



For Immediate Release

CRIME AWARENESS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT THIS YEAR AS STUDENTS HEAD BACK TO CLASS

Vancouver, B.C. (September 4, 2024): As violent attacks and other forms of crime remain at the top of the news this fall, schools, police, parents and the community will be working together again this school year to keep students safe.

Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers supports these efforts by urging students who may know something about a crime to call the Crime Stoppers tips line ANONYMOUSLY if they have information about who's behind violent offences, bullying, online harassment, illegal weapons, illicit drugs, or gang activity and recruitment. Tipsters could be eligible for a reward of up to \$5,000.

As in previous years, Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers' "See Something, Say Something" [school program](#) is about to resume going into local classrooms to provide students in grades eight and 10 with education on the importance of giving ANONYMOUS tips to Crime Stoppers. To date, the program has reached more than 46,000 students. More information on the "See Something, Say Something" school program is available at [SolveCrime.ca](#).

"Anyone in school who becomes a crime victim should immediately tell a parent, a trusted person at school, or the police," says Linda Annis, Executive Director of Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers. "What we're after, however, is information that may expose criminals and prevent a crime.

"In the 40 years Crime Stoppers has been around in the Lower Mainland, tipsters of all ages have called us, leading to more than 8,400 arrests and the recovery of half a billion dollars in stolen property, illegal weapons and drugs. We want to reach a new generation of people who need to know they can do the right thing without ever being identified. Police don't want to know who you are, or your age, and you'll never have to go to court. They just want the information needed to make an arrest and charge."

Parents are also advised as the school year begins to be vigilant for signs of possible student criminal activity or even gang recruitment. Telltale signs may include high-accuracy digital scales, small plastic baggies, unexplained bundles of cash, and high-end, expensive merchandise being brought home. Use of multiple cell phones, short "unexplained" visits out of the house, perhaps a sudden interest in vaping, and mysterious vehicles cruising by could all be signs of gang activity.

(more)

About Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers

Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers is a non-profit society and registered charity that offers rewards for anonymous tip information about criminal activity and provides it to investigators in the communities of Metro Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

People can leave anonymous tips in a variety of ways including Crime Stoppers' smartphone app, calling Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477, online at solvecrime.ca, by following the link on the Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers [Facebook page](#) or using the new Crime Stoppers tip reporting app. Crime Stoppers accepts tips in 115 different languages. If the information provided results in a charge or an arrest, a cash reward may be offered. Tipsters stay anonymous by using code numbers to collect their rewards.

Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers is not the police and operates solely on funds donated or generated through fundraising events. Tax-deductible donations are gratefully received anytime by accessing the "donate" link at solvecrime.ca. Follow us on Twitter: [@solvecrime](https://twitter.com/solvecrime).

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For media inquiries or interviews please contact:

Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers

Greg Descantes

gdescantes@pacegroup.com

604-417-1379