



CCOPA NEWS Spring 2025

For Citizens On Patrol and Crime Watch Volunteers

Thanks

To the following groups who recently responded with support, we thank you. The donation you have made will allow CCOPA to take further steps in providing the best source of learning materials to reinforce the strength of the local groups. We urge others to follow the lead here to make a small donation anytime. To better understand your community, here is a little tidbit about each of you.

Recent donations from:

Pincher Creek, AB Pincher Creek is a [town](#) in [southern Alberta](#), Canada. It is located immediately east of the [Canadian Rockies](#), 101 km (63 mi) west of [Lethbridge](#) and 210 km (130 mi) south of [Calgary](#).

In the [2021 Census of Population](#) conducted by [Statistics Canada](#), the Town of Pincher Creek had a population of 3,622, a change of -0.5% from its 2016 population of 3,642.

Gull Lake, AB Gull Lake is centrally located between [Edmonton](#) and [Calgary](#) and lies in two counties. A summer village of 226 people.

"Getting to know you" will be the theme over the next few newsletters where we will be highlighting a member of the CCOPA Board of Directors followed by the Chair Persons of local COPs groups. Once we have embarrassed the Board members, then we will ask for input from you so you can do the same.

Any other themes that come to mind, drop me a note.

Editor

EXHIBIT "A" - VOLUNTEER (S)



The Battlefords RCMP held an open house on Friday, May 9 to help support the Citizens on Patrol Program (COPP) and Concern for Youth program (File Photo/BattlefordsNOW staff).

BADGES, BURGERS AND BEAUTIFUL WEATHER

By Austin Mattes

Photo from a recent RCMP Open House & BBQ that Battlefords COPP provided workers for. COPP person pictured is Paul Robertson, our Vice-Chair (2nd from right).

Space dedicated to all the firefighters who are battling and may be called to fight our forest fires this summer.

Be safe out there!



New Nova Scotia provincial logo



First new COP Community Group in 10 years. Trained on April 30 at RCMP Yarmouth Detachment and ready to patrol the Town of Yarmouth on May 1.

Far Left : Loring Day, President NSCOPA, Cst. Brandi Belliveau, RCMP Yarmouth Wearing the Balman shirt: Adrian Banerjer, Team Lead COP Yarmouth

STRATHCONA COUNTY CITIZENS ON PATROL

We salute the Strathcona County Citizens on Patrol group who are one of the leaders in the COPs movement in Canada. As part of the Alberta COPs group, they have been fortunate to use the technology developed by ACOPA in its developing stages .

For our out of province members, here is your geography lesson for this issue. Strathcona County is a [specialized municipality](#) in the [Edmonton Metropolitan Region](#) within [Alberta](#), Canada between [Edmonton](#) and [Elk Island National Park](#). It is both urban and rural in nature. Approximately 73% of its population lives in [Sherwood Park](#), which is an [urban service area](#) east of Edmonton, remains an unincorporated [hamlet](#). The balance lives beyond Sherwood Park within a rural service area.

The population of Strathcona County according to its [2024 municipal census](#) is 103,829, a change of 3.5% from its [2022 municipal census](#) population of 100,362.^[5] Its 2024 population includes 75,575 or 72.8% living in the Sherwood Park urban service area and 28,253 or 27.2% in the rural service area.

[5]

Following are pictures and writeups from two of their recent events.



In recognition of Volunteer Week, Strathcona County Citizens On Patrol were treated to coffee and donuts from Liaison Officer Cst. Kristin Appleton at the May patrollers meeting.

Commanding Officer Superintendent Barry LaRoque also attended the meeting and handed out appreciation certificates to every patroller. Superintendent LaRoque is new to the Strathcona Detachment and provided an overview of his background. He made everyone feel welcomed and looking forward to continued support from the local detachment.

This detachment covers the communities of Antler Lake, Ardrossan, Cooking Lake, Good Hope, Halfmoon Lake, Hastings Lake, Josephburg, North Cooking Lake, Partridge Hill, Scotford and Sherwood Park.



