# CRIME STOPPERS OF GREY BRUCE INC.

**Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce** 

**SPRING** 

2023







## We're Moving Forward!



Bayshore Broadcasting, Germania Mutual Insurance Company, and MacLean's Ales take pleasure in inviting you to attend the 31st Annual Golf Tournament in support of

#### **Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce**

Saugeen Golf Club will be the host venue with tee-off set to go

#### Thursday, June 1, 2023

Through the support of participants and sponsors this annual golf tournament has raised over \$600,000 to benefit this community-based charity.

#### **Tournament Entry Fee includes:**

All golf related activities, all meals, 31st Anniversary Souvenir and all post-play festivities, including the Grand Prize Draw.

Last, but not least, a chance to mingle with the guest celebrities of the day.

This tournament will fill up again this year and you are requested to complete and return the registration form by April 28, 2023.

Thank you for being a past supporter.

The organizers look forward to hosting you and your fellow golfers at Saugeen Golf Club in support of ...

#### **Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce**

TO REGISTER A TEAM OR BECOME A SPONSOR: Please contact Elena DeBono at Germania Mutual Insurance 1-888-418-7770 ext. 260, or CSGBgolf@germaniamutual.com

Joe Dietrich Tourney Co-Chair Evan Hayter Honorary Tourney Co-Chair

Dan Hill Tourney Co-Chair

















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#### **Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce**

## Program Coordinator's Quarterly Report January 1 To March 31, 2023

Drew Kalte - Program Coordinator

#### Tip Statistics For January 1 To March 31, 2023

- Total Tips (Phone, Web, and Mobile, including follow ups): 633
- New Tips (Phone, Web, and Mobile): 168

#### 213 Tips Allocated

(45 tips were allocated to multiple recipients)

Grey Bruce OPP:	(38%)
South Bruce OPP:	(19%)
The Blue Mountains OPP:	(0.5%)
Owen Sound Police Service:	(14%)
Hanover Police Service:	(10%)
Saugeen Shores Police Service:	(10%)
West Grey Police Service:	(5%)
Neyaashiinigmiing First Nation Police:	(0%)
Ontario MNRF:	(1.5%)
Ontario MOF (contraband tobacco):	(0.5%)
Ontario MECP (environment, conservation, parks):	(0%)
OPP Contraband Tobacco	(0.5%)
OPP Historic Crimes:	(0%)
OPP AGCO Investigations:	(0%)
OPP Anti Human Trafficking Unit:	(1%)
• RCMP:	(0%)
CBSA:	(0%)

#### **TIP TOTALS - YEAR TO DATE**

168 new tips have been received during the first quarter of 2023, which is ahead of the first quarter of 2022 by 38 tips.

#### **MEDIA**

- LITE 99.3, Bayshore Broadcasting, Bounce Radio 92.3, Blackburn Radio (Cool 94.5 & 101.7 The One), Shoreline Classics, and Bluewater Radio continue to receive *Crime* of the Week segments that are sent out from our office on a weekly basis.
- Monthly Crime of the Week columns are forwarded to the Bruce County Marketplace magazine.
- Crimes of the Week are being forwarded to the Owen Sound Hub and the Saugeen Times online news, as well as Eastlink TV.

#### **FUNDRAISING**

- Nevada Ticket revenues are declining but continue to assist in funding rewards.
- We applied for funding from the Port Elgin, Hanover, and Owen Sound Walmarts for 2023.
- We applied to the Community Services Recovery
  Fund toward developing a supporter membership initiative
  and upgrading the required technology.

- In the first quarter of 2023 Northern Bruce Peninsula donated to our program, and we are very grateful for their support.
- We have reached out to each of the Police Services
   Boards and Municipalities of Grey and Bruce to request
   funding commitments for our program.
- In the first quarter of 2023 the Kincardine, Hanover, and Owen Sound Royal Canadian Legions generously donated a combined \$2,500 to our program.
- We are planning a summer-long 50/50 raffle, and separate 50/50 raffles in conjunction with four classic car events during the summer.

#### **EVENTS AND PROMOTIONS**

The winter 2023 edition of *TIPSTER Magazine* was released in January. This is the fifth edition of the magazine which features articles and editorials focusing on regional current and historic crimes and community 1safety topics. It has been very well received by our partners and the community.

#### **CRIME STOPPERS BOARD**

With the addition of one new member we currently have ten members on our Board of Directors. We are continuing to recruit new members to the Board and are seeking specific skill sets, such as a Treasurer and people with fundraising experience.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- We will be attending the Meaford 50+ Lifestyle and Leisure Connections Fair on Thursday April 20, 2023.
- Our 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Golf Tournament is set for Thursday June 1, 2023 at Saugeen Golf Club in Port Elgin and arrangements are well underway.
- We are participating in the South Bruce County Classic Car Tour on June 25, 2023; The Bruce Peninsula Classic Car Run on August 13, 2023; and the Keppel Classic Colour Tour on September 24, 2023;
- The Sauble Beach Sunset Cruisers Classic Car Shows on Tuesday nights from June 13 to September 12, 2023.

