

**Abbotsford Police Department** 

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"Protecting with Pride"

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## APD NEWS RELEASE:

APD FILE #

RELEASE # 1

DATE OF RELEASE: May 14, 2009

## Incident: Abbotsford Police Establish Help Line

## Abbotsford – May 14, 2009.

Today Abbotsford Police Chief Rich led a press conference to address the community concerns around youth involvement in gang activity. A key component of the Chief's message was that some of Abbotsford's youth that are involved in gang activity and the drug trade are in significant danger that is worthy of a public warning. The message to them is that they must speak to a parent, a teacher, a counselor, a coach or a police officer to change the direction of their lives.

The Abbotsford Police Department, the City of Abbotsford and the Abbotsford School District have established a Youth Help Line: 604-864-4787 to help kids who want out. Parents, friends and youth involved in these activities are encouraged to call this number to break free of circumstances that put them at risk.

The same community partners have also distributed a letter signed by the Mayor, the Police Chief and the Chair of the Abbotsford Board of Education advising parents and others of today's significant announcements. A flyer is also being distributed in conjunction that letter which includes Help Line contact information.

Additional information and links are available on the City of Abbotsford, Abbotsford School District and Abbotsford Police Department websites.

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