

# APRCWA Symposium Feb 17 2018

## Flip Chart notes/compilation

### 1 What are some of the current safety concerns and where are they happening?

#### WHAT does the “Changing face of crime look like in the Rural Areas?

- Property crimes: including home invasions; breakins of residences; mailbox breakins ; vehicle thefts; theft of property;
- expansion of violence:
  - e.g. armed B&E; not local amateurs; systematic with multiple people females also;
  - drug based crimes to fund drug purchases;
  - addiction driving crime of repeat offenders
- Amount of rural crime – escalated tremendously in recent years.
- Drones; police absent; lack of community engagement
- Elder abuse; online scams , fraud
- Slow government; slow justice; slack penalties;
- Children recruited – Trafficking
- Personal safety - all intrusions lead to fear, safety concerns, feeling of violation; trauma – worse for isolation in homes, subdivisions, rural farms
- Isolation means vulnerable during response time; RCMP response times eg 1-2 hours

#### WHERE is the crime happening?

- Occur throughout all communities
- Probable causes:

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  - are proximity to major city
  - addictions
  - gun shops have prohibited weapon

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#### REPEATED // KEPT FOR REFERENCE

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- Home invasions; armed invasions;
- many b&E theft; not feel safe
- Home invasions; B&E
- communication;
- (eg Greenview, Lacombe City, Smoky Lake, Bellis, Blackfalds)
- property invasions
- Coordinating services
- Policing /counselling SRO
- Lack of knowledge and technology
- Engage rural communities
- B&E property crime; vehicle thefts; mailbox breakins

## 2 What do you want to achieve?

### WHAT

- Personal safety; less crime; safe neighbourhoods;
- A safe and caring community
- Want to be safe in homes and schools
- Reduced crime; education; resilience; communication;
- Accountability; responsibility; community ownership
- Work is valued and recognized
- Justice system to work
- Zero crime rate
- Live without fear;
- Address root problems and intervene;
- *Focus on safe injection sites (but not on) and beds or facilities to help get them out of addiction*
- Get hope back; empowerment
- Reduced addiction
- Simplify
- Warm inviting communities;

### HOW

- Bigger police presence
  - Coordination over boundaries
  - Reinvent community
  - Education on changing mindsets
  - No credit for time served; adult crimes if they are teenagers
  - Engage with youth in crime prevention – tips and strategies
  - Active participation in community groups eg RCW; COP; Neighbourhood Watch
  - Communication with RCMP and 1)community groups; 2)camera surveillance; 3)other court resources
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#### REPEATED // KEPT FOR REFERENCE

- Fewer criminals – reform them; avoid getting into that behaviour; work more in schools
- Safety; safe community for everyone
- reduced fear

### 3 What are you already doing and what do you need to do moving forward?

#### WHAT DOING

- Having police interact with public; community policing
- Prevention by design eg Lacombe County; CPTED
- Fanouts of alerts
- Target hardening; lights, gates, education, working on physical side protecting our property; cameras; trail cams; alarm systems;
- Emphasis on showing how CR/RCW works
- Educating public generally on CP and RCW
- Holding neighbour/community info sessions on CP and RCW
- Supporting youth agency eg St Albert RCMP
- RCW; COP; N Watch; policing meetings; Facebook group; fanout system; informal group discussions
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#### WHAT NEEDED

- Better communication among first responders
- Better planning; be smart and aware
- Improve communications in all directions
- Get to know your community
- Crime prevention liaison; engage youth and young families
- Peace officers attend RCW meetings
- Be aware
- Plan in place to protect
- Lock it or lose it; connect with neighbours; connect with our zones; emails
- BBQ gatherings; text, fanouts
- Poster contest (children); connect with all schools
- Visibility by meeting and engaging
- Community partnering with other businesses; education
- Campaigning; Use of municipal grants
- Stronger penalties;
- Support busses to Legislature; voice our options and start with open dialogue
- Pressure /lobby for RCMP members
- More crown prosecutors in rural
- Prevention strategies