## **CRIME STOPPERS OF GREY BRUCE Statistics Since Inception May 1987**

Tip Reports	18,001
Arrests	1,767
Charges	2,454
Cases Cleared	2,737
Property Recovered	\$4,624,501
Narcotics Recovered	\$50,173,114
Rewards Approved	\$287,060

## Please don't pay the con artist

#### Over \$72,000 lost year to date in Southern Bruce County

by Cst. Kevin Martin

This is Fraud Prevention month, and the South Bruce Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is asking residents to continue watching out for cons and scams after more than \$72,000 has been sent to scammers, year-to-date, by residents of Southern Bruce County.

Cons and scams are attempted daily through online platforms, by phone, by letter mail, or by fax. The reality is that fraud is a multi-million-dollar enterprise that will only end when the con artists stop making money.

Year to date; Twenty-four fraud reports have been received by the South Bruce OPP. Seven of these scam attempts resulted in total dollar losses of \$72,950. All of these "successful" scams were for the purchase of goods arranged online.

Although scammers will change tactics and come up with new schemes, here are some of the common "tools" in a con artists toolbox:

- Spoofing. Appears to be contact from a friend, legitimate company or even a branch of the government, but it's not. They can manipulate caller-ID to display a number they want. To avoid the scam; end the call and connect with the real person, company, branch of the government. If it's an email, hover over "reply" and see what email address shows up.
- **Urgency.** "Act now", "limited time offer", "click now". The scammer doesn't want you to consider the offer as suspi-

cious. To avoid the scam; time is on your side. Verify the contact BEFORE you go any further.

- Emotional manipulation. Con artists will play on your emotions to get your money. Romance scam, emergency scam, grandparent scam, charity scam. To avoid the scam; be suspicious when they play on your emotions. Check out the Anti-Fraud Centre's A-Z index of scams, maybe this is a listed scam.
- Pop-ups. Boxes that appear on your computer or device screen. "You've won a prize", "your device is infected", etc. A toll-free number is provided for you to call. To avoid the scam; install anti-virus, pop-up blockers, clear your cache, block cookies - when possible. Don't use public Wi-Fi - particularly for online banking. Never call the number in a pop-up.

The South Bruce OPP is offering you some tips to help protect you from a con artist:

- If it sounds too good to be true, it likely is.
- Remember that you can't win a contest that you didn't enter in the first place.
- If you have a concern about your computer, take it to a reputable repair shop for service. Do not provide remote access to a "tech" that calls you out of the blue
- Gift cards are a red flag. If someone contacts you and directs you to buy gift cards, you need to hang up the phone.
- Your best defence is to verify any unsolicited contact. Unsolicited means that you didn't ask for it.

Anyone interested in more information on fraud can contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1 888 495 8501 or check online at http://www.antifraudcentre.ca/.



CRIME**I\*I** STOPPERS

of Grey Bruce Inc

1-800-222-TIPS (8477) www.cstip.ca



Constable Kevin Martin is a Communications officer with the South Bruce Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police.

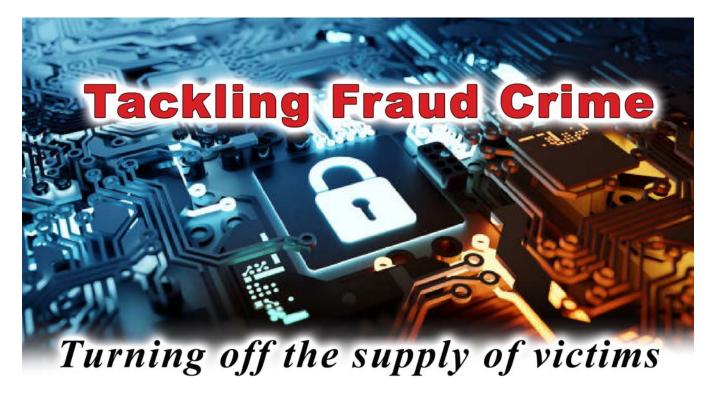
Phone: 519-396-3341 Email: kevin.martin@opp.ca

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lakeshoresauble@gmail.com



by Nicole Brockbank (CBC)

Police and prosecutors work together from the beginning at the Serious Fraud Office.

More than 500 investors from across Canada lost about \$40 million altogether between 2013 and 2017 in a Ponzi scheme orchestrated by a Barrie, Ont., man involving point-of-sale terminals that never existed.

When Charles DeBono claimed he sold the company, Debit Direct, and took off to the Dominican Republic with investors' money, reports flooded at least nine different police services.

"Initially, it was very unorganized," said Peter Hammond,



one of DeBono's victims, who lost \$55,000. "Depending on who you were, and where you were calling from, they'd direct you to one police department or another."

But then, a newly formed initiative that brought police and prosecutors in Ontario together to try and tackle major fraud took on the case and centralized the

investigation. *Project Debit Direct* was one of the first cases the province's Serious Fraud Office (SFO) worked on after forming five years ago.

