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AN EVALUATION OF THE  
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM  
IN THUNDER BAY

PETER B. WORRELL

No. 1984-29

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AN EVALUATION OF THE  
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM  
IN THUNDER BAY

PETER B. WORRELL

No. 1984-29

This working paper was prepared by the Thunder Bay Police Force as a result of a study funded by the Ministry of the Solicitor General through its Summer Canada program. It is made available as submitted to the Ministry. The views expressed are those of the author and are not necessarily those of the Ministry of the Solicitor General of Canada. This working paper may not be published, cited or reproduced without permission of the Ministry.

## ABSTRACT

### AN EVALUATION OF

#### THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

This study examined and evaluated the impact of a Neighbourhood Watch program on reducing the occurrence of residential property crime within a selected residential area in the city of Thunder Bay.

Comparative victim history data was obtained longitudinally from the Test Site and from a Control Site during the evaluation phase of the program in the Test Site.

The results of the study indicated that the program was successful in substantially reducing the occurrence of residential property crime and, in particular, eradicating the occurrence of household yard property theft - formerly the principal property crime problem.

Moreover, the findings suggest that the occurrence of residential property crime is directly related to the level of household and yard physical security which, in turn, was found to be directly related to the absence or presence of applied crime analysis and the acting upon of this information by the Neighbourhood Watch participants. The dramatic reduction in the victim experience of Test Site respondents suggests that they did indeed act affirmatively in response to the information.

Finally, the results of the study indicated that the willingness of residents to assume an active role in reducing the occurrence of neighbourhood property crime was largely dependent upon exposure to the Neighbourhood Watch Program as implemented in the City of Thunder Bay.



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Respectfully submitted,

G. F. Ouellette,  
CHIEF OF POLICE.

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

In recent years, property related crime or vandalism has received a great deal of community concern throughout North America giving rise to government funded research projects orientated towards reducing the occurrence of such crime.

Unfortunately, very little pressure has existed within the Canadian context to compel recipients of federal crime prevention funding to empirically demonstrate the effectiveness of a given crime prevention strategy. Rather, emphasis has been placed on program implementation, not evaluation. It is not the purpose of this paper to debate the merit of funding practices, but merely to point out that the absence of a program evaluation component makes it very difficult to discern which approaches assist in reducing criminal opportunism - the very purpose of the research in the first place.

Moreover, the absence of a standard document format to communicate the findings of evaluative research has further compounded the problem of "getting a handle" on effective crime prevention programming within the police community.

To make matters worse, universal measurements to evaluate the effectiveness or lack of regarding implemented strategies have not as yet been established; thereby making it difficult to compare, interpret, and grasp the significance of similar studies.

During the winter of 1982, a research proposal designed to test the effectiveness of Neighbourhood Watch as a crime prevention strategy was submitted to the Solicitor General of Canada for funding.

Unlike previous submissions, this proposal was designed to be longitudinal in nature and include an implementation and evaluation phase. Out of necessity, the 1982 proposal suggested that funding be provided over a two-year period to coincide with the two phases of the study. We were successful with this approach and received funding for both phases from the Solicitor General of Canada through the Summer Youth Employment Program.

Historically, police agencies have tended to determine the effectiveness of implemented crime prevention strategies by comparing pre and post rates of reported crime, instead of actual victim experience. Clearly the impact of crime prevention strategies on the rate of reported crime is of interest, but by no stretch of the imagination can it be used with any reliability to gauge the success or failure of a given strategy on reducing the occurrence of crime.

This study took the above into consideration; particularly during the evaluation phase whereby an examination and comparison of the following was conducted:

- (i) the pre and post victim experience rates
- (ii) the pre and post rate of reporting crime to the police
- (iii) the pre and post rate at which people phoned neighbours when they observed someone damaging or stealing their neighbour's property
- (iv) the pre and post rate at which people talked to offenders observed damaging or stealing other neighbour's property
- (v) the pre and post household security scores
- (vi) the pre and post yard security scores
- (vii) the pre and post levels of social cohesion.

Neighbourhood Watch programs implemented elsewhere have been attributed with great success from time to time despite the absence of reasonably sophisticated research designs and/or devices to measure program performance. This study, in addition to making the pre and post comparisons noted above, will attempt to explain what variable(s) or mechanical aspects of the Neighbourhood Watch Program, as implemented in Thunder Bay, were paramount to its success or failure as a crime prevention strategy.

Generally, it has been theorized that the level of social cohesiveness increases following the introduction of a Neighbourhood Watch Program.

Natural outcomes of increased social cohesiveness are alleged to include a greater spirit of co-operation and the acceptance of responsibilities orientated toward watching out for both the neighbour and his/her property.

When coupled with a heightened awareness to properly secure the household and yard property, the Neighbourhood Watch Program functions to harden the target physically as well as socially.

In keeping with the above several hypothesis were formulated:

1. Residents who have been exposed to a Neighbourhood Watch Program will have a higher level of social cohesiveness than residents who have not been similarly exposed.
2. The victim experience of residential areas previously exposed to Neighbourhood Watch will be lower than residential areas not exposed previously to this program.
3. A residential area exposed to a Neighbourhood Watch Program will subsequently exhibit a lower victim experience.
4. Neighbourhood Watch is an effective program to reduce the occurrence of residential property crime.

5. Neighbourhood Watch works to reduce the occurrence of crime as a result of the increased level of home and yard security which occurs following exposure to the home security component of the Neighbourhood Watch Program.
  
6. Neighbourhood Watch works to reduce the occurrence of crime as a result of the increased acceptance of neighbours vis a' vis all neighbourhood property following exposure to and acceptance of implied social responsibilities which extend outside the immediate household to include the neighbourhood.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE PAPER

The remainder of the paper will be organized as follows:

CHAPTER II	METHODOLOGY
CHAPTER III	FINDINGS
CHAPTER IV	SUMMARY, DISCUSSION, IMPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## CHAPTER II

### METHODOLOGY

#### BACKGROUND

Funding was obtained in 1982 and 1983 from the Solicitor General of Canada through the Summer Youth Employment Program to conduct a research project designed to test the effectiveness of Neighbourhood Watch as a crime prevention strategy. The research project was divided into two phases; the first involved the implementation of the program in a pre-selected residential area whereas the second phase dealt with the evaluation of the program.

For each phase, a Project Director and six interviewers were hired. The same director was used throughout the one year longitudinal study to provide continuity.

