

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Help prevent theft from vehicles this holiday season

*Take steps to ensure your vehicle is not broken into*

#### Summary

The City of Nanaimo is reminding vehicle owners that crime is opportunistic and therefore preventable. The cost and time you may spend on repairs and the replacement of stolen items can be easily avoided. By following some straightforward steps, vehicle owners can ensure that this type of crime is reduced in our community.

*Strategic Link:* Public safety and security is an ongoing priority of the City.

#### Key Points

- Remove all valuables - Never leave anything on display when you leave your vehicle. This is especially important around the Christmas season. For example, no visible gift wrapped packages, shopping bags or mail should be left in clear view.
- Park safely - When parking at home, always use your garage if you have one and lock both your vehicle and your garage.
- Remove portable accessories - Removing stereo face plates, GPS units, cameras and cell phones and locking them in the trunk or taking them with you will deter thieves.
- Install an alarm - Alarms can deter thieves not only from stealing items from your vehicle, but also from stealing your vehicle. Even if you have an alarm installed, never leave anything in your vehicle.

#### Quotes

"By following these few simple steps you can protect your belongings and deter criminals from targeting your property."

Rod Davidson  
Acting Manager, Bylaw Services  
City of Nanaimo

Continued... Help prevent theft from vehicles this holiday season

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