TIPS TO GETTING TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURS

**Have a Block Party**
Block parties are a great way to meet the neighbours and have fun while doing it! Although traditionally held in the summer months, block parties can easily be planned in the winter too! They can be as simple as a BBQ or a potluck, but the benefits from them can be friendships that last a lifetime and a safer community.

If you’re thinking about blocking off the street, contact City Hall at 306-445-1700 and we’ll get you all the information you need. Also check out our website: www.cityofnb.ca for more information.

**Go Door to Door**
You can’t always wait for your neighbours to make the first move. If you’re new to the area, knock on some doors and say hello!

**Get involved in a neighbourhood group**
Getting involved in a neighbourhood group is a fun way to get to know your neighbours. Groups like book clubs, sports teams or even carpools, can lead to positive interactions and great friendships.

REDUCE CRIME IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

The best way to reduce crime in your neighbourhood is to get to know your neighbours. Forming a strong relationship with those who live around you, can ensure that any suspicious activity occurring near your property is noted, and reported.

**IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION**

**RCMP**
For Emergencies: 9-1-1
All other issues: 306-446-1720

**Community Safety Officers**
306-445-1775

**Crime Stoppers Saskatchewan**
1-800-222-TIPS (8477)

**North Battleford Fire Department**
(Non Emergency): 306-445-1770
**IMAGE AND MAINTENANCE**

One of the factors that can greatly increase the likelihood of being targeted by criminals is the state of the exterior of your house. Crime often congregates in areas where there are dilapidated and abandoned buildings in places where it looks like no one cares.

If your property has not been properly maintained, you may be making yourself a target for crime.

There are simple things as a property owner that you can do to improve the image of your property...

- Do not let your grass get too long
- If any garbage or debris is in your yard, make sure you pick it up and put it in the proper bin.
- If any of your property has been vandalized with graffiti, don’t leave it. Try to address it within 48 hours.
- Planting some flowers and maintaining the flower beds is an easy way to show you care.

**LIGHTING**

Another easy way to protect your property, is to make sure that you have adequate lighting for the outside of your home. Motion detector lights placed by the entrances to your home, as well as by any garage doors are a low cost and energy efficient way to ward off potential criminals.

In the past decade, the amount of car thefts that have occurred in Canada has decreased significantly—but that doesn’t mean you don’t need to take certain precautions to protect your vehicle. Take the following tips to heart, to make sure you aren’t a victim of auto theft:

- Always make sure you lock your vehicle’s doors
- Do not keep change in places visible from outside the vehicle
- Remove all valuables anytime you leave your vehicle parked for even short periods of time
- Consider safety devices like “the club,” to further enhance the security of your vehicle, especially if your vehicle does not have an alarm system

**HOME SECURITY CHECKLIST**

Complete this security check on your own residence to find out if your home may be vulnerable to thieves. You may also use this survey to evaluate a home you plan to purchase or rent:

- Inside locks are at least one metre from glass
- Exterior doors have 2.5 cm deadbolts
- Locks have been changed since you’ve moved in
- Windows have auxiliary locks
- Curtains cover windows completely
- Window air conditioners are secured from inside
- Garage door closes tightly and has quality lock
- Remote for garage opener is programmed uniquely
- Keys are removed from vehicle while in the garage
- Shrubs are cut below window level
- Tree limbs are cut above window level
- Residence number is visible from the street and at night
- All entrances to the house and garage are well lit

**VACATION CHECKLIST**

Before you leave on vacation, make sure you have done the following tasks to ensure your house stays safe:

- Stop all deliveries (papers, packages, etc.)
- Inform your neighbours of your vacation
- Arrange for someone to pick up your mail
- Motion detector lights are left on while you’re away
- Consider notifying the RCMP if you are leaving on an extended trip
- Be sure small electronics are unplugged (toaster, coffee maker, etc.)
- Secure valuables in fire-proof safe
- Arm your alarm system (if you have one)