



Royal Canadian Mounted Police – Redwater RCMP Detachment

May, 2021 Release

The Redwater RCMP Detachment received 215 calls for service over the month of May. These calls consisted of 5 break and enters, 10 mischiefs, 7 thefts, 6 theft of motor vehicles, and 9 motor vehicle collisions.

On May 7, 2021 at approximately 2 p.m. Redwater RCMP were dispatched to a gas station located within the town of Redwater to a report of an altercation taking place between two males. Upon arriving the officer located two adult males yelling at each other. The officer was able to calm both males down and separate them without any further incident. The investigation revealed that the first male had pulled into the gas station at a high rate of speed and almost hit two individuals walking towards the store. The first male had then pulled up to the pumps to get gas, and while pumping gas, a second male (one of the individuals that was almost hit) began yelling at him. The second male then approached the male pumping gas while yelling at him about driving too fast and needing to be careful. The two males continued to yell at each other until the second male allegedly punched the first male in the head. The first male then removed the gas hose from the vehicle and allegedly the second male while attempting to spray the second male with gasoline. The second male then went into the store and the first male followed him into the store where another interaction took place that resulted in the second male allegedly punching the first male in the head and police being called. The second male then left the store and entered his vehicle and the first male parked his vehicle behind the second male's vehicle, blocking him until police arrived. As a result, both males were charged criminally for causing a disturbance and the first male was also issued a violation ticket for careless operation of a motor vehicle. All events that occurred outside were captured on video surveillance and the matter is now before the courts.

On May 28 at approximately 6 a.m., Redwater RCMP received a call of a suspicious male walking through alleyways, checking vehicles and looking underneath vehicles. Officers arrived and spoke to the caller who advised that they observed the male attempting to open the doors of vehicles and at one point in time observed the suspicious male laying on the ground underneath a vehicle. The witness stated that the male then left the area walking down the street while checking the doors of numerous vehicles along the way. Police conducted patrols in the area and were able to quickly locate and identify the suspect a short distance away. Police spoke to the suspect who stated that he was looking to purchase a new vehicle and was simply checking out vehicles. As a result of the investigation it was determined that the male suspect was





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not “checking vehicles out as they were intending to purchase a new vehicle” and was charged with mischief under \$5,000. The accused was released on an undertaking, with conditions, to appear in Fort Saskatchewan Provincial Court at a later date.

Redwater Traffic Services would like to remind motorists that construction season has arrived. Please ensure that when entering a construction zone, that you be mindful of workers present and follow the directions of the flag personnel. Flagging personnel are particularly vulnerable to excessive speeds and the fines for contraventions are double the normal amount. Enjoy your drive to your destination and help keep Alberta highways safe.

The Redwater Detachment would like to thank everyone who has taken the time to send emails to the Kredwatercommunityfeedback@rcmp-grc.gc.ca . We appreciate the overwhelming support we see from the communities we police and look forward to addressing any inquiries, questions, and comments that anyone may have. During the month of May we have received some inquiries and want to take some time to answer them.

The first concern raised was concerning the Town of Redwater and area Crime Map in regards to the purpose of the crime map and what offences are actually mapped. In October, 2018 the Alberta RCMP launched its Crime Map Tool for Albertans. The Crime Map enables Albertans to access current and verified information regarding criminal incidents in their neighbourhoods with the hopes that citizens will use the map to develop sound crime prevention habits for their families and their communities, and encourage citizens to report suspicious activities. The RCMP crime map displays reports of theft from motor vehicle, theft of motor vehicle, break and enter, theft over/under \$5,000, mischief and missing person's reports over the last 14 days.

Albertans can access the map through a participating municipality's website. Links for the crime maps are as follows:

- Town of Redwater:
<https://www.redwater.ca/p/rcmp>
- Sturgeon County :
<http://www.sturgeoncounty.ca/Services/Protective-Services/RCMP-Crime-Map>





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- Thorhild County:
<https://www.arccgis.com/home/item.html?id=2e838c97406248f0aa83c4906c11c670>

A second concern raised was regarding the role of the RCMP in regards to enforcement of bylaws enacted by counties and towns. Part of the RCMP's duties include the enforcement of the Criminal Code of Canada, along with numerous other federal, provincial, and municipal legislation, which includes bylaws enacted by towns and counties. During our day to day activities our members prioritize our activities to ensure the safety of Albertans. Fortunately, the Province of Alberta allows municipalities the ability to decide to implement a Community Peace Officer program, which can take such forms as the Town of Redwater Bylaw officer program and both the Thorhild County and Sturgeon County Enforcement Services peace officer programs. When a municipality decides to create one of these programs it is usually as a result of having a certain objective in mind and wanting to supplement or assist police in certain areas such as the enforcement of Provincial legislation or bylaws. These Community Peace Officer programs allow police to focus their time on Criminal and more serious investigations while other Provincial offences and bylaw enforcement are one of the main priorities of the Community Peace Officer programs. If a matter requires immediate attendance and a Community Peace Officer is not available to attend or the Community Peace Officer requires assistance, an RCMP member will provide assistance by attending or assisting with the investigation. When it comes to bylaw complaints, the initial and primary point of contact should be the Community Peace Officer program that covers the area when possible. If the Community Peace Officer program in the area is not available and the occurrence cannot wait to be reported at a later date, the occurrence can be reported to the RCMP detachment and appropriate action will be taken by the members investigating the matter. Appropriate action can range from education of existing Criminal, Provincial, and municipal bylaws to charges being pursued under the appropriate legislation or referring the matter to the responsible community peace officer program to follow up with in the future depending on the circumstances of each occurrence. The following are Community Peace Officer programs in the Redwater area:

- Town of Redwater Bylaw Enforcement: Bylaw Enforcement Officer administers the following bylaws: Dog Control, Community Standards (unsightly, noise, fire pit, sidewalk clearing, etc), Traffic Safety (ATV, parking, vehicle weights, truck route, etc), and some aspects of the Waste Collection, Land Use and Business License Bylaws, as well as the Campground Regulations Policy. Redwater's Bylaw Enforcement Officer engages youth in our schools, our seniors and the general public with education opportunities in the areas of pet safety and care,





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bike safety, senior's safety, ATV safety and wildlife awareness. These programs are made possible through collaborative efforts with many of our community organizations. <https://www.redwater.ca/p/bylaw-enforcement>

- Sturgeon County Protective Services Community Peace Officers: Community Peace Officers (CPO'S) are given specific powers and authorities from the Solicitor General of Alberta, to uphold and enforce certain Provincial Laws and Municipal Bylaws within Sturgeon County. CPO's and RCMP collaborate in partnership to ensure a safe community.
<http://www.sturgeoncounty.ca/Services/Protective-Services>
- Thorhild County Enforcement Services: Community Peace Officers enforce County bylaws and various provincial regulations and enhancing, preserving, and maintaining community standards. Officers investigate and resolve complaints/inquiries, conduct routine preventive patrols, and when necessary, take remedial action or enforcement including warnings/ticketing.
<http://www.thorhildcounty.com/Services/Enforcement-Services/Enforcement-Services>

The Redwater RCMP Detachment is seeking community feedback. In the current world of COVID-19 community engagement events have become a challenge due to social distancing requirements. In order to seek important input from all stakeholders, the Redwater RCMP will be completing monthly police briefs (like this one) in order to keep the public aware of our activities in the communities. In addition we encourage interaction and anyone with any inquiries, questions, comments can contact us at Kredwatercommunityfeedback@rcmp-grc.gc.ca . All email submissions will remain anonymous. During each monthly police brief, members of the detachment will answer a few of the questions asked. We look forward to hearing from you.

