



COMMITTEE REPORT

To: **Mayor Schaffer and Councillors**

Subject **Crime Prevention Recommendations**

From: Crime Prevention Task Group

Date: September 27, 2017

File #: 17-050
Doc #:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION A:

THAT the Task Group recommend that Council direct staff to investigate an information sticker for residents which would include RCMP non-emergency contact information and a space to write their own civic address.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION B:

THAT the Task Group recommend that Council direct City staff to investigate with Fraser Health, the possibility of a pilot program which would install needle drop boxes in areas where there is a pattern of discarded needles; and

THAT a public education component precede the pilot program.

SUMMARY: RECOMMENDATION A

On September 21, 2017, during the Crime Prevention Task Group meeting the Chair advised that the recommendation to purchase fridge magnets to use to promote suspicious activities to the RCMP was not presented to Council. The Chair stated that he had not presented the recommendation to Council as he had learned that the community police office uses bookmarks for this purpose and that the magnets may be redundant.

The committee discussed the need for something visible that can be accessed right away, particularly in a situation that maybe stressful and require immediate action. The committee noted that something that could be placed on the fridge or phone would be a better option than a bookmark especially for the senior population that does not always have cell phones.

The RCMP noted that they provide stickers to businesses that include the RCMP non-emergency telephone number and a place to write their civic address.

There was a discussion about producing a similar sticker that could be available for residents.

SUMMARY: RECOMMENDATION B

On September 21, 2017, during the Crime Prevention Task Group meeting, the Chair advised that a public health nurse from Fraser Health contacted him via Facebook and offered information from a research paper about the disposal of used needles in public spaces. The handout was entitled “Assessing a drop box programme: A spatial analysis of discarded needles” and a hard copy was provided to task group members for review. The Chair noted that the report indicated that unsafely discarded drug injection equipment has been associated with personal and public health risks and up to a 98% reduction of discarded needles in areas where a drop box was installed.

After review of the research paper the committee discussed the possibility of having a pilot project where needle drop boxes would be installed in areas where they are most often discarded. It was agreed that any such program should be precipitated with a public education program.