Last June, after a four-year investigation and prosecution, DeBono was sentenced to seven years in prison, which was cut down to just over four years after he received credit for pre-sentence custody. DeBono was also ordered to pay nearly \$29 million in restitution to victims.

The case exemplifies both the benefits of dedicated fraud resources and specialists working together — and the limitations even those efforts face when it comes to victims recoup-

ing their losses.

"We're going in after the fact where we're fighting uphill," said Det. Supt. Dominic Chong, director of the Serious Fraud Office for the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP).

"We have restrained or seized about \$2.4 million in Canadian funds and about \$4 million US in the Dominican—that's a drop in the bucket."

#### Trying to set precedents

Since its inception in 2018, Ontario's SFO's investigation branch has taken on 12 cases, Chong said, which are generally lengthy and take years. So far, investigators have laid charges in four of those cases. Two are still before the courts, and the other two, which includes the Debit Direct case, ended in convictions.

"I look at the SFO as a centre of excellence for fraud investigation and fraud prevention," said Chong.

"If there is something out there that no other police or law enforcement agencies have tackled before, and if we can successfully address that issue — that kind of sets the benchmark for other agencies and other police services to follow."

Chong credits the SFO's ability to take on those kinds of cases to resources that allow it to overcome some challenges facing other fraud investigators. Unlike other units, the office is self-sufficient when it comes to otherwise shared resources such as digital forensics, includes full-time investigators from both the OPP and several Greater Toronto Area police services and works with dedicated Crown attorneys from the get-go.

"Fraud investigations are very complicated," he said. "It would be very challenging to have a Crown attorney assigned at the end of the investigation and be able to catch up enough to understand a case and be able to effectively prosecute the case."



Det. Supt. Dominic Chong

#### Fraud prosecutors could help address dropped charges

Extending fraud specialization from police to prosecutors is one way to address the roughly half of fraud charges Crown lawyers end up dropping in Ontario, according to the president of the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform.

"You could reduce that substantially if you knew that the prosecutors that are dealing with these cases are specialists in this area, and that they are dealing with judges who also are specialists in this area," said Peter German, a lawyer and former deputy commissioner of the RCMP.

"I think it will reduce a lot of the disclosure problems."

CBC Toronto requested an interview with the SFO's chief

Crown counsel to learn more about how the prosecution side
operates, but Ontario's Ministry of the Attorney General declined the request.

German argues Canada needs a national strategy for financial crime.

"Federal, provincial, municipal governments have to sit



Peter German

down at the table and say, 'this is a significant issue,'" said German. "It's not just for the politicians, it's also for those that work within policing systems, prosecutorial systems, and the courts to advocate what they feel can best deal with this problem."

Last year's federal budget provided \$2 million to Public Safety Canada to begin the initial work of developing and designing a Canada Financial Crimes Agency, which would become the national

enforcement body for investigating complex financial crimes. But at this point the scope of jurisdiction for the proposed agency and how that would affect police services across the country remains unclear.

#### 'Fraud impacts everyone'

Outside of bolstering and fixing enforcement systems, many of the fraud experts CBC Toronto spoke to put just as much or more emphasis on changing the way society thinks about victims.

"We need to create this critical mass in terms of understanding fraud impacts everyone," said Chong.

The OPP — and by proxy, Chong — oversee both the investigations branch and adjunct services for the SFO. The office's adjunct services include crime prevention, public education, training and victim services.

"What we realized when the SFO was established was that the victims of fraud really were not receiving the appropriate support that they need through no fault of anybody, just limited resources," said Chong. "Fraud is often forgotten."

SFO's victim services liaise with the victims in their cases



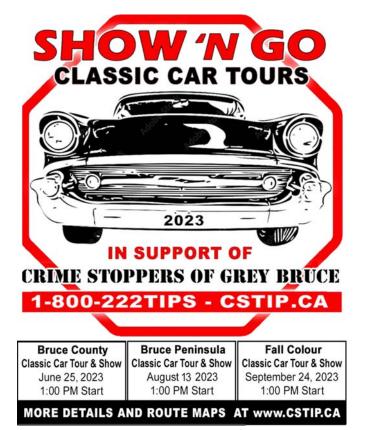
throughout the process, from investigation through prosecution and beyond.

Aline Vlasceanu would like to see that kind of support expanded so fraud victims have access to the same services as other victims of crime.

"The psychological impact, the social impact, the financial impact, the emotional toll that it takes on victims is just as big as if it were a violent crime," said Vlasceanu, executive director of Canadian Resource Centre for Victims of Crime.

Given the limited police resources, Chong sees public education as the strongest tool to fight fraud — whether that be warning bulletins about prominent frauds from the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, or the SFO flagging scams to affected industry groups or communities being targeted.

"What we need to do is turn off the supply of victims, and limit the number of people that can be victimized by fraudsters."





With all demographic groups being expected to use technology for many facets of their lives, Canadians are being increasingly targeted by cyber criminals.

