

## Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON 3400 – 30 Street Vernon, BC V1T 5E6

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## **Vernon Community Safety Office Marks 25 Years of Crime Prevention and Community Engagement**

For 25 years, the Vernon Community Safety Office has been a cornerstone of safety in the community, providing crime prevention and reduction programs to residents. Since its opening on November 15, 1999, the volunteer-staffed office has offered access to over 50 programs aimed at enhancing public safety.

In that time, volunteers have contributed an impressive 92,290 hours, answered 43,385 phone calls, and served 58,414 individuals at the front counter, all while playing a key role in fostering a safer environment in Vernon.

"The dedication of the volunteers with the Community Safety Office to their community is outstanding. Two volunteers who are still with the office, worked the very first day the doors opened," says Rachael Zubick, Community Safety Coordinator-Public Programs." These volunteers, along with that of the many other volunteers, helps ensure that safety remains a top priority for all of us."

In addition to their work at the office, volunteers also engage in community outreach programs at local schools and community centres and participate in various special events, helping to create a safer and more connected community.

Residents interested in learning more about the services offered through the <u>Community Safety Office</u>, including information on how they can get involved in supporting local safety initiatives, are encouraged to stop by the office located at 3010 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue.