary based on selected day of week and time of departure.

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# protect Yourself Online!

- ▶ NEVER share your passwords and select a complex password of letters, numbers and symbols.
- ▶ Beware of internet promotions that ask for personal information. Identity thieves may use phoney offers to get you to give them your information.
- ▶ After completing any sort of financial transaction online, make sure you sign out of the website and clear your internet file/cache.
- ▶ Before giving your credit card number or other financial information to a business, make sure that their website is protected and secured. Look for a lock symbol located somewhere on the browser or make sure the URL begins with https://.
- ▶ Chain letters and phoney investment schemes try to win your confidence with false promises of incredible returns – they're only after your personal and/or credit information. There are many types of investment frauds and scams. Many are convincing and look very real. To learn more about investing and making good investment decisions, visit [www.GetSmarterAboutMoney.ca](http://www.GetSmarterAboutMoney.ca).
- ▶ Teach children to keep their identities confidential in online chat rooms, bulletin boards or newsgroups.
- ▶ Today the vast majority of young people in Canada use social networking websites such as Facebook. Identity thieves can take simple information such as your birthday or your pet's name as clues to common passwords and steal your identity.
- ▶ Install fire-wall, anti-virus, anti-spyware, and security software and keep it up-to-date.



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**Canpar is proud to be the  
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**COLLISION REPORTING CENTRES**  
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**\$1,000 or more combined vehicle damage must be reported to Police.**

Report the collision to the Police at the **Collision Reporting Centre** when there are:

- No injuries
- No Criminal Activity
- No Dangerous Goods

Exchange information at the scene, then conveniently report in the safety of your local Collision Reporting Centre as soon as possible. Our professional and courteous staff will guide you through the process with Police, and if you wish to report to your Insurer, they will assist you for convenient "One Stop Service"!

Our "Damage Reported to Police" Sticker program and photographs of all vehicles brought to our Collision Reporting Centres help to prevent insurance fraud.

***Accident Support Services has 27 offices across Ontario to serve you!***

For more information and locations please  
visit our website at [www.accsupport.com](http://www.accsupport.com)  
or call 1-877-895-9111

PROUD TO SUPPORT THE 2014 CRIME PREVENTION CAMPAIGN





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[communityservices.humber.ca](http://communityservices.humber.ca)



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HUMBER**

Canadian Security  
Association works with  
Police and Fire Services  
across Canada to reduce  
false alarms.



**CANASA**

Canadian Security Association  
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canasa.org | 1 (800) 538-9919

On behalf of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, I would like to thank the following partners for their support in the 2014 Crime Prevention Campaign. If you would like more information on this or any other OACP campaigns, please email [oacpadmin@oacp.ca](mailto:oacpadmin@oacp.ca).



Ron Bain  
Executive Director, OACP



[www.oacp.ca](http://www.oacp.ca)