



TIP OF THE WEEK

Crime Reporting

Every year thousands of crimes occur in Edmonton. Approximately half of all crimes are reported. It is likely that more than 50 per cent of all crimes that take place are witnessed by neighbors looking out of their windows, by a person walking a dog and hearing the sounds of breaking glass, or by a driver observing a person swerving all over the road.

Why don't people report crime? In most cases it is because they don't want to get involved, they are afraid of being wrong, or they are not sure what to do. A five-minute delay in reporting crime reduces the chance of catching a criminal by 65 per cent.

When reporting calls to NAIT Protective Services.

- **Stay Calm** - don't get excited; take a deep breath
- **State the Problem** - "I want to report a crime...."
 - a break and enter
 - a theft
 - an injury
 - a fire
 - a suspicious vehicle or person
- **State the address and who you are.**
 - Give the full location, directions from nearest office or building
 - Give your name, office number, and phone number where you are calling from
- **Let the dispatcher control the conversation.**
 - Answer all questions
 - Give your phone number so an Officer can call back later if necessary
 - Don't hang up - stay on the line. Only hang up when told to do so by the dispatcher.
- **In the event of an emergency, dial 911.**

This information is vital to our Peace Officers. Understand that even though the dispatcher is continuing to gather information from you, officers are already responding to the area to assist you. The dispatcher will also be able to determine if other services are required (Police, Fire, Ambulance, etc.).

Major Factors in describing suspects:

1. Description of Crime
2. Physical Description
3. How suspects left area and direction of travel.
4. Type of weapon
5. Vehicle Involved
6. Vehicle description

Be aware and practice these precautions:

1. Be alert to odd behavior of others.
2. Be familiar with surroundings
3. Be aware of strangers.
4. Be on the lookout for the unusual, such as unfamiliar vehicles, strangers, and unusual phone calls.

How to use 911

The 911 Emergency Line is used to report a life or death situation, a crime in progress, an injury accident, a fire, a call for medical aid and ambulance transport to hospital, or any other emergency situation. When you dial 911 your call will be answered by an Operator saying **"911 Emergency. What service do you require?"**

At this point ask for:

- Police, Ambulance, Fire Department, Any other emergency service (e.g. Hospital, Gas Company, etc.)



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Do not hang up your phone. Your call will be put through to the Emergency Service that you requested.

Use **911** to call the Police if you are reporting:

- A crime that is happening as you speak or a crime that just happened.
- A motor vehicle accident where people are injured.
- An impaired (drunk) driver.
- Suspicious persons or vehicles.
- Any incident that may result in loss of life or injury to any person.
- Be prepared to give the police the following information:
 - your address and name
 - the problem and where it is happening
 - whether anybody is hurt
- Stay on the line. Do not hang up your phone.
- Keep talking with the police until they say it is okay to hang up the phone.

Newer telephones on NAIT Campuses will alert our Officers of a 911 call coming from your area. However, we would ask that either you or someone with you also contact Protective Services at 780-471-7477 if possible and when safe to do so.

Reporting a crime is not a hard thing to do. The dispatcher will "walk" you through the complaint. Remember a five-minute delay in reporting a crime reduces the chance of catching the criminal by 65 per cent. Get involved. Help make our community a safer place for everyone to enjoy.

If you have information regarding a crime, contact Protective Services at 780-471-7477. If you wish to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Your identity will remain anonymous, and if the information you provide leads to a conviction, you could be eligible for a reward of up to \$2000.00.

Everybody benefits, except the criminal.