



Abbotsford Police Department

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"Protecting with Pride"

NEWS RELEASE

APD NEWS RELEASE:

APD FILE # 2009 – 41985

RELEASE # 1

DATE OF RELEASE: October 31, 2009

Incident: Suspect Dies after Engaging in Dangerous Driving

Abbotsford – October 31, 2009.

On October 30th at 10:30 pm a Ford Explorer driven by a 57 year old man evaded a Counter Attack police road block on Sumas Way in the underpass of Highway #1. The man proceeded westbound in the eastbound lanes of Highway #1 narrowly missing other traffic head on. The driver then took an emergency turnaround off of Highway #1 near Peardonville Road and then continued eastbound in the westbound lanes. In making this manoeuver the driver collided with an unmarked Abbotsford Police vehicle that was travelling westbound. Still the driver continued the wrong way on Highway #1 in the path of oncoming traffic. One marked police vehicle followed the driver at a distance with his emergency lights activated as a means to warn oncoming traffic. The weather conditions and wet roads made this already hazardous situation much worse.

Members of the Abbotsford Police Department deployed a "stop stick" near No. 3 Road and Highway #1. This caused the Ford Explorer to sustain tire damage and ultimately come to a stop a short distance away. Officers approached the vehicle and as they removed the driver, who was the lone occupant of the vehicle, they observed wounds to his chest and a knife inside the vehicle. As the driver was bleeding, the officers immediately called for an ambulance. Unfortunately the driver died while en route to hospital.

The investigation is being assumed by the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team as this may be viewed as an "in custody" death. The driver's wounds are believed to have been self-inflicted although all possibilities are being investigated. His name will not be released at this time as next of kin notifications have not been completed.

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