Strathcona County Citizens On Patrol have been going into the local high schools and demonstrating to students what is like to drive while the influence of either alcohol or drugs. Students wear special goggles that range from 0.07 to 0.25. Their challenge is to drive a course set between pylons. Stop signs are on the course as well as stuffed animals laying on the side of the "road". The C.O.P. volunteer walks alongside and keeps track of how many pylons and animals

are hit and checks if the student stops at the indicated spots. As well, students "Walk the Line" where they wear the lowest level of goggles and have to walk with their arms down and walking heel to toes along a line with eyes watching a spot at eye level. This is proving to be a very popular event for the C.O.P. group and it is an excellent learning opportunity for the students to test their driving skills "under the influence" in a safe manner.



The perfect sign for your neighbourhood and at entrances to your communities.

Radio COPY YOU CAN USE AS A GUIDE*

[Sound Effect: Police radio chatter fades into upbeat background music]

ANNOUNCER (energetic, trustworthy tone):

Want to make your neighborhood safer? Join Citizens on Patrol! As an extra set of eyes and ears for your Community Policing Service, you'll help prevent crime, promote safety, and strengthen your community, all while on your own schedule. No experience needed, just a commitment to making a difference!

Be part of the solution. Visit nscopa.ca today to learn how you can volunteer with Citizens on Patrol and keep your community safe.

[Sound Effect: Police radio beep, fading out]

ANNOUNCER: Citizens on Patrol, because a safer community starts with you!

25 seconds +5 seconds for Station Community ID

Your Name and contact information

***THANKS TO KEN CASEY FOR INITIATING THIS PROGRAM**

WESTLOCK CITIZENS ON PATROL

Westlock Citizens On Patrol “light Up the Night” Project – 2025

Our group was able to purchase and distribute a total of 384 good quality Solar Lights to community members at NO CHARGE!

As the President of our local Citizens On Patrol group here in Westlock, AB – I have been mulling this idea around in my head for quite some time but the biggest problem was funding. In March of this year, our group was invited to do a presentation to a wonderful volunteer group here in our town known as “100 Women Who Care”. They meet quarterly and always ask three community groups to come and present their idea of providing some sort of project that the folks of our community would benefit from. With 95 women in attendance at that particular meeting each contributing \$100 – our group was chosen to receive the funds in the amount of \$9500.00 !!! We were later notified that the donation amount had gone up to \$9700.00!

Along with the proceeds from our pre-Easter Bingo Event, we had a total of over \$11,000.00 to put towards this project. It is safe to say that folks in our community, both town and rural, were very excited and interested to apply for and then receive a FREE good quality Solar Light! Many, sent emails of thanks to our group members and our volunteer group has certainly gained a lot of attention and acknowledgement as being a valued one to have in the community. Our membership numbers have even gone up!

Distribution was completed in about two months time and we did have a fellow (not even a COP member) that would install the lights for those who could not do it themselves and then he ended up donating his time to do so! A “win – win” situation!

Fortunately, one of our members, volunteered to store the goods at her home in town and have people sign for them when they came to pick them up, a system that worked very well. To have the most people benefit from this program, the limit was set at one light per household.

Not only have the recipients of the free lights benefited from this endeavor, our Citizens On Patrol group members can see the benefits as well while out on patrol at night. Backyards and alleyways that were previously very dark are now better lit up as we are driving by. This helps us to be more effective in our diligence to prevent crime in our neighborhoods! Our local RCMP detachment were very impressed with our group for taking on this project and applaud the benefits of “*Lighting Up the Night*” as well.

*Our group wishes to thank and acknowledge our local Home Hardware store for working with us AND giving us the benefit of selling all those lights to our group at their cost price! We indeed live in a great little community!



Pictured Left: Handing out a free Solar Light to a community member



Picture Right: Garth Kohlsmith, Westlock COP President, Deneen Ducharme, “100 Women Who Care” and Michelle Hartman, Westlock COP Secretary

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