FALL NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER



WESTLOCK CITIZENS ON PATROL

***Message from Garth Kohlsmith – group President:**

Ever since the 2025 AGM in Redwater, our group members have been very excited and looking forward to hosting C.O.P. members from across the province here in Westlock. *The facility will be ready, the caterer will be ready, our group will be ready ..... ready to host a great weekend of training and exchanging ideas with other attending group representatives. I am looking forward to reuniting with so many of you that have attended the AGM in past years as well as welcoming and meeting any and all new C.O.P. volunteer members.

Our group has had another busy year since last fall and some of our activities will be pictured following. For the remainder of this year, we have three more fundraisers to go, as well as lending support to other charitable community events. * It will be Christmas before we know it!!

I am always willing to answer questions about our successful fundraising events ... just ask me!

- Several of our group members try to attend the monthly "*Coffee with a Cop*" sessions held monthly starting in January.

- Our group had representation at all three County of Westlock "*Open House*" events during the month of June.

- Our first fundraiser was a raffle for a "*Kids Police Car*" that was generously donated by an avid Citizens On Patrol supporter!

$800 value



***Draw to be made at the end of September!**

WESTLOCK ... continued

2nd ANNUAL CAR SHOW - JUNE 27TH

Once again our first scheduled date got rained out, so we tried again a week later and had great weather! We ran a Pop-Up Market at the same time which was well attended too. This year we had 50 entries in the Car Show and because of some great donations from local business places we gave out some fantastic, well appreciated, "Prize Bundles" after the voting was done!!





1st PLACE

3rd PLACE



2nd PLACE

4th PLACE



WESTLOCK ... continued

** Bring some extra cash when you come to the AGM because there will be a few of our volunteer members around with tickets to sell for our "CA$H for Christmas" 50/50 Raffle. *The DRAW DATE will be at our next *FAMILY BINGO FUNDRAISER EVENT* happening on Saturday, November 14th and the prize will be in the amount of $2000 to one lucky winner!!
That's some whopping "shopping CA$H" for Christmas!!!

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

*Just a reminder about the Silent Auction at the AGM … please help us out by having a card attached to your donated item with the name of your group as well as the approximate value of the item being donated. *"Thanks" in advance for doing this!!*

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Looks like we are just about all set for fall and ready to welcome you to Westlock! Keep those registrations coming in!!





See you Soon!

BEAUMONT CITIZENS ON PATROL



May 5th - was the date of our "*Lock It or Lose It*" event. We did it prior to our regular group meeting and with the cooperation of our local RCMP, we handed out 127 "*tickets*" at the Rec Centre in Beaumont. A successful promotion in our community!

****

July 4th - we hosted a "Bike Rodeo" event.





BEAUMONT CITIZENS ON PATROL ... continued



We had about 50 kids show up to go through the safety course that was set up by our Citizens On Patrol volunteers and the RCMP.

Edmonton Regional Search and Rescue attended and also, Central Alberta Regional Victim Serving Society (CARVSS)

Hot dogs, chips and pop were also a big hit!!!



*** Information sent by Cam Wolfe ...Thank you!**

LANGDON CITIZENS ON PATROL



Pictured is the float that the Langdon Citizens On Patrol group put together to participate in "LANGDON DAYS" - July 17-19

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

***Being noticed and visible in your community, really helps folks to realize the benefits of having a Citizens On Patrol group assisting their local RCMP!**

At the weekend event, we also had a *Market Information Booth* set up and we also sponsored the *Family Bingo* event on Sunday by volunteering at the event as well as providing a basket of goodies as a door prize for the kids in attendance. The Market kept us busy with a steady stream of people at our tent, coming by to spin our prize wheel for a free treat and it also gave our volunteers a chance to speak to people about Citizens On Patrol. Several RCMP members from our local detachment also popped by to say hello!



LANGDON CITIZENS ON PATROL ... CONTINUED



We had four businesses in town sponsor us and provide prizes for our draws. We will be meeting with the Grand Prize winners in person as well as to speak to them a bit more about our group. Included on the ballots for the grand prize draws, was a check box that people could indicate if they wanted us to follow up with them. Last year, we were able to grow our group getting 2 new members, so we are hoping for at least the same result again this year.



LANGDON CITIZENS ON PATROL ... CONTINUED

We want to share a list of things we've managed to accomplish over this past year showing how much effort we've put in and how much our group has evolved. ***Submitted by Flo Robinson Director 5**

- we created a new and refreshed group logo

- created a SMS group chat to keep all our members informed with up-to-date information

- we created a shared Google Drive that holds all our group's important info: corporate info - financial updates – membership – meeting minutes – agendas – new member info packages – social media templates – videos – photos – etc.