Being able to recognize these techniques will go a long way in helping to combat cyber crimes. In the past decade, technology has completely transformed the fraud landscape, which is more widespread and sophisticated than ever before. With the public's help the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre wants to deliver information, tips and strategies for Ontarians to fight back.

In 2022, the CAFC received fraud reports totalling a staggering \$530 million in victim losses. This was nearly a 40 per cent increase from the 2021, unprecedented \$380 million in losses. In 2021, approximately 75 per cent of all reports the CAFC received were cyber enabled, and this is expected to increased year-over-year. It is estimated that only 5-10 per cent of victims report scams and frauds to the CAFC or law enforcement.

According to the CAFC, in 2022, the top frauds affecting Canadians on a daily basis were:

- Investment frauds represented \$308 million in reported losses in 2022. Ontario victims reported losing over \$136 million.
- Romance frauds represented \$59 million in reported losses in 2022. Ontario victims reported losing over \$20 million.
- Spear phishing frauds (Business Email Compromise) represented \$58 million in reported losses in 2022. Ontario victims reported losing over \$21.1 million.
- Service scams represented \$20.5 million in reported losses in 2022. Ontario victims reported losing over \$8.1 million.

• Extortion frauds represented \$19 million in reported losses in 2022. Ontario victims reported losing over \$4.8 million.

#### How fraudsters use technology

Fraudsters will create spoofed websites, will use spoofed telephone numbers using Voice over internet protocol (VoIP) to mimic legitimate numbers, will have victims download remote entry software providing access to devices and computers or send out phishing texts pretending to be businesses or governments offering refunds.

Dominic Chong, Detective Superintendent, Director of Anti-Rackets Branch & Serious Fraud Office of the Ontario Provincial Police, points out that citizens must be vigilant watching out for predators ever seeking to take advantage of the nieve or vulnerable.

"Fraud continues to devastate lives in Ontario and across this country," Chong says. "One of the best ways to combat fraudsters is to be armed with knowledge, information and awareness. I encourage everyone to learn the information and tips being made available to protect yourself, and to share these with your loved ones to help protect them. Together we can fight back and lessen the impact of fraud on our communities."

"Every year millions of dollars are defrauded from the citizens of Ontario utilizing various means and schemes. Together we can spot fraud and help to prevent our loved ones and friends from becoming victims," Chong concluded.



#### **CANADIAN ANTI-FRAUD CENTRE**

Toll Free: 1-888-495-8501

FRAUD: RECOGNIZE, REJECT, REPORT

### FRAUD PREVENTION MONTH

(OTTAWA, ON) - The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC), Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and Competition Bureau of Canada launched their 19th edition of the Fraud Prevention Month (FPM) in March.

This years' Fraud Prevention Month focused on "Tricks of the trade: What's in a fraudster's toolbox?". The campaign reflects a need to educate and equip Ontario consumers and businesses alike about some of the most common fraud techniques in the marketplace right now.

Readers are encouraged to copy and distribute this material widely.



Caller says they are
 The CANADA REVENUE AGENCY,
 organizations would:

Never request payment by prepaid credit or gift cards.

Never threatens with court charges, jail or deportation.

- Caller claims to be TECH SUPPORT company: Never agree to unsolicited PC or technical support.
- 3 Caller claims to be a BANK INSPECTOR asking you to help catch a criminal:
  Never withdraw money from your account to assist in an undercover operation.
- Caller claims to be your GRANDCHILD in trouble and needs money sent immediately:
  Never send money before verifying details with police or CAFC.

**NOT SURE? HANG UP!** 



- 1 UNKNOWN person at your door: DO NOT open it... Talk through it!
- 2 If approached in YOUR YARD: DO NOT invite them in!
- 3 Suspicious SALESPERSON tries to rush you to buy something: REFUSE!
- Salesperson suggests they are WORKING IN YOUR AREA:

DO NOT believe them... Get Estimates!

FRAUD: RECOGNIZE. REJECT. REPORT.





#### EMERGENCY-GRANDPARENT SCAM

Fraudsters are targeting seniors by calling and pretending to be a family member in distress, the police or a justice official claiming that a loved on or grandchild is in trouble, and needs money immediately. Victims are told there's a gag order, and can't speak to anyone.

#### **PROTECT YOURSELF**



#### Fraudsters...



Call demanding immediate payment for bail, or fines to avoid going to jail.

Remember! The courts won't ask for cash to bail out someone in custody, and will require people to be present in court.



Claim to be a lawyer, police or family member in an energency situation demanding funds.

Be suspicious of call that require immediate actions. Hang up! Call your local police and contac the family member directly.



Request cash and send couriers for pick up, or demand the victim send cash by courier services or via cryptocurrency. Never send cash, cryptocurrencies or any other funds to unkown persons, unverified addresses or bank accounts.

If you believe you have been scammed, contact your local police and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre:

1 (888) 495-8501 / antifraudcentre.ca

FRAUD. Recongize. Reject. Report.

## Multiple vehicle's rolled for catalytic converters



On January 13, 2023, Wellington County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to a report of multiple thefts of vehicle components at a gravel pit in Aberfoyle. Investigators discovered that overnight unknown persons entered the compound, turned over seven vehicles and removed their catalytic converters.