#### THE IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

The City of Thunder Bay is divided into sixty-eight (68) police patrol and crime reporting areas.

A site consisting of two hundred (200) households in one of the sixty-eight areas exhibiting a relatively high rate of reported crime was selected to test the effectiveness of the Neighbourhood Watch Program. An additional control site was determined and would be examined one year later during the evaluation phase of the study. The Project Director and interviewers were involved in the site selection process.

*site  
control  
site*

Following selection of the residential test and control sites, the Director and Project Workers were requested to take part in the construction of a survey questionnaire designed to obtain data relating to victim experience,

physical household property security and a host of other variables.

At the completion of this task, the project workers were directed to make appointments with the residents of each of the two hundred households for the purpose of:

- (i) conducting a victim survey
- (ii) conducting a home security check
- (iii) explaining and introducing the concept of Neighbourhood Watch at each household
- (iv) identifying potential block captains
- (v) laying the ground work for implementing the program within the residential area.

Active interviewing began in the first week of June 1982 and was completed by the end of August of the same year. In total, 162 households responded to the questionnaire. The responses on the questionnaires were coded, transferred to diskette and analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences.

Bivariate and multivariate tables were then requested to display the relationship of all variables to victim experience. In order to obtain an accurate measurement of household/yard security and social cohesiveness, composite variables were constructed using the compute function of the program. The compute function merely adds together all the values of the variables specified in the equation. An equation is provided in Appendix A.

At the conclusion of the sampling, block units consisting of twenty (20) households each were established. Members of each block were invited to attend their first Neighbourhood Watch Meeting at a nearby library at which time block and assistant block captains were selected by the block members. The Crime Prevention Officer and members of the project team attended each meeting to assist in establishing the purpose of the program. (See Appendix B).

Following the selection of the block captains, the Crime Prevention Officer invited the appointed block captains to attend at Headquarters to select their section leader. (See Appendix "C").

Throughout the course of the year, between the implementation and evaluation project phases, one meeting was held monthly to accommodate the needs of the block captains and one meeting a month was held to meet the needs of the section members. Block captain meetings were held at Headquarters and Section meetings took place at the local library.

Meeting content involved discussions regarding security programs, methods of responding to criminal behaviour, neighbourhood responsibilities, and criminalistics. The Crime Prevention Officer attended all meetings to provide information and advice.

In the early stages of the program, it was decided that Neighbourhood Watch was not a program that should be police administered. Rather, the need was stressed to develop a sense of program ownership amongst Neighbourhood Watch household members. Therefore, a spirit of independence was fostered through the deliberate involvement of the program members in the decision making process with respect to the direction the program should take immediately following its implementation. A natural consequence of this approach was the establishment of a monthly news bulletin by the section leader and directed towards the membership. (See Appendix D)

Finally, Neighbourhood Watch signs were posted in February of 1983 indicating the existence of a neighbourhood involved in a Neighbourhood Watch Program. It was believed that this would help to create a sense of community and assist to sustain the program over time. (See Appendix E).

#### Evaluation Phase

This part of the research project commenced one year later in the month of May 1983. A project director and six workers were hired and directed to

interview the same respondents as was done one year earlier; in addition to conducting interviews at households contained within the control site. The control site is located ten (10) miles away from the implementation site and is roughly twice as large in geographic area as the test site. This accounts for the much larger number of received questionnaires (i.e. 252).

A survey questionnaire was used throughout the interview in both the Implementation and Control site. The questionnaires varied in that a greater number of questions designed to evaluate the impact of the program were included in the implementation questionnaire. In total 136 questionnaires were received from the implementation site while 252 questionnaires were obtained from the larger control site.

The responses were again transferred onto diskette and analysed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences. The data extracted from the implementation site in the survey of 1982 and 1983, and from the control site, were subjected to the same program in order to produce comparable Bivariate and Multivariate Contingency Tables for the analysis.

CHAPTER III

FINDINGS

Presentation Format

In the majority of cases the reader will be provided with a set of three data tables. The first of these three tables will contain information relative to the Westfort Test Site prior to the implementation of the Neighbourhood Watch Program. The second table will display information regarding the Westfort Test Site following the implementation of the Neighbourhood Watch program, while the third table of the set will contain comparative Control Site data.

TABLE 1

WESTFORT TEST SITE HOUSEHOLDS VICTIMIZED PRIOR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

VICTIM EXPERIENCE

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
19.1%	80.9%	
(31)	(131)	(162)
		N = 162

TABLE 2

WESTFORT TEST SITE HOUSEHOLDS VICTIMIZED FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

VICTIM EXPERIENCE

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
7.4%	92.6%	
(10)	(125)	(135)
		N = 135

TABLE 3

THE PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS IN THE CONTROL SITE VICTIMIZED

VICTIM EXPERIENCE

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
19.6	80.1	
(40)	19.6	(236)
		N = 236

VICTIM EXPERIENCE

The data provided in Tables 1 and 2 indicate that victim experience or the actual occurrence of property crime in the Westfort Test Site decreased substantially (67.7%) following the implementation of the Neighbourhood Watch Program. This suggests that Neighbourhood Watch is effective.

When we examine Tables 1 and 3 collectively we discover a victim experience rate in the control site which is approximately the same as that previously experienced by the Westfort Test Site respondents prior to the implementation of the program.

TABLE 4

AREA OF THE HOUSEHOLD PROPERTY VICTIMIZED IN THE WESTFORT TEST SITE  
PRIOR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

<u>AREA VICTIMIZED</u>						
<u>HOUSE</u>	<u>CAR</u>	<u>YARD</u>	<u>GARAGE</u>	<u>GARDEN</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
22.6%	6.5%	48.4%	12.9%	3.2%	6.5%	
(7)	(2)	(15)	(4)	(1)	(2)	(31)
						N = 31

TABLE 5

AREA OF THE HOUSEHOLD PROPERTY VICTIMIZED IN THE WESTFORT TEST SITE  
FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

<u>AREA VICTIMIZED</u>			
<u>HOUSE</u>	<u>CAR</u>	<u>GARAGE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
40.0%	40.0%	20.0%	
(4)	(4)	(2)	(10)
			N = 10

TABLE 6

THE AREA OF THE HOUSEHOLDS VICTIMIZED IN THE CONTROL SITE

<u>AREA VICTIMIZED</u>						
<u>HOUSE</u>	<u>CAR</u>	<u>YARD</u>	<u>GARAGE</u>	<u>GARDEN</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
8.5	36.2	42.6	6.4	2.1	4.2	
(4)	(17)	(20)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(47)
						N = 47

AREA OF THE HOUSEHOLD VICTIMIZED

Prior to the implementation of the Neighbourhood Watch Program the principal target area in the Westfort Test Site appeared to be the household yard with 48.4% of all property crime relating to this portion of the household.

