



ABBOTSFORD
POLICE DEPARTMENT

STRENGTH IN COMMUNITY

PRESS RELEASE

Abbotsford Police Department
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Abbotsford Police Expand Bait Property Program Following Successful Pilot

Abbotsford, BC – November 25th, 2025 – Following a highly successful year-long pilot, the Abbotsford Police Department's **Patrol Branch** has officially expanded its Bait Property Program. Initially launched as a pilot project, the program is now a core strategy within Patrol to more effectively target property crime on the frontlines.

The initiative uses **GPS-enabled bait items**, such as bicycles, tools, and equipment, strategically placed in areas experiencing higher theft rates. These items help officers identify and arrest repeat offenders—individuals responsible for a significant portion of local property crimes. The program was funded through the Province of BC Civil Forfeiture Office's police equipment grants, ensuring there was no additional cost to Abbotsford taxpayers.

Property crimes involving tools, equipment, and bicycles can have a serious impact on residents who may not have the means to replace stolen items. By targeting chronic offenders, the Bait Property Program aims to reduce these crimes and increase community safety.

Pilot Program Results:

- **37 deployments** year-to-date, resulting in **11 arrests**.
- Of these, **15 deployments** used older bait items, while **22 deployments** utilized new items purchased through the Civil Forfeiture grant.
- With the new equipment, arrests occur in **over 30% of deployments**.
- To date, **11 guilty pleas** have been secured, reducing court time for officers and sparing victims from testifying.

"These results show that the program is working," said Sergeant Alton. "We're holding repeat offenders accountable while protecting our community from the financial and emotional impact of property crime."

The Abbotsford Police Department remains committed to **innovative strategies** that reduce crime, enhance public safety, and ensure offenders face consequences.



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