# RCMP & First Nations Policing Are Here to Help

# Call your RCMP when . . .

### A crime is about to be committed

You should call the police when you believe a crime is about to be committed or has been committed. We would much rather hear from people BEFORE the crime than after the crime. For example, if you see a person you don't recognize in your neighborhood looking into parked cars or yards, call us. We would rather try to catch them and identify them before they steal the car, rather than have to chase them (endangering lives) after they steal it.



## People makes choices that affect your quality of life

You should also call us about disturbing choices people make that can affect your quality of life. If someone puts their stereo on so loud it bothers you, you should go ask them to turn it down, and if they don't, call us. If there is a loud party next door and they keep waking you up, call us to make them turn down the noise or break up the party. Call us if you have drug dealing or criminal activity in your neighborhood. You should not have to put up with that behaviour.

If there is an ongoing problem a letter or email to the chief or band manager will usually get the ball rolling. First Nation's Policing officer Angeal Rabut has office space at the Kitsumkalum Health Centre - feel free to stop in to speak with her there. You can also wave down a police officer and tell them what the problem is. We are public servants that work for you. A lot of serious crimes have been solved because a citizen passed along information to a police officer.

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### When to Call 911:

The general rule to call 911 is when there is a threat to life or property, such as an accident, a crime, a fire, or a medical emergency.

- 1. A fire breaks out. Any fire even a tiny grease fire in your kitchen. A fire can grow and spread rapidly, so call right away even if you think you can put out the flames on your own.
- **2. A medical emergency.** Call 911 immediately for any life-threatening medical problem. These include chest pain, choking, difficulty speaking, drowning, numbness, poisoning, sudden intense pain, severe burns, a suicide threat, overdose, and other serious medical problems.
- **3. You witness a crime or possible crime.** If you see an assault, a burglary or even a suspicious person lurking, call 911.
- **4. If you're in or you see a car crash**, especially if someone is hurt or feels dizzy or unwell. For a fender bender where you're 100 percent sure everyone is OK, you can call the police directly.

### Here's what to do:

- 1. **Know your location.** "Where is your emergency?" Dispatchers ask because location is the top piece of information they need to send help. That's especially important if you're calling from your cell phone because the dispatcher might not be able to pinpoint exactly where you're calling from. If you don't know where you are, look for buildings, landmarks and street signs.
- **2. Answer the dispatcher's questions.** Dispatchers ask a lot of questions, but they have important reasons for each one. Your answers help the dispatcher determine what kind of help you need, and how much. The response to help you will be better and faster.
- **3. Follow instructions.** The dispatcher is trained to help keep you safe and explain how to do first aid while help is on the way. For example, they can instruct you on how to do CPR, walk you through the Heimlich maneuver to help a choking victim, or tell you how to stop bleeding.
- **4. Never Hang Up.** Even if you called by mistake, don't hang up on a 911 dispatcher. We have an obligation to investigate and your misdial can end up taking time away from actual emergencies. To minimize that time, always remain on the line until the dispatcher tell you it's OK to disconnect.

### When NOT to call 911:

- 1. A loud party or barking dog
- 2. A power outage
- 3. Burst water pipes
- 4. To ask about paying a ticket
- 5. You have cold or flu symptoms
- 6. Someone has a minor cut