Following the implementation of the program not one occurrence relating to damaged or stolen yard property was reported to the researchers to have occurred. The house proper and the family auto still appear to be victimized although the frequency of occurrence with respect to the household has decreased by 75% as indicated in Tables 4 and 5.

In comparison, the findings presented in Table 6 indicate that the majority of crime occurring in the Control Site relates primarily to the household yard and car with 42.6% and 36.2% of all victims reporting crime to these areas respectively.

TABLE 7

CRIMINAL OFFENCE TYPES RELATING TO WESTFORT TEST SITE HOUSEHOLDS  
VICTIMIZED PRIOR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

<u>CRIME TYPE</u>					
<u>THEFT FROM YARD</u>	<u>WILFUL DAMAGE</u>	<u>BREAK &amp; ENTER</u>	<u>THEFT FROM AUTO</u>	<u>VEHICLE THEFT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
54.8%	9.7%	12.9%	3.2%	19.4%	
(17)	(3)	(4)	(1)	(6)	(31)

N = 31

TABLE 8

CRIMINAL OFFENCE TYPES RELATING TO WESTFORT TEST SITE HOUSEHOLDS  
VICTIMIZED FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

CRIME TYPE

<u>BREAK &amp; ENTER</u>	<u>THEFT FROM AUTO</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
60.0%	30.0%	10.0%	
(6)	(3)	(1)	(10)
			N = 10

TABLE 9

CRIMINAL OFFENCE TYPES RELATING TO HOUSEHOLDS  
VICTIMIZED IN THE CONTROL SITE

<u>THEFT FROM YARD</u>	<u>WILFUL DAMAGE</u>	<u>BREAK &amp; ENTER</u>	<u>THEFT FROM AUTO</u>	<u>AUTO THEFT</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
40.4%	23.4%	10.6%	21.3%	2.1%	2.1%	
(19)	(11)	(5)	(10)	(1)	(1)	(47)
						N = 47

OFFENCE TYPES

As a supplemental to Tables 4, 5, and 6 the data presented in Tables 7, 8, and 9 provide comparative information regarding offence types. Theft of property from the yard, while a frequent offence type prior to the implementation of Neighbourhood Watch in the Westfort Test Site, did not occur

following implementation. This offence type, however, appears to have occurred frequently in the Control Site as indicated in Table 9. The same holds for wilful damage and theft from auto in the Control Site.

TABLE 10

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF VICTIMS IN THE WESTFORT TEST SITE REPORTING A CRIME AGAINST THEIR PROPERTY TO THE POLICE PRIOR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

<u>REPORTED TO THE POLICE</u>		
<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
64.5%	35.5%	
(20)	(11)	(31)
		N = 31

TABLE 11

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF VICTIMS IN THE WESTFORT TEST SITE REPORTING A CRIME AGAINST THEIR PROPERTY TO THE POLICE FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

<u>REPORTED TO POLICE</u>		
<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
70.0%	30.0%	
(7)	(3)	(10)
		N = 10

TABLE 12

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF VICTIMS IN THE CONTROL SITE REPORTING  
A CRIME AGAINST THEIR PROPERTY TO THE POLICE

<u>REPORTED TO POLICE</u>		
<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
83.0%	17.0%	
(39)	(8)	(47)
		N = 47

REPORTING BEHAVIOUR: CRIMES AGAINST OWN PROPERTY

A comparison of Tables 10 and 11 reveals that a larger percentage of Westfort Test Site victims reported a crime to their property to the police following rather than prior to the implementation of the Neighbourhood Watch Program.

Table 11 indicates that a greater percentage of Control Site victims than Westfort Test Site victims reported such crimes to the police despite the absence of a Neighbourhood Watch Program. This suggests that the frequency with which victims report crime against their property to the police is not dependent upon exposure to a Neighbourhood Watch Program.

TABLE 13

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WHEN VICTIMS IN THE WESTFORT TEST SITE  
 REPORTED A CRIME AGAINST THEIR PROPERTY TO THE POLICE  
 PRIOR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

WHEN REPORTED CRIME TO POLICE

<u>ALMOST IMMEDIATELY</u>	<u>WITHIN 4 HRS</u>	<u>THE NEXT DAY</u>	<u>A FEW DAYS LATER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
45.0%	10.0%	40.0%	5.0%	
(9)	(2)	(8)	(1)	(20)
				N = 20

TABLE 14

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WHEN VICTIMS IN THE WESTFORT TEST SITE  
 REPORTED A CRIME AGAINST THEIR PROPERTY TO THE POLICE FOLLOWING  
 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

WHEN REPORTED CRIME TO POLICE

<u>ALMOST IMMEDIATELY</u>	<u>THE NEXT DAY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
85.7%	14.3%	
(6)	(1)	(7)
		N = 7

TABLE 15

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF WHEN VICTIMS IN THE CONTROL SITE REPORTED A CRIME AGAINST THEIR PROPERTY TO THE POLICE

WHEN REPORTED CRIME TO POLICE

<u>ALMOST IMMEDIATELY</u>	<u>WITHIN 4 HRS</u>	<u>A FEW DAYS LATER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
71.8 %	20. %	7.7%	
(28)	(8)	(3)	(39)

SWIFTNESS OF REPORTING TO POLICE

N=39

Tables 13 and 14 when compared indicate that a greater percentage of Westfort Test Site victims tended to report crime against their property almost immediately to the Police following implementation of the Neighbourhood Watch Program. The figures are 45.01 and 85.71 respectively, suggesting that the program had a significant effect on the reporting behaviour of the Westfort test site respondents.

A review of the Control site table indicates that nearly 71.8% of all victims reported the crime against their property almost immediately to the Police.

