

Abbotsford Police Department

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

"Protecting with Pride"

NEWS RELEASE

APD NEWS RELEASE:

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RELEASE # 1

DATE OF RELEASE: May 1, 2012

Incident: Young Girls Approached by Men

Abbotsford – May 1, 2012.

The Abbotsford Police Department is investigating two events that occurred in the past week where adult males approached young girls and offered them rides. Although neither incident constituted an explicit luring attempt, both were disturbing in that strangers made contact with girls and tried to get them into their vehicles.

On Wednesday, April 25, 2012 between 4:00 and 5:00 pm, a 12 year old girl was walking in the area of McKenzie Road near Victory Boulevard. A man driving a newer model, dark SUV pulled up next to the girl and asked her if she wanted a ride. The girl ignored the man and continued on her way. The suspect is described as South Asian, 30-40 years of age, clean shaven with sunglasses.

On Sunday, April 29, 2012, at 7:00 pm a 15 year old girl was walking home from work in the area of Vinewood Street and Ware Street. The girl noticed a newer model, red van driving slowly beside her. A man called out to her 2-3 times asking her if she needed a ride and suggesting that she get in. The girl refused and the man drove away. The suspect is described as Asian, late 40's or early 50's, dark hair, wrinkles and was wearing a dark coloured jacket. The man spoke with a distinct accent and struggled with his English.

Investigators are looking to identify these men. Anyone with information should call Abbotsford Police at 604-859-5225. In addition, these incidents should also serve as a reminder to parents to discuss personal safety with their kids, to encourage to parents to walk with their children or to arrange for their children to walk in pairs or groups. More safety information can be found on our website <u>www.abbypd.ca</u> or by following the link <u>http://www.abbypd.ca/Crime-Prevention-Tips-For-Individuals</u>

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