

For Immediate Release

TIME TO REBOOT YOUR HOME'S SUMMER SAFETY PLAN BEFORE VACATION TIME ARRIVES

Surrey residents in particular need to check and update their status with the "Project Iris" home security camera registry, now that the Surrey Police Service has taken it over

Vancouver, B.C. (June 4, 2026) – With summer on the way, Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers is urging us to check the status of our home security technology, and combine that with some simple things people still overlook when it comes to vacation-time home security.

Digital video recorders using wireless Internet Protocol (IP) cameras, and systems like garage door keypads with cameras are increasingly widespread. They should be checked and further augmented with some common-sense, "lower tech" solutions to prevent crime while you're away from home.

Linda Annis, Executive Director of Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers points out keeping information up to date is important for those who have enrolled in **voluntary closed-circuit television (CCTV) camera registries**. Programs like ["Project IRIS"](#) in Surrey, [Delta's Community Watch Program](#) and [Port Coquitlam's CCTV Registry](#) are examples. They allow police to know which homeowners in a given neighbourhood have security cameras and are willing to share video evidence with police during a local crime investigation. All information is confidential, and police do not have access to any home security recordings without the owner's consent.

Surrey residents in particular who have signed up under the original 2016 **Project IRIS** campaign will need to update their information. "The program was initiated by the City of Surrey but has now been transferred to the Surrey Police Service. However, the camera information that had been collected and managed by the City has not been simply handed over to police to protect the privacy of those who have signed up," Annis says. "The SPS is urging everyone who's participated in Project Iris to contact them and re-register at the Project Iris page on the Surrey Police website: [Project IRIS | Surrey Police](#). This is also the location where people can register for the first time, quickly and easily and support safety in their community."

While digital systems provide an extra blanket of security, it's important not to ignore our usual common-sense steps to prevent becoming victims of burglars and porch pirates during the summer," Annis says.

“Crooks don’t go on vacation. If you notice something out of the ordinary in your neighbourhood, or have information about who’s behind any crime, send an anonymous tip to Crime Stoppers. If your tip leads to an arrest, you may be eligible for a reward of up to \$5,000.”

Additional preventive measures:

- Make sure boxes from **online deliveries** are quickly picked up from your doorstep to thwart porch pirates. Ask a neighbour to pick them up if you leave town and return the favour when they go away. Make your home look “lived in” while you’re away
- Resist the urge to post your **vacation pictures on social media** until you’re back. Nothing says “I’m not home” louder than pictures of you in a faraway holiday destination
- Make sure your car and garage doors are **closed and locked up tight**, along with doors and windows on your home, and the connecting door between the house and your garage
- Trim your shrubs to **eliminate hiding spots**, and **don’t leave bikes or barbecues** in your yard to be stolen

About Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers

Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers is a non-profit society and registered charity that receives anonymous tip information about criminal activity and provides it to investigators. Anonymous tips may be provided through Crime Stoppers’ downloadable “**P3**” **app for Apple and Android phones**, calling Crime Stoppers at **1-800-222-8477**, online at solvecrime.ca, or by following the link on the Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers [Facebook page](#).

Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers accepts tips in 115 different languages and will pay a reward of up to \$5,000 for information leading to an arrest, a charge, recovery of stolen property, seizure of illegal drugs or guns, or denial of a fraudulent insurance claim. Find MVCS on (Twitter): [@solvecrime](https://twitter.com/solvecrime), Instagram: [metrovancouvercrimestoppers](https://www.instagram.com/metrovancouvercrimestoppers) and You Tube: [@metrovancouvercrimestoppers](https://www.youtube.com/metrovancouvercrimestoppers).

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