TABLE 16

WESTFORT TEST SITE RESPONDENTS WHO OBSERVED AND REPORTED CRIME WHICH OCCURRED IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD TO THE POLICE PRIOR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

OBSERVED CRIME AND REPORTED TO POLICE

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
50.01 %	50.01%	
(8)	(8)	(16)
		N=16

TABLE 17

WESTFORT TEST SITE RESPONDENTS WHO OBSERVED AND REPORTED CRIME WHICH OCCURRED IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD TO THE POLICE FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

<u>OBSERVED CRIME AND REPORTED TO POLICE</u>		
<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
100.0 % (4)	(0)	(4)
		N=4

TABLE 18

CONTROL SITE RESPONDENTS WHO OBSERVED AND REPORTED CRIME WHICH OCCURRED IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD TO THE POLICE

<u>OBSERVED CRIME AND REPORTED TO POLICE</u>		
<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
63.6 % (14)	36.4 % (8)	(22)
		N=22

RESPONSE TO OBSERVED CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR

Prior to the implementation of the program, only 50.1 of those Westfort test site respondents who observed criminal behaviour reported it to the Police, compared to 100% following the implementation of the program. Granted, the sample size is rather small. Nevertheless, the findings suggest that the Neighbourhood Watch program is effective in causing respondents to phone the Police when criminal behaviour is observed.

In the accompanying Table 18 the data indicates that 63.6% of the Control Site respondents contacted the Police when criminal behaviour was observed. This finding lends support to the idea that reporting

frequency rates are dependent upon the presence of joint Police/Public prevention programs designed to generate affirmative action.

FOLLOWUP TO AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

As a followup to the preceding series of tables respondents were asked to indicate what course of action they would take if they were to observe someone committing a crime against their neighbour's property.

TABLE 19

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION RESPONSES OF WESTFORT TEST SITE RESPONDENTS PRIOR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

<u>WOULD TALK TO OFFENDER</u>	<u>WOULD PHONE POLICE</u>	<u>WOULD PHONE NEIGHBOUR</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
11.1%	84.0%	3.7%	1.2%	
(8)	(136)	(6)	(2)	(162)
				N=162

TABLE 20

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION RESPONSES OF WESTFORT TEST SITE RESPONDENTS FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

<u>WOULD TALK TO OFFENDER</u>	<u>WOULD PHONE POLICE</u>	<u>WOULD PHONE NEIGHBOUR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
9.6%	86.7%	3.7%	
(13)	(117)	(5)	(135)
			N=135)

TABLE 21

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION RESPONSES OF CONTROL SITE RESPONDENTS

<u>AFFIRMATIVE ACTION</u>				
<u>WOULD TALK TO OFFENDER</u>	<u>WOULD PHONE POLICE</u>	<u>WOULD PHONE NEIGHBOUR</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
4.2%	93.2%	1.7%	.8%	
(10)	(220)	(4)	(2)	(236)
				N=236

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Clearly, the purpose of Neighbourhood Watch is to instill, within the minds of the program participants, that they must share in the responsibility of dealing with the social problem of crime. One of the ways the acceptance of the responsibility is acted out is through intervention, direct or indirect, whenever a criminal act is observed. Moreover, it is held by the proponents of the Neighbourhood Watch Program that the heightened awareness and social cohesiveness derived from organized neighbourhoods might function to influence the way in which the intervention is manifested. To determine the impact of Neighbourhood Watch in influencing the way in which program participants would socially intervene, each respondent was asked what course of action they would take should they observe an act of criminality being committed against their neighbour's property.

The finding presented in Tables 14, 20 and 21 indicate that the program had very little impact on which course of social intervention would actually be taken. Phoning the Police was the preferred avenue, with little impact on the selection of either talking to the offender or phoning a neighbour about to be victimized. Similar results were

recorded for the Control Site respondents.

TABLE 22

NUMBER OF NEIGHBOURS KNOWN BY NAME BY RESPONDENTS IN THE WESTFORT TEST SITE PRIOR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

NUMBER OF NEIGHBOURS KNOWN BY NAME

<u>LESS THAN 3</u>	<u>4-6</u>	<u>7-10</u>	<u>MORE THAN 10</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
7.4%	25.3%	17.9%	49.4%	
(12)	(41)	(29)	(80)	(162)
				N=162

TABLE 23

NUMBER OF NEIGHBOURS KNOWN BY NAME BY RESPONDENTS IN THE WESTFORT TEST SITE FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

NUMBER OF FAMILIES KNOWN BY NAME

<u>LESS THAN 3</u>	<u>4-6</u>	<u>7-10</u>	<u>MORE THAN 10</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
8.9%	17.0%	18.5%	55.6%	
(12)	(23)	(25)	(75)	(135)
				N=135

TABLE 24

NUMBER OF NEIGHBOURS KNOWN BY NAME BY RESPONDENTS IN THE CONTROL SITE

NUMBER OF NEIGHBOURS KNOWN BY NAME

<u>LESS THAN 3</u>	<u>4-6</u>	<u>7-10</u>	<u>MORE THAN 10</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
16.2%	29.8 %	18.7%	35.3%	
(38)	(70)	(44)	(83)	(236)
				N=236

NUMBER OF NEIGHBOURS KNOWN BY NAME

Table 22 indicates that 67.3% of all respondents in the Westfort Test Site prior to the implementation knew the names of seven (7) or more neighbours compared to 74.1% following the program's implementation, thereby suggesting that Neighbourhood Watch assists in sponsoring social contact.

In the Control Site only 54% of the respondents knew seven (7) or more neighbours by name.

TABLE 25

NUMBER OF NEIGHBOURS VISITED BY RESPONDENTS IN THE WESTFORT TEST SITE PRIOR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

NUMBER OF FAMILIES VISITED

<u>LESS THAN 3</u>	<u>4-6</u>	<u>7-10</u>	<u>MORE THAN 10</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
68.5%	20.4%	7.4%	3.7%	
(111)	(33)	(12)	(6)	(162)
				N=162

TABLE 26

NUMBER OF NEIGHBOURS VISITED BY RESPONDENTS IN THE WESTFORT TEST SITE  
FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

NUMBER OF FAMILIES VISITED

<u>LESS THAN 3</u>	<u>4-6</u>	<u>7-10</u>	<u>MORE THAN 10</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
64.2%	27.6%	6.0%	2.2%	
(86)	(37)	(8)	(3)	(134)
				N=134

TABLE 27

NUMBER OF NEIGHBOURS VISITED BY RESPONDENTS IN THE CONTROL SITE

NUMBER OF FAMILIES VISITED

<u>LESS THAN 3</u>	<u>4-6</u>	<u>7-10</u>	<u>MORE THAN 10</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
72.9 %	21.2%	3.4%	2.5%	
(172)	(50)	(8)	(6)	(236)
				N=236

NUMBER OF NEIGHBOURS VISITED

Respondents were also asked to indicate the number of neighbours visited on a regular basis throughout their neighbourhood. The results presented in tables 25 and 26 indicate that 31.5% of Westfort Test Site respondents visited more than three (3) households regularly prior to the program's implementation, compared to the post figure of 35.8%.

