

## **Suspicious Occurrences Involving Clown Costumes**

*October 18, 2016*

In recent weeks, Airdrie RCMP has been dispatched to numerous reports and 911 calls throughout the city involving suspicious people dressed up as 'Clowns', or wearing similar costumes and masks. Members have responded to each isolated incident, and they are not believed to be related at this time.

There have been no charges laid to date, however some of these occurrence remain open for further investigation. Although it is not illegal to dress up in any type of costume when done in good fun, it is illegal to harass and intimidate the public. Depending on the severity and particulars of the situation, RCMP will be considering Criminal Code charges including Mischief, Causing a Disturbance or Uttering Threats.

Safety tips the public can follow to avoid any type of confrontation with a suspicious person are:

- If walking on foot, try walking with another person or group, especially if at night
- Carrying a cell phone
- Stay in well lit areas and main roadways or paths
- Be aware of your surroundings
- Call 911 for any immediate ongoing suspicious activity or occurrence

Let's work together to keep our community safe for a happy Halloween for everyone.

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