



Abbotsford Police Department

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Bob Rich
Chief Constable

"Protecting with Pride"

NEWS RELEASE

APD NEWS RELEASE:

APD FILE #

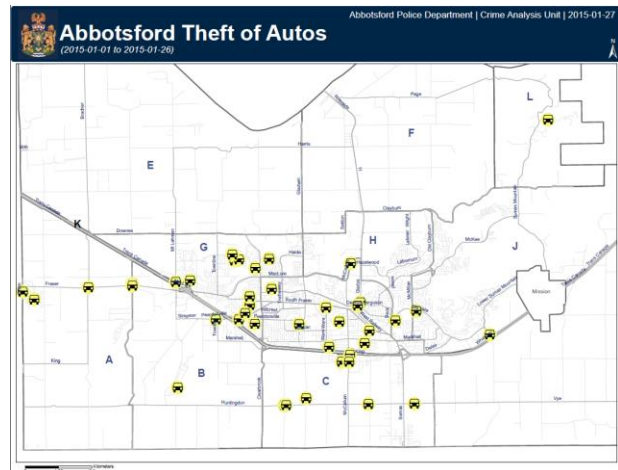
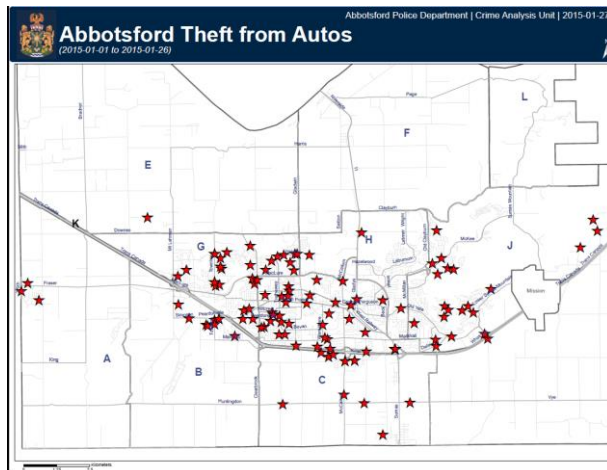
RELEASE # 1

DATE OF RELEASE: January 28, 2015

Incident: Auto Crime Up Significantly in 2015

Abbotsford – January 28, 2015

So far 2015 has not been a very good year for Auto Crime in the city of Abbotsford. There have been 121 Theft from Vehicle incidents this year compared to 98 in the same number of days in 2014. This represents a 25% increase. The Theft of Vehicle numbers are even more concerning. There have been 44 stolen vehicles reported in 2015 compared to 27 in 2014. This represents a 62% increase. (See incident maps below)



The Abbotsford Police Department is conducting extra patrols and has focused resources on offenders known to engage in auto crime. That said we believe that crime prevention through awareness and education is an integral part of the solution.

Citizens can take some basic steps to help combat these trends and to protect their property. In the vast majority of Theft from Vehicle incidents, the vehicle was not locked. Thieves only had to force their way into vehicles 25% of the time. By simply removing valuables and locking their vehicle's doors, these numbers would be dramatically reduced. Similarly, most of the stolen

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vehicles did not utilize an anti-theft device, and many vehicles fell within the make and year categories which made them eligible for a free anti-theft device from APD. Locking vehicles up and locking thieves out are ways that we can work together to reduce these crimes.

More information about the free APD anti-theft devices can be found here: <http://ow.ly/HMF95>

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