This again suggests that the program assists to a slight degree in fostering social contact.

Comparatively, only 27.1% of respondents in the Control Site indicated that they visit three (3) or more neighbours on a regular basis.

TABLE 28

SOCIAL COHESIVENESS OF WESTFORT TEST SITE RESPONDENTS PRIOR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

<u>LEVEL OF SOCIAL COHESIVENESS</u>		
<u>HIGH</u>	<u>LOW</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
53.1%	46.9%	(162)
(86)	(76)	N=162

TABLE 29

SOCIAL COHESIVENESS OF WESTFORT TEST SITE RESPONDENTS FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

<u>LEVEL OF SOCIAL COHESIVENESS</u>		
<u>HIGH</u>	<u>LOW</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
60%	40%	(135)
(81)	(54)	N=135

TABLE 30

SOCIAL COHESIVENESS OF CONTROL SITE RESPONDENTS

LEVEL OF SOCIAL COHESIVENESS

<u>HIGH</u>	<u>LOW</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
40.3%	59.7%	
(95)	(141)	(236)

SOCIAL COHESION

Social cohesion was measured by combining two variables: the number of neighbours known, with the number of neighbours visited, for the purpose of determining what impact the implementation of the program had on the overall level of cohesion as defined above.

It would appear that the program had a positive effect in terms of heightening the level of cohesion as evidenced by the comparative figures in Tables 28 and 29. The findings in the Control Site table do not run contrary to the pre and post program findings, and support the theory that the program has the ability to increase the level of cohesion.

TABLE 31

PERCEPTION OF WESTFORT TEST SITE RESPONDENTS REGARDING THE PRESENCE OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SPIRIT PRIOR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

IS THERE NEIGHBOURHOOD SPIRIT

<u>YES</u>	<u>SOMEWHAT</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
53.1%	21.6%	25.3%	
(86)	(35)	(41)	(162)
			N=162

TABLE 32

PERCEPTION OF WESTFORT TEST SITE RESPONDENTS REGARDING THE PRESENCE OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SPIRIT FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

<u>IS THERE NEIGHBOURHOOD SPIRIT</u>			
<u>YES</u>	<u>SOMEWHAT</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
56.3%	34.1%	9.6%	
(76)	(46)	(13)	(135)
			N=135

TABLE 33

PERCEPTION OF CONTROL SITE RESPONDENTS REGARDING THE PRESENCE OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SPIRIT

<u>IS THERE NEIGHBOURHOOD SPIRIT</u>			
<u>YES</u>	<u>SOMEWHAT</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
66.9%	11.4%	21.6%	
(158)	(27)	(51)	(236)
			N=236

Neighbourhood Spirit

When asked about the presence of neighbourhood spirit, 74.7% of the Westfort Test Site respondents indicated yes to somewhat of a presence prior to the implementation of the program compared to the post implementation percentage of 90.4%. The Control Site distribution is reminiscent of the pre implementation Test Site data, with 78.3% indicating yes or somewhat with regard to the presence of neighbourhood spirit.

TABLE 34

PERCEPTION OF WESTFORT TEST SITE RESPONDENTS REGARDING THE OCCURRENCE OF PROPERTY CRIME IN THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD OVER THE PAST YEAR PRIOR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

PROPERTY CRIME INCREASED OVER THE PAST YEAR

<u>INCREASED</u>	<u>REMAINED SAME</u>	<u>DECREASED</u>	<u>DON'T KNOW</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
39.5%	51.2%	3.1%	6.2%	
(64)	(83)	(5)	(10)	(162)
				N=162

TABLE 35

PERCEPTION OF WESTFORT TEST SITE RESPONDENTS REGARDING THE OCCURRENCE OF PROPERTY CRIME IN THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD OVER THE PAST YEAR FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

PROPERTY CRIME INCREASED OVER THE PAST YEAR

<u>INCREASED</u>	<u>REMAINED SAME</u>	<u>DECREASED</u>	<u>DON'T KNOW</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
4.4%	25.2%	42.2%	28.1%	
(6)	(34)	(57)	(38)	(135)
				N=135

TABLE 36

PERCEPTION OF CONTROL SITE RESPONDENTS REGARDING THE OCCURRENCE OF PROPERTY CRIME IN THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD OVER THE PAST YEAR

PROPERTY CRIME INCREASED OVER THE PAST YEAR

<u>INCREASED</u>	<u>REMAINED SAME</u>	<u>DECREASED</u>	<u>DON'T KNOW</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
31.8%	55.1%	3.0%	10.2%	
(75)	(130)	(7)	(24)	(236)
				N=236

PERCEPTION OF FREQUENCY OF PROPERTY CRIME

Next, program participants were asked whether they felt the occurrence of property crime in their neighbourhood had increased over the past year.

Without question the post program data in Table 35 suggests that a complete turn around occurred with respect to the respondents' perception of the frequency of property crime in their neighbourhood.

Specifically, 35.1% more respondents indicated that they believed the occurrence of property crime had decreased following the implementation of the Neighbourhood Watch program. It is significant to note that the perception of the residents regarding property crime levels correspond to the victim experience data provided in the first table of this chapter.

