



**- RCMP -
CITIZENS ON
PATROL (C.O.P.)
Cole Harbour, NS**

Has your home or business been broken into or vandalized? Have your neighbours' homes been broken into? Are your tax dollars going to repair vandalism at the local schools? Does this type of behaviour upset you?

As many of you already know, break-ins and vandalism are on the rise and can occur anywhere at any time. It is up to each of us to do our part to assist the police to reduce such crimes in our area. Because of the wide geographic area patrolled by the RCMP, they cannot be everywhere at the same time and they welcome community assistance. We need **YOU** to help us to reduce crime and would like you to become part of our Citizens On Patrol team.

WHAT IS "CITIZENS ON PATROL"?

Many have described Citizens On Patrol as "A Neighbourhood Watch On Wheels". This is an excellent description of what we do. Citizens On Patrol consists of ordinary citizens, like you, who have organized themselves into units under the guidance of the RCMP for the purpose of keeping a neighbourly watch on the community in order to try and help reduce crime. COP's as we are often referred to, watch for and report any unusual or suspicious activities to the RCMP for appropriate follow-up action.

Call 829-2229
for information

COP members **do not ever** take to physical action themselves. COP members have neither the authority nor mandate to make arrests or to exercise authority beyond that of a private citizen.

WHAT AREAS DO WE PATROL?

All areas in the Cole Harbour Office area. The communities are Cole Harbour, Eastern Passage, Cowboy, Lake Echo, Mineville, Lawrencetown, and Porters Lake,

WHO CAN BECOME A COP MEMBER?

Anyone who is 18 years of age or older and is interested in helping reduce crime in their neighbourhood, may become a member of the Citizens On Patrol. You must pass an RCMP security screening to be a COP member.

Our members come from all walks of life and work in a variety of trades and professions. Some of our members are retired and are able to spend even more of their time helping out. Patrols are on a completely voluntary basis by the COP members. Patrols are performed in their own personal vehicles and at their own expense. Patrols are carried out in pairs, with one person driving and the other maintaining radio communication with the RCMP in addition to the recording of observations. A log of schools, businesses, and other locations where suspicious activity has taken place are kept. At the end of each patrol the record sheet of the patrol and any incidents noted are turned in at the RCMP office in Cole Harbour.

WHAT IF AN INCIDENT OCCURS?

If an incident occurs while you are on patrol, you would contact the RCMP and advise them of what you have seen or are observing. The patrols are normally in contact with the RCMP by police radio (cell phone if required).

* To get involved: Go to LAKE ECHO RCMP Office, pick-up and complete a CITIZENS ON PATROL application form