



MERRITT COMMUNITY POLICING OFFICE

MONTH END REPORT

DATE: AUGUST 2019

CPO Programming

Our volunteers were involved in several events this month. The most active involved the Friday Night Markets where volunteers, under the umbrella of our local Crime Stoppers Society, set up the road barricades, patrolled, and cleaned up following the market. We found that the vendors and attendees were quite respectable to the space and most garbage looked like it was a result of smokers discarding cigarette butts and from the previous weeks streets activities, not specifically related to the market.

Citizen on Patrol remain able to cover weekend evening patrols and several daytime weekday patrols occur. We are hoping to increase the weekday patrols beginning in September with a new younger volunteer who has joined the team while he continues his education online and hopes to become involved in law enforcement in the future.

Speed Watch

The speed signs were deployed to 11 locations throughout the month. All but one was done by the new sign which does not require volunteers to sit at the roadside. A total of 59,045 vehicle speeds were checked with 3,045 going more than 10km over the posted speed limit. The more detailed reports have been forwarded to both the detachment and ICBC in Kamloops.

Areas of deployment included:

- Merritt Princeton Hwy (during Rock'n River)
- Voght St @ Grimmer EB & WB
- Armstrong St NB & SB
- Hwy 8 at the hitching post
- Parker Dr
- Reid Ave NB & SB
- Quilchena Ave EB & WB

NVSSS (Nicola Valley Shelter and Support Society)

The Endeavour to be Better program, being run in partnership with Nlaka'pamux Health Services, interacted with 81 different individuals this month. John and his team hosted a morning check in and meal involving these individuals. Twenty-one of them continued their connection with the center to take part in afternoon events focusing on improving wellness for each participant. Twenty-five activities were available to participants and the 21 who were active did so 60 times over the month. Program statistics show that 37 of these individuals have ties to surrounding first nations bands, 22 are non-first nations and the remaining were either not willing to disclose or it is unknown. The challenges of this team remain that the personal needs of Clients and scheduled activities sometimes conflict and that clients sign up for activities but have a lack of follow-through. At this time, this is the most accessible "outreach"

program taking place in Merritt and it is our hope that this team can connect and provide supports to individuals when they feel that they need them.

Smart Step

Smart Step wrapped up at the end of August. Kyra Etchart was our Smart Step Youth Director and she has now moved on to further her education. This group was able to take on the following projects during their summer activities.

- Attended the Friday night market twice to help publicize their program
- Did several Q101 radio messages
- Arranged to have a bench built and then painted it with the participants names. This is currently in the garden beside the cpo but could be placed anywhere.
- Arranged a community music event in Spirit Square – which was well attended by the public
- Organized their weeklong sports camp
 - This event was held, once again at MSS. Each day 5-6 youth involved in the Smart Step program hosted approx. 20 youth for several hours in the field to take part in sports activities.

Funding and supplies for this year's program came from ParticipACTION, private donations, Rock'n River Music Festival and the Federal Government through the Canada Summer Jobs program.

Upcoming:

September 15th – Mcgoran Place Block Watch yearly meeting

September 20th – Seniors fraud presentation in partnership with ISCU

October 25th – Halloween Spooktacular / safety information booth

Total Occurrences at the CPO: 121

Volunteer Hours: 230.5

respectfully submitted by:

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