

RCMP & First Nations Policing Are Here to Help



CALL RCMP WHEN . . .

You should call the police when you **believe a crime is about to be committed or has been committed**. For example, if you see a person you don't recognize in your neighborhood looking into parked cars or yards, call the police. Preventing crime and stopping it before it happens is the ultimate goal.

You should also call police when **your quality of life is affected by other people's poor choices**. For example, if someone is making an unreasonable amount of noise that is bothering you and you've already asked them to stop and they haven't, call police. Or, if there is a loud party next door and they keep waking you up, call your police. Or, if you have drug dealing or criminal activity in your neighborhood, call police.

There are many ways we can help you. That is what we are here for. And, you don't necessarily have to call. If there is an ongoing problem a letter or email to the chief or band manager will usually get the ball rolling. Or you can stop in at the Health Center and ask to speak with the community policing officer. Or 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