OPP continue to investigate and are asking anyone with information related to this crime or have access to surveillance footage in this area to contact Wellington County OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Investigators are looking to identify a White Ford F-250 single cab, with a steel rear bed liner and toolbox that was in the area.

Any person with information regarding this person should contact the Wellington County OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Should you wish to remain anonymous, you may call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or submit a tip online at www.csgw.tips. You may be eligible for a reward from Crime Stoppers of up to \$2,000.

## REMEMBER

You could be eligible for a reward up to \$2,000 if your tip leads to an arrest or recovery of property.





## 

#### Saugeen First Nation - Break & Enter





On February 27, 2023 at 1:24 a.m. police responded to a break and enter at a business along Highway 21 on the Saugeen First Nation.

Police are seeking to identify one of the involved individuals, described as:

- 30-40 years of age
- Approximately 6 feet tall
- Gray jacket
- Gray ball cap worn backwards
- Running shoes

#### **Arran Township - Truck Theft**



#### VIN # 1GCGK23R2XF059041

Sometime between January 11, 2023 and January 22, 2023, a gray <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> ton Chevrolet Silverado pick-up truck, bearing plates AY80666, was taken from a residence along Concession 4 in Arran Township. The VIN is 1GCGK23R2XF059041.

During the same time period, a red Kawasaki Bayou ATV was taken from an outbuilding on the property. The ATV has no license plate attached, but the serial number is JKALF8C1GVB562452.

#### Meaford - Residential Break & Enter



On January 23, 2023 police began investigating a break and enter that occurred at a residence on Highway 6 & 10 in the Municipality of Meaford.

Police are asking for assistance in identifying a person of interest, described as male, roughly 40-50 years of age, approximately 5 foot 10 inches to 6 feet tall, and wearing a light coloured jacket and toque.

#### Kincardine - Break & Enter, Damage

On February 16, 2023 at 4:07 a.m., police responded to an alarm at a local business on Lambton Street in Kincardine to discover that an unknown individual had gained entry and caused damage to the inside of the building.







Submit a Secure Web-Tip at cstip.ca or get the P3 Tips Mobile App

#### **Huron Kinloss - Break & Enter**



South Bruce OPP are seeking the publics help with a Township of Huron-Kinloss break and enter investigation.

Although police know this individual is wearing a mask, have a look at the photo and see if you can identify the suspect:

#### Port Elgin - Theft (Shoplifting)



Saugeen Shores Police Se vice are seeking the public's help in identifying two males connected to a shoplifting.

On December 28, 2022 two unidentified males entered the Shoppers Drug Mart, located on Goderich Street in Port Elgin. The men proceeded to steal several bottles of perfume, valued at approximately \$800.

#### Georgian Bluffs - Business Break & Enter



On January 7, 2023 police responded to an alarm at Peavey Mart, located on the Sunset Strip in Georgian Bluffs, and discovered that a suspect gained access to the store and broke into a locked glass display, stealing three handgun style BB guns and a pellet rifle, valued at \$568. The suspect fled on foot prior to police arrival.

The suspect was recorded on security video and appeared to be a male in his 30's, wearing a black face covering, red/orange winter jacket, a purple "DC" sweatshirt, gray toque, blue jeans, black shoes, gloves, and a dark coloured backpack.

#### **Chatsworth - Theft (Shoplifting)**





Police received a report of theft that occurred at a retailer in Chatsworth. It was reported that an unknown person entered the store and shoplifted a quantity of goods.

### If you know something say something



Submit a Secure Web-Tip at cstip.ca or get the P3 Tips Mobile App

## **High Value Theft - Exeter**

Over \$10,000 in e-bikes, skateboards and shoes stolen during break & enter



(SOUTH HURON, ON) - Huron County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is actively investiga ting an overnight break, enter and theft that took place in Exeter.

In the early morning hours of Saturday March 18th, 2023, unknown suspect(s) forced entry into a business located on Main Street in Exeter. Once inside the business, the suspect(s) stole a quantity of skateboards, shoes, an Apple iPhone, and two e-bikes. The total value of stolen items exceeds \$10,000.

The two e-bikes are unique as one has orange striping and the other is a light grey colour (shown in photos).

#### ATV STOLEN FROM RURAL PROPERTY

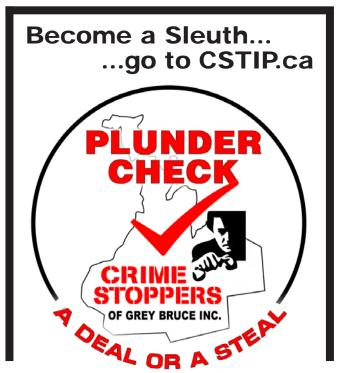


(VIN # 4XASXM95XMB779547)

(ASHFIELD-COLBORNE-WAWANOSH TWP, ON) - Huron County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is investigating the theft of a 2021 Polaris Sportsman All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) from a rural residence located on Dungannon Road in Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh Township.