TABLE 37

WHAT WESTFORT TEST SITE RESPONDENTS THOUGHT FELLOW RESIDENTS WERE DOING TO ASSIST IN REDUCING THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMIT PROPERTY CRIME IN THE AREA PRIOR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

RESIDENT METHODS OF REDUCING OPPORTUNITY TO COMMIT PROPERTY CRIME

<u>LOOK AFTER NEIGH- BOUR'S PROPERTY</u>	<u>SECURE PROPERTY</u>	<u>TALK TO OFFENDERS</u>	<u>PHONE NEIGHBOURS</u>	<u>PHONE POLICE</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
57.2%	5.7%	1.9%	2.5%	25.2%	7.5%	
(91)	(9)	(3)	(4)	(40)	(12)	(159)
						N=159

TABLE 38

WHAT WESTFORT TEST SITE RESPONDENTS THOUGHT FELLOW RESIDENTS WERE DOING TO ASSIST IN REDUCING THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMIT PROPERTY CRIME IN THE AREA FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

RESIDENT METHODS OF REDUCING OPPORTUNITY TO COMMIT PROPERTY CRIME

<u>LOOK AFTER NEIGH- BOUR'S PROPERTY</u>	<u>SECURE PROPERTY</u>	<u>TALK TO OFFENDERS</u>	<u>PHONE NEIGHBOURS</u>	<u>PHONE POLICE</u>	<u>OTHER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
70.8%	13.1%	—	4.6%	4.6%	6.9%	
(92)	(17)		(6)	(6)	(9)	(130)
						N=130

TABLE 39

WHAT CONTROL SITE RESPONDENTS THOUGHT FELLOW RESIDENTS WERE DOING TO ASSIST IN REDUCING THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMIT PROPERTY CRIME IN THE AREA

RESIDENT METHODS OF REDUCING OPPORTUNITY TO COMMIT PROPERTY CRIME

LOOK AFTER NEIGH- BOUR'S PROPERTY	SECURE PROPERTY	TALK TO OFFENDERS	PHONE NEIGH- BOURS	PHONE POLICE	OTHER	TOTAL
75.7%	9.8%	.9%	1.3%	11.9%	.4%	
(178)	(23)	(2)	(3)	(28)	(1)	(236)
						N=236

METHODS PERCEIVED TO BE EMPLOYED BY ALL RESIDENTS TO REDUCE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMIT PROPERTY CRIME IN THEIR AREA

When Westfort Test Site respondents were first contacted prior to the implementation of Neighbourhood Watch, they indicated that up to that point neighbours primarily looked after neighbours' property and phoned the Police to assist in reducing the occurrence of neighbourhood property crime. Following the implementation of the program an even greater percentage - 70.8% - felt that neighbours were looking after their neighbour's property, and another 13.1% of the respondents believed that neighbours were being somewhat more diligent in securing their worldly possessions. In any event, a shift occurred whereby phoning the Police was not viewed to be occurring as frequently - suggesting that phoning the Police was no longer proactively viewed as a practical nor effective method of dealing with neighbourhood crime. More significantly, this finding further suggests that a change in the attitude may have taken place regarding the need for the resident to accept as his/her responsibility the taking of affirmative action rather than sitting back and

defining crime in general as falling totally within the scope of the Police Force.

To some extent, the findings presented in the corresponding Control Site table support the above, with 12% of the residents indicating that assistance to reduce neighbourhood crime is provided by fellow residents phoning the Police. This suggests that a belief exists that the prevention of crime falls within the domain of the Police - not the public.

Nevertheless, a significantly greater number of residents - 75.7% - as indicated in the Control Site data table, perceived residents to be assisting to reduce neighbourhood crime by looking after their neighbour's property. This figure is also higher than the post Westfort Test Site percentage of 70.8% for the same category.

THE DEGREE TO WHICH RESPONDENTS PHYSICALLY SECURED THEIR HOUSEHOLD AND YARD PROPERTY

To this point in the study, the analysis has focussed primarily upon the impact that the Neighbourhood Watch Program has had on shaping the social response of program participants to the occurrence of property crime in their neighbourhood. The next table will provide the reader with comparative data relating specifically to the impact of the program on the physical response of respondents to the occurrence of property crime in their neighbourhood.

TABLE 40

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE DEGREE TO WHICH HOUSEHOLDS INCLUSIVE OF THE CORRESPONDING YARD PROPERTY WERE PHYSICALLY SECURED IN THE CONTROL SITE AND IN THE WESTFORT TEST SITE PRIOR TO AND FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

COMPARATIVE AREAS	DEGREE TO WHICH HOUSEHOLDS/PROPERTY PHYSICALLY SECURED			
	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	TOTAL
WESTFORT PRIOR TO PROGRAM	47.5% (77)	24.7% (40)	27.8% (45)	(162)
WESTFORT FOLLOW- ING PROGRAM	30.3% (41)	25.1% (34)	44.6% (60)	(135)
CONTROL SITE	54.5% (129)	22.4% (53)	22.7% (54)	(236)
				N=533

Before we discuss the significance of table 40, a description of what is meant by "physically secure" is in order. In the methodology chapter it was mentioned that composite variables were constructed to measure social cohesion, yard security, and household security. All the component variables comprising the yard and household security composite variables were added together to create a global security composite variable. Items such as fencing, locking mechanisms, the securing of recreational and yard equipment, household and shed lighting, door types, window types, the presence or absence of trees and shrubs in front of basement windows, and a host of other security items were included in the construction of the global security component variable (See Appendix A).

The data displayed in Table 40 suggests very strongly that the Westfort Test Site residents responded positively to the target hardening aspect of the Neighbourhood Watch Program. In fact, there was a complete reversal with the majority of respondents registering a medium to high level of physical security following exposure to the program.

This finding is supported by the Control Site data which is distributed similarly to the preprogram implementation data for the Westfort Test Site.

TABLE 41

PERCEPTION OF WESTFORT TEST SITE RESPONDENTS REGARDING THE IMPACT OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AND REDUCING PROPERTY CRIME IN THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD FOLLOWING ITS IMPLEMENTATION

IMPACT OF NEIGHBOURHOOD ON REDUCING PROPERTY CRIME

<u>VERY MUCH IMPACT</u>	<u>SOMEWHAT OF AN IMPACT</u>	<u>NO IMPACT AT ALL</u>
40.6%	54.9%	4.5%
(54)	(73)	(6)
		(133)
		N=133

TABLE 42

DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONSES REGARDING WHETHER WESTFORT TEST SITE RESPONDENTS WOULD RECOMMEND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AS A CRIME PREVENTION STRATEGY FOLLOWING ITS IMPLEMENTATION

WOULD RECOMMEND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
98.5%	1.5%	
(132)	(2)	(134)
		N=134

THE EVALUATION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM BY WESTFORT TEST  
SITE RESPONDENTS

To complement the evaluation phase of the study, the Westfort Test Site program participants were asked to indicate the degree to which Neighbourhood Watch assisted in reducing the opportunity to commit crime in their neighbourhood, and whether or not they personally would recommend the program to other citizens.

