

NOTES FROM MEETING WITH DIDSBURY RCMP- OCT 23, 2014

Cst. Keith Gill; Judy S - CATV

INCIDENTS:

1. B & E – Oct 16 – RR 23 & Twn 300 – Didsbury Rural area. Detached garage. Door kicked in. Targeted tools / power tools/ wrenches. No suspects at this time
2. B & E – Oct 16 – early morning hours Oct 17. RR24 & Twn 310. Didsbury rural area. Shop door kicked in. Welding equipment, tools, power tools stolen. No suspects at this time.
3. Impaired Driver – Oct 19. 12:30 am RCMP received a complaint of a suspected impaired driver. RR52 – near Water Valley. Didsbury RCMP attended and located described vehicle. Driver was 50 year old male from Cochrane. He was issued a 3 day suspension and vehicle & licence was seized and towed.
4. Oct 20 – overnight. A '79 Chev K20 pickup truck was stolen from unlocked quonset on rural property in Carstairs area. Keys in glove box. TV and misc. equipment in back of truck. Neighbors heard vehicle leaving and called owner who called RCMP. At 9 am Oct 20 vehicle was recovered in field on RR20 near Carstairs blind line. It is believed vehicle ran out of gas or broke down as not very mechanically sound.
5. Oct 22 – 4:30 am at rural residence in Mountain View County. A 94 GMC Sierra pick-up truck was stolen. Owner heard truck start and saw it driving away. RCMP attended within minutes but vehicle is still unrecovered. It is believed it would not have gotten very far as in rough mechanical shape. Keys were in vehicle.
6. Oct 22 In Didsbury. Report of a vehicle rummaged through with wallet & change stolen. This is an opportunity for Identity Theft.

It appears that thieves are targeting the Wescott area and taking advantage of crime of opportunity – Keys in vehicles and buildings unlocked. These type of incidents as well as frauds typically increase leading up to Christmas so RCMP are asking residents to please lock up and remove keys from vehicles. Insurance companies do not pay replacement value and residents are finding themselves out of pocket. Cadillac SUV's and Ford 250 & 350's are popular vehicles being stolen, as well as older vehicles without Onstar tracking system.

B & E's and vehicle thefts are believed to be done by multiple people. Thefts are occurring near Highway 2 and suspects blend into heavy traffic quickly.

RCMP are encouraging anyone with information on these incidents to contact them or Crime Stoppers. On a positive note a suspect was arrested for a theft from a store In Olds as the result of a Rural Crime Watch Fan-out with photos.

Meeting with S/Sgt Joe Sangster: Olds will start providing incident reports as well. Need to talk to Sundre RCMP.

Need to talk to Melanie-Brian Hepp & Murray Elliott & Doug Collie re: cooperative working arrangement and info sharing.

Judy Schlichenmayer