

Abbotsford Police Department

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"Protecting with Pride"

NEWS RELEASE

APD NEWS RELEASE:

APD FILE # 12- 4614

RELEASE #3

DATE OF RELEASE: July 26, 2012

Incident: APD determines Sexual Assault Incident was Bogus

Abbotsford – July 26, 2012.

On the afternoon of Friday, February 3, 2012 the Abbotsford Police Department received a report of a sexual assault which had occurred in the downtown core of the city the previous evening. The 19 year old victim stated that she had been grabbed, pushed into a vehicle and taken to a parking lot where she was sexually assaulted by two South Asian men. The seriousness of this incident precipitated a large resourcing response from the Abbotsford Police Department. Numerous officers were tasked with investigative duties, our Forensic Identification Unit gathered evidence and produced composite sketches of the suspects and two News Releases were generated in order to make the public aware of the incident and to obtain tips and information. Most importantly, Major Crime detectives carried the responsibility of working every lead and guiding the five plus months of investigative work.

After all of those efforts by the APD and the community, it has now been determined that the incident was fabricated. We share this information not to cause shame or embarrassment for the woman but to provide this important conclusion to the citizens of Abbotsford who were undoubtedly impacted. Incidents such as this are obviously a tremendous waste of police resources but they also create concern and fear for people. The Abbotsford Police Department continues to encourage people to call their police department and we commend the courage that it takes for legitimate victims to come forward. We want to remind the others that diverting police resources to bogus events can impact our ability to help those who truly need it.

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