

## 2009-January- Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers

### **Back Ground:**

### **Important Dates for Crime Stoppers:**

1976 The Start in Albuquerque New Mexico

1982 First Crime Stoppers program in Canada. Calgary Alberta

1987 Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers launches.

1997 Supreme Court of Canada decision R. vs Leipert

### **The Start:**

1976 in Albuquerque New Mexico a young man working his first night shift at a gasoline filling station was the victim of a Robbery gone wrong, and he was murdered.

The Det Greg McCleese soon ran out of leads and the investigation was stalled. The police were confident there were people who had information that would assist in their investigation however for what ever reasons no one was willing to talk with the police.

Det. McCleese came up with the idea to do a Crime Re-enactment on a local T.V. station and provide a phone number so people could call in and provide information and remain anonymous. The police and media agreed to give it a try.

The results were:

1. the murder was solved within 48 hours from information provided on the anonymous tips line
2. Lots of people were calling in on the anonymous tips line with information on all sorts of different crimes.

An analysis clearly indicated a lot of people had information about Unsolved Crimes but were not willing to talk with the police for any variety of reasons, however by remaining anonymous people felt empowered to provide the information they had about Unsolved Crimes.

All Crime Stoppers programs start with a Registered Charity. Crime Stoppers is not a police program it is a community program with the goal and mission to help solve crime.

The power of Crime Stoppers programs world wide has been recognized by the United Nations and Interpol.

Crime Stoppers International has seat in the United Nations office of Drugs and Crime



Most Crime Stoppers programs in an RCMP policing jurisdiction have a full duty police officer assigned as the Crime Stoppers Coordinator however this is usually only one of many other responsibilities for that officer.

**The Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers** program is unique in that the Coordinator and Assist Coordinators are employees of the Regional District.

It has provided consistency and allowed the program to develop and become a leading Crime Stoppers program in the world.

**The Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers program has been recognized with over 25 Provincial Awards, and Over 25 International Awards.**

The success of the Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers is the partnerships between:

The Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers Society  
The Regional District of Central Okanagan  
Law Enforcement  
Media  
Sponsors  
Public

### **1997 in Supreme Court of Canada Decision Regina vs Leipert**

Most decisions from the Supreme Court of Canada are majority decisions. In this particular case all Nine Justices of the Supreme Court of Canada were unanimous in upholding the policies and practices of Crime Stoppers, and all information provided to Crime Stoppers is protected and privileged. Tipsters have the right to remain anonymous.

The Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers Society Partners Structure:

### **Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers Society responsibilities include:**

Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers Society is a highly specialized community service dealing with sensitive information. This information is highly confidential, The Crime Stoppers Society is responsible to ensure the proper policies and procedures are carried out to maintain the integrity of the program. Maintain proper records and process to keep the Society in good standing.

Fund raising by the Crime Stoppers Society is used for:  
Operation of tippline, paying rewards, promotion of Crime Stoppers to public and Students/Youth, and training.

**Regional District of Central Okanagan responsibilities include:**

Providing the human resources for the positions of Coordinator and Assist Coordinators, the funding includes wages, benefits, lease of a vehicle, computers and computer tech support and training.

The Regional District funding for Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers includes:  
One Full time Coordinator, One Full time Assist Coordinator, One Part time Assist Coordinator and part time for shared municipal employee for access to RCMP Computer systems.

Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers service area encompasses the entire Regional District of Central Okanagan from Oyama to Peachland including Kelowna, Lake Country and West Kelowna and electoral areas.

The Regional District of Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers is a line items budget and is in the range of \$220,000.00

The Coordinator provides quarterly reporting to the Regional District of Central Okanagan.

**Program Statistics Since Inception:**

Tips Received:	15,029
Arrests:	2,113
Cases Cleared:	2,978
Rewards Paid:	\$155,736.
Stolen Property Recovered:	\$3,406,446.
Drugs Seized:	\$56,214,871.

**Law Enforcement primarily the R.C.M.P.**

Receive information (tips) from Crime Stoppers and conduct investigations, when the investigations are complete the investigators report back to Crime Stoppers on the results of their investigation.

**Media:**

Local media including CHBC-TV, Shaw Cable, Capital News and other print, Radio Stations, and Castanet all contribute and support Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers by providing information about Unsolved Crimes to the Public and providing information that anyone with information may call Crime Stoppers and Remain Anonymous.

