## **NEWS RELEASE**

## Had your bike stolen? Lost an expensive watch? You can now report it online

Coquitlam RCMP is now ready to accept your non-emergency crime reports online. If you have a valid email address, you can now visit our secure site and report many crimes that have happened in Anmore, Belcarra, Coquitlam or Port Coquitlam.

Emergencies must still be reported to 911, but here are the types of crime you can now report as part of Online Crime Reporting (OCR):

- Something is stolen that costs less than \$5000
- You lost something that costs less than \$5000
- Your property or vehicle has been vandalized & repairs will cost less than \$5000
- The crime happened in Anmore, Belcarra, Coquitlam or Port Coquitlam
- You have a Driving Complaint that is not happening right now

Online Crime Reporting is ideal for crimes that involve lost items and damage. As you report, it will guide you through the process and determine if your crime fits the criteria or if you need to call police. If you have a witness or you found a piece of identification, for example, you will need to call the non-emergency number instead at 604-945-1550.

Coquitlam RCMP uses crime data from your reports to direct and deploy our police officers. Not only does OCR give you another option for reporting crime, it also allows our call takers and officers to focus on emergency calls, rather than taking reports, which should improve overall safety and response times.

"Crime reports from the public are an essential part of determining how our policing resources are deployed across the communities we serve," says Corporal Michael McLaughlin with Coquitlam RCMP. "Online Crime Reporting will make it more convenient to report less serious crimes, while allowing police to better triage emergency calls for service and accurately track crime trends."

To make a report using the Online Crime Reporting tool visit <u>bc.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/coquitlam/report</u>

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