On March 11, 2023, Huron OPP officers received a report that the machine was stolen sometime overnight on March 10 to 11 from the driveway of a private property. The keys were not with the ATV.

The ATV is grey and orange in colour and is a Highlifter 1000 cc XP model with vehicle identification number (VIN) #4XASXM95XMB779547. It has two light bars and a sound system on the front that make it unique. No licence plate was attached at the time of the theft.



Did you find a deal that is too good to believe? Have you had a car parked on your street or lot a bit too long? How about that car in the lot with no plates on it. Ever wonder if it is stolen? Well here is your chance to be a sleuth in your own neighbourhood.

Take down the serial number attached to the merchandise or vehicle. Make note of the date, time and location you saw the vehicle. Then go to **CSTIP.ca** and click on the **PLUNDER CHECK** button. This will take you to the Canadian Police Information Centre where you will be invited to type in those numbers. If the property is hot or wanted for investigation you will be notified to contact your local police, OR call Crime Stoppers anonymously, supply the location and details where the property can be found.

#### Two snowmobiles and trailer stolen from parking lot



(GODERICH, ON) - Huron County Ontario Provincial Police are investigating the theft of two snowmobiles and a snowmobile trailer from a parking lot in Goderich.

On Sunday March 12, 2023, Huron OPP officers received a report that the snowmobiles and trailer were stolen sometime between 8:00 p.m. and 8:40 p.m. while the owner was grocery shopping at a business on Huron Road in Goderich. The trailer and snowmobiles were connected to the owner's vehicle in the main parking lot area on the south side of the grocery store. The suspect(s) removed a lock that was affixed to the trailer, then stole the trailer and two machines.

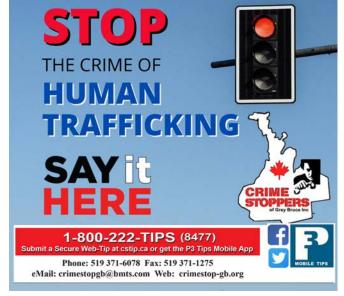
The snowmobiles and trailer are described as follows:

- White 2012 Ski doo 600 bearing Ontario licence plate #8AD969, VIN: 2BPSDDCA6CV000496
- White 2012 Ski doo 600 bearing Ontario licence plate #8AD970, VIN: 2BPSDDCAXCV000498
- Silver 1996 Hyland 8x8 open snowmobile trailer bearing Ontario licence plate #X2633L, VIN: 2H9SS1111SB059200

## Repeat Offender in Thornbury Collingwood area



Can you help identify this individual in relation to a theft investigation in Town of The Blue Mountains and the Town of Collingwood? He was last seen driving a black Lexus sedan.







#### Local Opioid deaths increasing

Seven lives have been lost in seven days due to opioids, four of those in Simcoe County region.

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is issuing a dire warning of the possibility of a highly potent and po-

tentially fatal strain of illicit opioids circulating in central Ontario.

Police say four of the suspected overdoses in the past week were in Huronia West, Orillia, Southern Georgian Bay, and Huntsville.

The ages and genders of the victims was not re-

leased "as the investigations are continuing," OPP stated.

OPP cautions the public that fentanyl is an extremely potent synthetic opioid, up to 100 times more potent than morphine and up to 40 to 50 times more potent than heroin.

Another drug currently on the streets, carfentanil, is a synthetic opioid up to 100 times more potent than fentanyl.

The prevalence of illicit opioids distributed through drug trafficking networks continues to increase, police say.

Fentanyl can be lethal in very small quantities. However, if someone's drug of choice is mixed with or contains fentanyl, it can potentially kill them, experts say.



Opioid users have a higher risk of experiencing an overdose due to fentanyl potency, especially when the fentanyl is illicit and not sourced from a pharmaceutical company, OPP states.

Police warn users that it's impossible for a user to determine the quantity of fentanyl they may be using because you can't see, smell or taste it.

Symptoms of fentanyl/opioid exposure can include:

- · Difficulty walking, talking or staying awake
- Blue lips or nails
- Very small pupils
- Cold and clammy skin
- · Dizziness and confusion
- Extreme drowsiness
- Choking, gurgling or snoring sounds
- Inability to wake up, even when shaken
- Slow, weak or not breathing

Residents at risk of experiencing an overdose are encouraged to have naloxone kits, which are available free of charge at the health unit. Naloxone can temporarily reverse the effects of opioids.

The Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act (GSDOA) provides legal protection for individuals seeking emergency help during an overdose.

The GSDOA protects the person who seeks help, whether they stay or leave the overdose scene before help arrives, the person experiencing the overdose, and anyone else at the scene when help arrives.



## Thieves using AirTags to identify, steal high end cars, Ontario police warn

Ontario police are warning vehicle owners about thieves they say are using Apple tracking devices to identify expensive cars, track them to their home address and then steal them.

Over a 24-hour period, Ontario Provincial Police said officers from its Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry detachment were told about two instances where Apple AirTags were found on vehicles.