## **Sponsors:**

Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers enjoys generous sponsorship from a variety of local businesses:

**Rocky Mountain Marketing** has been engaged by Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers to conduct a direct drive, door to door awareness and fund-raising campaign.

Rocky Mountain Marketing associates distribute information about Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers and also provides the opportunity for people to purchase a certificate folder of coupons redeemable for products and services from local companies.

This is the biggest single fund-raising event of the year for Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers.

## **Whillis-Harding Agencies Western Financial Group**

Whillis-Harding Agencies Western Financial Group has committed to be the Title Sponsor for the Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers Annual fund-raising Golf Tournament for 13 years.

In addition Whillis-Harding Agencies Western Financial Group donates the insurance for a second vehicle donated to Crime Stoppers.

In addition Whillis-Harding Agencies Western Financial Group have provide significant Funding for various projects and promotions for Crime Stoppers including Hot Cars Broadcasts on local radio, print material, and promotions for fund-raising events.

## **Stutters Construction and Restoration**

Provide a significant annual cash donation as well they put in 8 players to the Crime Stoppers fund-raising golf tournament, they run the putting contest, put up the prize for the putting contest, and match the money raised from the putting contest to Crime Stoppers.

## **Harmony Honda**

For the past 5 years Harmony Honda has donated a vehicle for use of Crime Stoppers. Whillis-Harding Agencies Western Financial Group donates the insurance for this vehicle.

## **Coast Capri Hotel**

The Coast Capri Hotel has been a strong supporter for Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers over past two decades, hosting events promotions and training conferences.

## **Media**

## **CHBC-TV**

For many years have broadcast the weekly Crime Stoppers Mugshots that have resulted in the capture of many people subject to outstanding warrants for their arrest.

As well CHBC-TV has participated in all Crime Stoppers Re-enactments that have been successful in solving serious crime in our communities.

CHBC-TV has also providing on air time to help promote various Crime Stoppers programs and fund-raising events. And have provided Master of Ceremonies for many Crime Stoppers events.

## **Castanet:**

Castanet has been a strong support of Crime Stoppers providing Monday through Friday a Crime Stoppers Kelowna's Most Wanted. This is a very popular feature and has resulted in the apprehension of many people subject to outstanding warrants for their arrest.

Castanet also provides a link and information to Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers website.

Castanet also assists the Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers with awareness and promotions campaigns.

## **Capital News:**

For the past several years the Capital News has donated a full page in their Wednesday Edition to Crime Stoppers. On this page is a map feature showing where the various types of crimes have been committed over the past week.

Also on the page are the three featured: Mugshots subjects who are also featured on CHBC-TV that day as well as the Crime Stoppers Website.

And an article written by Crime Stoppers Assist Coordinator on a variety of topics related to Crime Stoppers, Crime Prevention, Crime Reduction, Victim Witness Services etc.

## **Radio:**

B103 and power104 fm have over the years featured Crime Stoppers Unsolved Crimes, and well as assisted in promoting and assisting with Crime Stoppers awareness campaigns, including the Golf Tournament.

Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers is in the process of establishing partnerships with new radio stations that have recently launched in the Kelowna market.

### **Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers Website:**

For anyone wanting to know about Crime Stoppers the Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers website provides significant information about the program as well as providing the opportunity for anyone accessing the website to “leave a Tip” through the website and remain anonymous.

### **Highlights:**

The Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers program is one of the most successful Crime Stoppers programs and continues to win International and Provincial Awards.

The Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers will continue to explore and provide opportunities for increased use and effectiveness of Crime Stoppers in helping solve crimes and helping to make the communities in the Central Okanagan safer.

Crime Stoppers operates National Tipsline: 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) Any one anywhere in Canada (most of North America) can call that number and be connected to Crime Stoppers. However with new technology and communication systems used to relay information and conversation, Crime Stoppers is keeping pace by engaging new technology and also maintaining the protection that Tipsters will remain anonymous.

Examples are the recent abilities for tipsters to provide information and remain anonymous through the safe, encrypted, and secure servers through our website, and via “Text” messaging.

Tipsters using the website or text messaging remain anonymous because the tipsters information is sent to a secure server the sending address is scrubbed off and an alias is put on, the message then goes to a second secure server, the first alias is scrubbed off and a second alias is put on, then the tip information is sent to the Crime Stoppers program.