



Abbotsford Police Department

2838 Justice Way, Abbotsford, B.C. V2T 3P5 Phone (604)859-5225 Fax (604)859-2527

Bob Rich
Chief Constable

Richard J. Lucy
Deputy Chief Constable

"Protecting with Pride"

NEWS RELEASE

APD NEWS RELEASE:

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RELEASE # 1

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Incident: Statistics Canada CMA Crime Stats 2008

Abbotsford – July 21, 2009.

This morning Statistics Canada released CMA (Census Metropolitan Area) Crime Statistics for 2008. Amongst CMA's Abbotsford – Mission had the second highest Crime Severity Index of the 33 CMA's at 142.5, Abbotsford – Mission had the sixth highest Violent Crime Severity Index of 122.9, and Abbotsford – Mission had the highest Homicide Rate of 4.7.

It is important to look at these CMA statistics along with statistics for individual communities.

The Crime Severity Index for local municipalities (with urban core over 10,000 population in 2008) is as follows:

Rank	Population	City	Overall CSI	Violent CSI
15	25,439	Langley	180.2	120.5
16	36,439	Mission	176.9	152.2
20	100,771	Victoria	168.2	155.8
24	76,721	Chilliwack	157.9	105.2
30	424,387	Surrey	144.7	159.0
34	627,426	Vancouver	141.3	176.2

***Our Mission:
To make Abbotsford the safest city in B.C.***

Rank	Population	Police Service	Overall CSI	Violent CSI
40	63,129	New Westminster	136.7	154.6
48	132,884	Abbotsford	133.0	114.8
59	218,848	Burnaby	119.4	133.5
62	101,016	Langley Township	116.0	78.4

- see attached document for all urban core rankings in Canada

The Abbotsford Police Department has established the goal of reducing violent crime and homicide rates. In Abbotsford the majority of our homicides in 2008 were gang related and the victims were engaged in high risk behaviour. Dismantling and suppressing gangs and the associated violence is going to take the concerted efforts of police, government, educators, communities, families and individuals over the long-term. In 2008 and Year to Date 2009, through work done with Provincial task forces and by APD charges were laid against 22 gang associates living in the City of Abbotsford.

The Abbotsford Police Department has made tremendous strides in dealing with property crime. Year to Date (comparing 2008 to 2009) we have reduced break and enters by 50%, auto theft by 30% and overall property crime by 25%. These reductions were the result of working with community partners and through targeted policing initiatives. Similar work is underway to deal with gang crime as well. We recognize that this will require a long term effort and investment.

Abbotsford is a safe city to live in, work in and to visit. Your safety in any community, Abbotsford included, will be influenced by the choices you make regarding gangs, drugs and criminal activity.

Cst. Ian MacDonald: Phone (604) 864-4721 Abbotsford Police Public Information Officer Cell: (604) 835-6070 2838 Justice Way, Abbotsford, BC V2T 3P5 Fax: (604) 859-2527 E-mail: imacdonald@abbypd.ca
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