As indicated in Tables 41 and 42, well over 95% of the respondents believed the program had very much to somewhat of an impact on reducing the opportunity to commit crime in their neighbourhood. Moreover, the distribution of responses relating to recommending the program indicates that over 98% of the residents believed the program should be recommended as a preventative strategy for other interested neighbourhoods.

SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS

VICTIM EXPERIENCE

The findings presented in this chapter suggest that the way in which the Neighbourhood Watch program was implemented in Thunder Bay was effective in reducing the victim experience of the Westfort Test Site residents. In fact, there was a 67.7% reduction in the occurrence of all property crime. Not one respondent following the implementation of the program reported or indicated a theft of property from the yard had occurred throughout the year. This is a significant finding, given that almost 55% of all related crime prior to the program had involved the theft of property from a yard. Similarly, not one incident of wilful damage was reported or indicated to have occurred following the implementation of the program.

The principal crime related problems in the control site included theft from the yard (40.4%), wilful damage (23.4%), and theft from the household auto (21.3%).

These findings support the concept that Neighbourhood Watch as implemented, was effective in reducing the occurrence of theft from yards and wilful damage.

### REPORTING BEHAVIOUR

A slightly greater percentage of Westfort Test Site respondents contacted the Police to report a crime against their own property rather than not reporting it at all following the implementation of the program. However, it would appear that the program was effective in terms of causing persons who do report a crime against their property to do so more swiftly, with 85.7% indicating immediate reporting, compared to 45% of those Westfort residents who reported a crime against their property prior to the implementation of the program.

### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Respondents were asked whether they had observed anyone commit a crime in their neighbourhood, and whether they had phoned the Police in response to the crime. Prior to the program, only 50% of those Westfort Test Site respondents who had observed a crime being committed phoned the Police, compared to 100% of those Westfort Test Site respondents who observed a crime being committed following the implementation of the program. The hypothesized impact is supported by the Control Site data, with 63.6% of such respondents reporting an observed criminal act to the Police.

As a follow up question, all respondents were asked what they would do if they observed someone committing a crime against their neighbour's property. The findings indicate that there was no impact of the program in terms of steering the response. Under such conditions, respondents in the Test Site reported equally before and after the program that they would by preference phone the Police, talk to the offender, and lastly phone the neighbour being victimized.

### SOCIAL COHESION

The number of persons known by name and visited increased slightly in the Westfort Test Site following the implementation of the program. The

level of interaction similarly increased, indicating that the social cohesiveness was heightened as indicated by the associated comparative tables. A significant impact of the program appears when the data regarding whether a feeling of neighbourhood spirit had developed over time, with over 90% indicating such was the case following the implementation of the program compared to 74.7% of the Test Site respondents prior to program exposure, and 78% of the Control Site respondents.

#### PERCEPTION OF THE CRIME LEVEL

Again, the findings are significant, with a complete reversal of perceptions occurring in the Westfort Test Site respecting the level of neighbourhood crime following implementation of the program. Forty two point two percent (42.2%) of the Test Site residents perceived the level of neighbourhood crime to have decreased, compared to 3.1% of Westfort Test Site respondents prior to the program, and 3% of the Control Site respondents.

#### PERCEIVED APPROACHES UTILIZED BY FELLOW RESIDENTS TO ASSIST IN REDUCING THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMIT PROPERTY CRIME

The data displayed in the relevant tables indicate that a greater percentage of Westfort Test Site respondents following the implementation of the program believed neighbours were assisting to reduce the opportunity to commit neighbourhood crime by looking after their neighbour's property, 70.8% compared to 57.2%, and securing one's own property, 13.1% compared to 5.7%. The Control Site respondents perceive neighbours to be assisting to reduce the occurrence of neighbourhood crime primarily by looking after their neighbour's property, 75.7%, and phoning the Police, 11.9%.

The major finding here is the down playing of phoning the Police by Westfort Test Site respondents as a resident method to reducing the opportunity to commit neighbourhood property crime. Prior to the

program, 25.2% of the respondents perceived this to be a highly utilized method compared to the pre-program figure of 4.6%.

This signals a possible change in the attitude of residents exposed to a Neighbourhood Watch program as provided Thunder Bay, whereby residents are perceived to be taking a less passive and more active role in dealing with the issue of crime.

#### PHYSICAL SECUREMENT OF HOUSEHOLD/PROPERTY

There is strong evidence to substantiate the claim that the program as implemented had a very significant impact on increasing the level of household and yard security (Table 40) in the Westfort Test Site, which may largely explain the dramatic reduction in the occurrence of property related crime throughout the Westfort Test Site, particularly theft of yard property, and explain the relatively high occurrence of property related crime in the Control Site.

#### WESTFORT TEST SITE PERCEPTIONS OF THE IMPACT OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Over 95% of the Westfort Test Site respondents perceived the program to have had somewhat, to very much, of an impact on reducing neighbourhood property crime. Further, 98.5% of the Westfort Test Site respondents indicate that they would recommend the program to other neighbourhoods as a crime prevention strategy.

## CHAPTER IV

### DISCUSSION IMPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### DISCUSSION

This research project was divided into two phases; the first involved the implementation of the Neighbourhood Watch program in a pre-selected residential area, whereas the second phase dealt with the evaluation of the program a year later. An additional control site was determined and similarly examined one year later during the evaluation phase of the study.

Data was extracted from 162 Test Site households during the implementation phase, and 135 Test Site households throughout the evaluation portion of the study. Comparative data was obtained from 236 Control Site households from a residential area located ten (10) miles away from the Test Site.

The data was then analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences to produce bivariate and multivariate contingency tables.

Clearly, the data indicates that the collective victim experience of Westfort Test Site respondents decreased substantially following the implementation of the Neighbourhood Watch program.

The decrease in the victim experience of Westfort Test Site respondents can largely be accounted for by the virtual absence of yard theft - which contributed 54.8% to the total victim experience prior to the program exposure. This suggests that the program was particularly effective in reducing the occurrence of this crime type.

Still, we have yet to determine what aspect of the program was particularly significant with respect to reducing the occurrence of theft from household yards.

The respondents of the Westfort Test Site indicated through their responses that the level of social cohesion was heightened moderately as a result of

the program, and may in part explain the success of the program. This theory is somewhat supported by the Control Site data which indicates that they have a relatively low level of social cohesion and high victim experience rate. However, the change in the level of social cohesion in the Westfort Test Site was too slight to explain fully the mechanical aspect of the program directly responsible for reducing the occurrence of property crime, and in particular, theft of property from the yard.

