



**For Immediate Release**

**AS OF METRO VANCOUVER CRIME STOPPERS' 42<sup>nd</sup> ANNIVERSARY,  
ALMOST 150,000 ANONYMOUS TIPS HAVE LED TO THOUSANDS OF ARRESTS  
AND HALF-A-BILLION DOLLARS IN PROPERTY AND DRUGS SEIZED**

**Vancouver, B.C. (May 4, 2026):** Since the day it was established in 1984, Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers has been collecting ANONYMOUS tips every day and forwarding them to police to solve crimes, keep people safe, and recover stolen property, drugs and illegal weapons.

“Crime Stoppers has been a huge success for 42 straight years because it guarantees anonymity for everyone who calls us, and that allows tipsters to trust us with their valuable information,” said Linda Annis, Executive Director of Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers. “In fact, the Supreme Court of Canada supports the anonymity of every tipster, allowing them to provide important information without fear of reprisal.”

Greater Vancouver Crime Stoppers, as the local organization was called at first, was established officially on May 23, 1984, primarily through the efforts of former Vancouver Police Chief Bob Stewart. Records dating back to the beginning reveal almost 8,500 arrests and half-a-billion dollars in stolen property and drugs seized.

**SINCE 1984**

- Number of Tips: 149,059
- Number of arrests: 8,497
- Number of Charges laid: 4,082
- Total Property and Drugs Seized: \$535,826,825

Today Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers collects upward of 5,000 tips a year, and the latest stats show the numbers for 2026 so far are right on track.

**2026 TO DATE:**

- Number of Tips: 1,839
- Number of arrests: 9
- Number of Charges laid: 5
- Total Property and Drugs Seized: \$52,000
- Total Cash Seized: \$198,205

“Not one person who’s called Crime Stoppers in the past 42 years has ever been identified to police or anyone else, a testament to the stability and growth of the program to this day. When the program started, tipsters called a single telephone number with information. Today, we’ve expanded by adding online reporting and our own mobile phone app for submitting tips. We take telephone tips in 115 languages day and night, and offer rewards of up to \$5000.”

## A HALF-CENTURY AGO: IT WAS A CANADIAN POLICE OFFICER WHO DREAMT UP THE IDEA OF ANONYMOUS TIPS TO SOLVE CRIMES

The worldwide Crime Stoppers movement started in 1976 with a single case. Greg MacAleese, a Canadian-born police officer working in Albuquerque, New Mexico sold his chief on the idea of soliciting ANONYMOUS tips about an unsolved gas bar robbery and murder. Although the crime had been committed in a well-travelled area, no one had called police. So, he staged a late-night reenactment of the crime on a local TV station and offered a reward to motivate people to provide information anonymously. The crime was solved by next morning, and the Crime Stoppers concept was born.

Today, there are more than 1,700 Crime Stoppers programs operating in 32 countries.

### **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" smartphone app**, calling Crime Stoppers at **1-800-222-8477**, online at [solvecrime.ca](http://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 X: [@solvecrime](#), Instagram: [metrovancovercrimestoppers](#) and You Tube: [@metrovancovercrimestoppers](#).

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