Police said one of the owners, notified of the devices by their iPhone, found it in the fuse box under the hood.

The thieves placed the AirTags under the vehicles while they are parked in a public space so they could later track them to the owner's homes and steal them from the driveway, police suggested.

Vehicle owners are being warned to look for AirTags on or under their cars.

"An iPhone user will receive a notification that an Air-Tag is nearby. If you own an Android phone, you can download an app called Tracker Detect, which will provide the same alert," OPP said.

Conversely, adding an AirTag to your car yourself can help to locate it if it is stolen. "You as the owner can respond using the same tools," an OPP media release said.

"Equipping your vehicle with your own AirTag could assist police in locating your vehicle if it was ever stolen."

## Man Cleared for Giving Children Chocolates

(National Post)

A "suspicious older male" under investigation for handing out chocolates in the Ontario town of Hanover turned out to simply be doing random acts of kindness, police say.

On Friday, a news release from the police department in the town of 7,600 people said officers were on the lookout for a "suspicious older male" with grey hair and grey facial hair, who may have had prescription sunglasses on.

The man, the release said, had pulled over his vehicle last Wednesday afternoon, approached a youth and

offered him a box of Pot of Gold chocolates. The boy, the release noted, refused the chocolates, but the man insisted and said he was to take them home to his mom instead.

The police sprang into action, issuing a news release and noting a second suspicious incident from last Thursday in which a man had been seen taking photos of children playing in a backyard. As it turned out, the two incidents weren't linked.

"The person who handed out the 'Pot of Gold' chocolates has been identified and interviewed," wrote Police Chief Christopher Knoll on Twitter. "They handed out chocolates to several people of varying ages inspired by random act of kindness. Police determined the motives were pure and genuine. Thank you to everyone for helping us."

Police in Hanover, which is located about 180 kilometres from Toronto, are still looking for the second man who's alleged to have taken photos of kids.

#### Look out for crooks with gleaming smiles

On March 5, 2023, Wellington County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to a report of a freight theft on Highway 7 in Guelph/Eramosa Township.

It was reported that a white Volvo semi-truck and a white 53' trailer (Ontario #V2698F) labeled with decal #53101R on it, had been stolen from a storage lot.

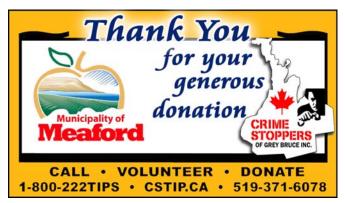
The trailer was reported to contain approximately \$250 000 worth of toothpaste.

## 64 Mexicans rescued from Ontario human trafficking ring

York Regional Police say 64 Mexican-born nationals have been rescued from an international labour trafficking ring that was operating in Ontario and several people have been charged.

Deputy police chief Alvaro Almeida told reporters on Friday that the information learned through Project Norte was "just as disturbing as it is compelling." "Sixty-four of them were subject to deplorable living conditions with no way out," Almeida said. "Our members were shocked at the conditions they were living in."

"If anyone suspects a farm, factory, warehouse or any other business mistreating foreign workers please report it to the police or Crime Stoppers."





### SHOW 'n GO 2023 Classic Car Tours







Following upon the successes of the past three years, Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce have planned three activities for Classic Car owners throughout the summer of 2023. Although you are invited to all of these events for a walk down an automotive memory lane, you can simply wait for them to come to you. Each event starts with a tour around specified back roads and viewers can simply bring out their lawn chairs and watch the procession.

Crime Stoppers will host a 50/50 Draw at all events. There is no admission fee for any of these events but donations will be gratefully accepted by Crime Stoppers. Donations over \$20 are receiptable.

## South Bruce County Classic Tour and Show June 25, 2023

All roads will lead to Paisley as the South Bruce County Classic Car Tour will invite drivers to tour the back roads, farms, rolling hills and villages of south central Bruce County. Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce will host a stationary car show at the Paisley Palace Park starting at 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. This event will include a 1:00 PM shotgun start from Sauble Beach, Port Elgin and Kincardine. At all locations Crime Stoppers volunteers will be handing out route maps for participants.

#### The Bruce Peninsula Classic Car Run August 13, 2023

Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce will host their annual Bruce Peninsula Run and Classic Car Show. Classic and hobby cars will gather at Port Elgin, Sauble Beach, Wiarton and Lion's Head and move out on a shotgun start at 1:00 PM on various routes around Northern Bruce Peninsula. Crime Stoppers

volunteers will have route maps for participants. All routes will end off at the Wiarton Keppel International Airport for an afternoon stationary show that will last until around 5:00 PM.

## The Keppel Classic Colour Tour September 24, 2023

The third annual Keppel Classic Colour Tour will be hosted by Crime Stoppers. A 1:00 P.M. shotgun start from Sauble Beach, Wiarton, Owen Sound and Port Elgin will take Classic Car enthusiasts on a fall colour tour of old Keppel Township in the municipality of Georgian Bluffs. Maps supplied by Crime Stopper volunteers at all locations will show several scenic routes that guarantee spectacular scenery of the forests, cliffs and waters around this most colourful part of Ontario. All routes will end off at the Wiarton Keppel International Airport for an afternoon stationary show that will last until around 5:00 PM.