- we secured a "marketing coordinator" volunteer who is currently taking marketing in university

- we secured two other volunteers through our Langdon days efforts and did training

- some members attended the AGM and some did the training

- two members were accepted onto the Langdon Municipal Policing Advisory Board, a newly created entity by the Province to make recommendations to local RCMP members

- reaching out and meeting with local businesses creating a good rapport and to talk about Citizens On Patrol was done

- we participating in all aspects of our local Langdon Days weekend event in 2025 and 2026

- we met with and established a rapport with our MLA, discussed our RCMP situation and got immediate results

- we met with our new RCMP liaison as well two other RCMP members to discuss crime trends, hot spots, patrolling, etc.

- we purchased equipment for our patrollers, a LCOP/ ACOPA branded tent, flag, table cover and golf shirts for our members

- we created a total of 58 social media posts focused on crime awareness and education

- we spoke with the Alberta Securities Commission about hosting a joint anti-fraud public seminar event this fall

WOW ... **a bit of a long read on this page but lots of great ideas that this group of volunteer members has shown to increase awareness about CITIZENS ON PATROL in their community. What is your group going to do ????**

GULL LAKE NORTH CITIZENS ON PATROL **and** ... RIMBEY CITIZENS ON PATROL

Flo Robinson, Director 5 **has had great contact with some of her member groups a says that "it is so wonderful to see how neighboring groups work so well together"!**

GULL LAKE NORTH



Gull lake North puts on a yearly BBQ for their members and ALWAYS invites the Rimbey group. This time they also invited me – their Director!!

We had a good meal and a good time swapping stories



Our float in the CANADA DAY parade!

RIMBEY



Pictured above: **The Rimbey group with Flo on the right.**

***Their small group reciprocates the camaraderie by hosting their own BBQ and inviting Gull Lake North Citizens On Patrol volunteers back to enjoy their cooking!**



Pictured below: **The whole "happy BBQ gang"**



LINDEN CITIZENS ON PATROL



Here we have a few Linden Citizens On Patrol volunteer members set up at their local Fire Station handing out some goodies.

"BE SEEN – BE HEARD – BE ACKNOWLEGED!"

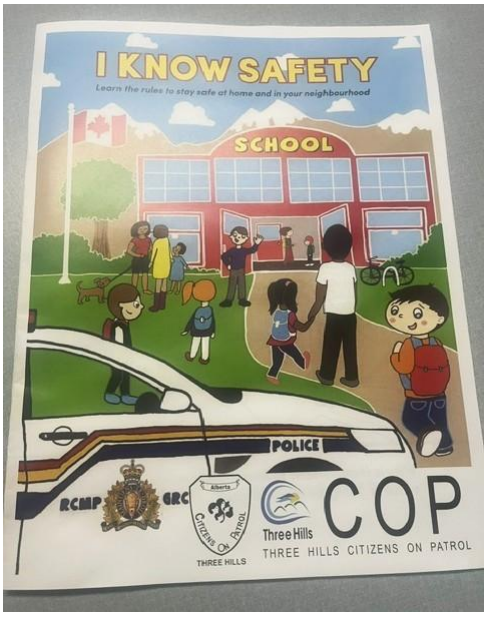
THREE HILLS CITIZENS ON

Something Different!!!

This group has printed out a supply of "COLORING BOOKS"! Nine pages of coloring fun all to do with safety! They were given out at their local parade along with some crayons.

The group will also use them as a promotional give-away at future fairs and community nights.

They were a BIG hit!!!



REDWATER CITIZENS ON PATROL



The August "Coffee With A Cop" session in Redwater was very well attended! Twenty five people including Redwater Detachment members, the Peace officer from Sturgeon County and Jennifer Penner from Safe Communities – Sturgeon County all attended.



REDWATER CITIZENS ON PATROL ... continued



Being a VOLUNTEER brings many rewards!

It feels good to know that you are using your free time towards helping your local law enforcement provide a safer environment in your community!

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Some "*social time*" spent with group members can also be very rewarding especially when a tasty BBQ meal is involved!



Members of the group happily enjoyed their summer wiener roast hosted in the beautiful yard at the home of members Mel and Sophie Smith held in late August.



PIIKANI CITIZENS ON PATROL



AUGUST – 2026 ... the Piikani Citizens On Patrol volunteers joined the local RCMP in the 67th Annual Celebration Pow Wow Parade.

***Three hundred FREEZIES and several pounds of candy were tossed out to spectators along the parade route.**