#### Programs

- RCMP boot camp
- DARE program
- Drivers education
- POD program Lobby gov't for support to implement CP initiatives
- CPTED inspections
- engage with schools; communities; residents; health services; RCMP; CPTED community seminars

- Trained CPTED staff and RCW members
  - Some COP
  - Wise Owl Presentations for seniors
  - All partners in conversation (health, police, community, schools)
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  - Create awareness of what is being done
  - Educate // avoid vigilante
  - Collaborate with enforcement levels
  - More buy in by RCMP
  - Enhance partnerships in community
  - Some coordination
  - Urbans are great neighbours
  - Prevent RCW from dying
  - Neighbour mutual support
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REPEATED // KEPT FOR REFERENCE

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- Need personal safety plans
- and cameras
- public spaces
- Engagement
- Increase law enforcement

#### **4 Who needs to be involved and why?**

##### WHO

- Everybody – requires change in rural mind set on safety
- Involve towns and cities in Community Crime Watch; small towns are rural
- Involve Crown attorneys and Justice
- Educate younger generation and youth
- Everyone - report suspicious activity
- Education; public health; mental health; AGLC
- Police; Indigenous and Leaders
- Alberta Association of Community Peace Officers
- Elected (representatives)
- Farmers; all residents including cottages and acreages
- Town residents
- Engage with communities ie Website, links, local media, newspapers, word of mouth, Town council, RCMP, events, meetings, schools
- Youth programs, community support programs
- Involve social partners
- Communicate regionally and provincially

##### WHY

- Need community involvement around underlying issues casing addictions, & crimes  
Facilitate opportunities in schools, AHS, youth at risk
- Offer life skills training;
- Everyone is involved and everyone's responsibility to prevent
- Better communication amongst ourselves
- Social agencies; businesses
- Mental health; schools; more policing in schools; (cost concern)
- Lacombe County pays for community policing in 5 schools
- More policing in rural areas
- Education brings perspective and options
- Small group synergy

##### HOW

- Telegram program for immediate communication (secure free APP)
- Make use of smart phones;
- Alberta Police Reports for stats on crime
- SK is lobbying federal government for law changes - work with SARM
- Communications between RCW and RCMP
- Advocacy for stronger justice system

5 **What does success look like?**

- Less Crime
  - Looking out for neighbours and working together to belong to a community;
  - Reduction in crime rate, ideally no crime
  - people feel connected;
  - CPTED applied
  - Caring community; passionate
  - Everyone accountable; more youth volunteering
  - 100% RCW memberships
  - Beautiful sunny day
  - Be able to walk in comfort in safe community
  - Return of trust
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HOW

- REPEATED // KEPT FOR REFERENCE
  - Schools; school boards; parents; community members; youth groups; neighbours;
  - reduce from 40% of group that have been affected by property crime
  - Laws changed; reduction to crime stats;
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## 6 What can you bring to a local safety strategy?

### PERSONALLY

- Organize neighbourhood meetings to get to know others and include police
- Be a leader
- Challenge strangers – why are you here; take pictures
- Increase communication to everyone
- Use social media eg Twitter, Facebook, email, text. Value of personal contact
- Get active in community groups
- More cameras on property – responsibility
- Look out for each other - be an eyes and ears person
- Report suspicious activity
- Put up Member of RCW signs

### AS RCW GROUP

- Communication among RCW groups
- Patrolling of communities
- Encourage youth involvement;
- Connect with service providers, clubs; groups;
- First Nations involvement
- Get involved; be supportive; speak out; awareness safety; report SA
- offer assistance and meeting space; committed to education;
- provide support of awareness and observation

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**Flip Chart notes/compilation**

- 1 What are some of the current safety concerns and where are they happening?
- 2 What do you want to achieve?
- 3 What are you already doing and what do you need to do moving forward?
- 4 Who needs to be involved and why?
- 5 What does success look like?
- 6 What can you bring to a local safety strategy?