## Crime Stoppers: A community crime fighting multiplier for over 35 years

Crime Stoppers is a community based program that combines the police, media, and members of the public in a co-operative effort to solve crime. Crime Stoppers encourages people to call our toll-free 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) phone number or submit a secure P3 Web Tip with information about any criminal activity in their communities. The information shared is forwarded anonymously to law enforcement investigators.

To keep up to date on these events go to the Facebook pages of Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce or the web page at *crimestop-gb.org*.

## \$20,000 worth of equipment stolen from Guelph historical train



by Santana Bellantoni Guelph Today

Restoring trains is a labour of love for members of the Guelph Historical Railway Association (GHRA), but it has turned into a little more than they had bargained for after a theft over the weekend of February 11th.

With an estimated \$20,000 of equipment stolen from one of its train cars, the GHRA says the restoration that was expected to be finished this spring will now take another year or two.

The thieves were able to get into the train car from underneath, going through the sheet metal, said Drew Goff, one of the directors at GHRA. They also broke into a caboose car and the thieves defecated in it.

Copper piping from the heating system was stolen, the wiring was cut, and many other items were damaged. After spending about \$3,000 on new control boards, and wires, it was stripped, said Goff.

Empty cans of alcohol and tools presumably left by the thieves were strewn inside and outside the train car, he said. Some of the items stolen are irreplaceable since they are original to the train car. "We've been collecting all the pieces to put back, Goff said. "You can't buy these light fixtures. You can't buy the door fixture. We're trying to collect them and bring it back to its 1960s appearance and of course it's metal and they want metal to scrap."

"The initial intention was when you walk into this car you're walking back into 1960 as it was," said Steve Host, GHRA president.

The train car was acquired in 2020 from the Waterloo Central Railway. "To us it's a citizen's asset for the city. And the railway is part of our fabric as part of our community," said Host.

"It's becoming a money pit, obviously," said Eric Repaci, founding member of GHRA. The ultimate plan is to have the train run and collect fares to help with the cost of operations. Unlike many museums the GHT is actually a live rail and the railway does move our equip-



ment. "It would have given people the opportunity to experience a train ride in that era," said Repaci.

The GHRA will be fundraising in the future to raise money for the restoration and the association has reached out to the VIA Historical Association in Toronto, and have been offered components and parts.

Theves came well prepared with grinding discs, Sawzalls, pipe cutters, all manners of tools and in the course of a night gutted the coach. Also taken are over 20 metres of steam heat shielding and steam heat piping, window frames and curtains as well as "CC&F" specific interior trimmings and finishing's and at least three coach seat frames.

Air conditioning piping, plumbing between the "A" end bathrooms, overhead panels as well as tools including a \$1500 Huck rivet gun.

They cut the brake pipe in three places, including what seems like an attempt to take the air reservoir underneath the coach. The hot water boiler that provided heat via the steam heating pipes was completely destroyed.

"We firmly believe that if we can get the funds to repair this coach we can have in a state to show off our progress in its restoration come spring, and be well on our way to having it completely restored to its 1960s appearance," said Repaci. "This passenger car to us is more than just a passenger car, it's a community asset and we plan to use it as such once it's complete."

To read more about the Guelph Historical Railway Association and equipment, check out their website at: **www.ghra.ca.** Anyone wishing to donate to their restoration can donate to them by going to **GoFundMe.com**.





## On the Laughter Side of Life



The school called me today to tell me my little boy was telling lies. I told her "Oh yes! and he is very good at it too. It is nice that he gave you my phone number but you see... I don't have any children.

-Author unknown

**Teacher:** "Whoever can answer my next question can go home early."

One boy at the back of the class throws his school bag out the window.

**Teacher:** "Who threw that?"

"Me," replied the boy, "and I'm going home."

"Sometimes, someone unexpected comes into your life outta nowhere, makes your heart race, and changes you forever. We call those people cops."

"When one door closes and another door opens, you are probably in prison."

#### FOR THE KIDS

What do you call an ant who fights crime?
A vigilante!

How much does it cost a pirate to get his ears pierced?

About a buck an ear.











## **GET INVOLVED**

**CALL • VOLUNTEER • DONATE** 

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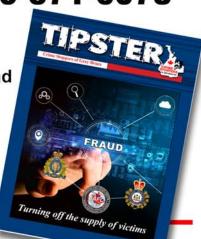


Grey and Bruce County Classic Car Tours

JUNE - AUGUST - SEPTEMBER

Check out the latest in criminal activity and crime prevention techniques

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## **Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce Inc.**

P.O. Box 1119, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 6K6

#### 1-800-222-TIPS (8477)

Submit a Secure Web-Tip at cstip.ca or get the P3 Tips Mobile App

Phone: 519 371-6078 eMail: crimestopgb@bmts.com