The answer is relatively simple - respondents in the Westfort Test Site merely increased the level of yard and household security, as indicated by the significant percentage difference of the distribution presented in Table 40. This becomes even more significant when we consider Table 1 simultaneously, whereby we are able to draw a direct relationship between the level of physical security and victim experience.

Having established the above, it still remains for us to determine what aspect of the program contributed to motivating the Westfort Test Site respondents to "beef up" the level of physical security.

A portion of the interview was restricted to identifying the potential vulnerability of each household to the occurrence of property crime. More important, a preliminary analysis of the victim survey data conducted immediately after the sampling of the Westfort Test Site during the implementation phase revealed the major property crime problems relating to the Test Site. This information was conveyed to the Section and Block Captains following the establishment of those positions, which in turn was then communicated to all Neighbourhood Watch respondents. The methods by which the information was conveyed to all Westfort Test Site respondents included the repetition of criminalistics via a Neighbourhood Watch News Letter and, verbally, at all Block meetings (See Appendix A).

Specifically, theft of property was cited as the principal problem, and respondents were encouraged to turn their outside lights on and secure their outdoor recreational equipment and tools/machinery.

It would appear then that the application of crime analysis and the utilization of this information by non-police personnel structured into an

organization such as Neighbourhood Watch can be extremely effective in dealing with specific crime related problems.

Without the Neighbourhood Watch structure, which in essence creates a formal citizen organization within residential areas previously exhibiting informal or loosely knit social ties, the application of crime analysis would in all probability fail. The newly created Neighbourhood Watch organization is endowed with a purpose to prevent the occurrence of neighbourhood crime, and philisophically maintains that all have a responsibility to act in concert in order to realize the organization's purpose.

Undoubtedly such organizations assist to create a greater level of social control within our neighbourhoods by working with a common definition of deviant behaviour and set of responses to deal with observed acts of criminality, and as such, should be considered when explaining victim experience.

In any event, the findings in addition to indicating that a Neighbourhood Watch Program can effectively reduce the occurrence of property crime, suggest that the program was largely responsible for causing residents to acknowledge and accept the role of assuming a pro active stance in partnership with the Police - giving substance to the expression "Working Together To Prevent Crime."

## IMPLICATIONS

1. Neighbourhood Watch Programs can be very effective in reducing the occurrence of residential property crime.
2. To be effective, crime analysis based upon victim experience data rather than reported crime statistics must be applied, and information shared with the bureaucracy of the citizen Neighbourhood Watch organization.
3. The utilization of a newsletter to communicate specific crime problems based upon victim experience data is an effective method for generating an active response of Neighbourhood Watch participants.
4. The heightened level of physical security of the Test Site households was due to the application of criminalistics, and directly related to the reduction of residential property crime.
5. The introduction of a Neighbourhood Watch organization into a neighbourhood assists to heighten the level of social cohesion as measured by frequency of social contact.
6. Neighbourhoods which have not been exposed to a Neighbourhood Watch program will exhibit lower levels of social cohesion, physical security, and higher victim experience rates.
7. Exposure to a Neighbourhood Watch program causes citizens to acknowledge their responsibility vis a vis crime, and to assume a pro active stance in partnership with the Police.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Neighbourhood Watch organizations be sponsored and resources appropriately provided at the municipal level.
2. That identical studies be conducted in other cities/towns and the results of same compared with the findings of this study.
3. That victim experience surveys be conducted to determine the specific crime related problems of a given neighbourhood.
4. That the criminalistic information housed by Police Forces and based upon victim experience be shared with the Neighbourhood Watch Organizations.
5. That victim experience data be utilized to evaluate the effectiveness of all crime prevention strategies for the purpose of developing a meaningful and comparative universal performance measurement.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

ACCORDING TO YOUR INPUT FORMAT, VARIABLES ARE TO BE READ AS FOLLOWS

VARIABLE	FORMAT	RECORD	COLUMNS
CRIME1	F 1. 0	1	70- 70
R_PRT1	F 1. 0	1	71- 71
NAME	F 1. 0	1	72- 72
VISIT	F 1. 0	1	73- 73
FEELPART	F 1. 0	1	74- 74
SPIRIT	F 1. 0	1	75- 75
PROTECT	F 1. 0	1	76- 76
DUTY	F 1. 0	1	77- 77
DD	F 1. 0	1	78- 78
DONE	F 1. 0	1	79- 79
RESPONSE	F 1. 0	1	80- 80
CASNUM?	F 7. 0	2	1- 7
IDENTIFY	F 1. 0	2	8- 8
CAVJUR	F 1. 0	2	9- 9
RECDSN1?	F 1. 0	2	10- 10
LEVEL	F 1. 0	2	11- 11
YEARS	F 1. 0	2	12- 12
VP	F 1. 0	2	13- 13
MOREDUTY	F 1. 0	2	14- 14
ASSIST	F 1. 0	2	15- 15
NWATCH	F 1. 0	2	16- 16
JOIN	F 1. 0	2	17- 17
SPEND	F 1. 0	2	18- 18
CAPTAIN	F 1. 0	2	19- 19
SEX	F 1. 0	2	20- 20
STATUS	F 1. 0	2	21- 21

THE INPUT FORMAT PROVIDES FOR 89 VARIABLES. 89 WILL BE READ  
IT PROVIDES FOR 2 RECORDS ('CAPS') PER CASE. A MAXIMUM OF 30 'COLUMNS' ARE USED ON A RECORD.

INPUT MEDIUM	OTHER
MISSING VALUES	ALL( )/
COMPUTE	SECURITY=BUSHES+TREES+FRLIGHT+FRWINDO+FLAMATO+FRLOCK+FRHINGE+FRDOR+PATDOR+PATLOCK+SCREWS+BACKLITE+BKWOODR+BKWOODR+BKWLAMTO+BKLOCK+BKHINGE+SLIDEW+SLIDELOK+SLSCREWS+DHUNGW+DHPINO+DHPINVNT+CASEW+CALOCKS+BASEW+BARS
COMPUTE	OUTSIDE=GAPAGE+GALIGHT+VDLOCK+PDLOCK+PDHINGE+FRFENCE+FRTYPE+BKFENCE+BKTYPF+RECSAFE
COMPUTE	COHESION=NAME+VISIT
COMPUTE	FORTRESS=SECURITY+OUTSIDE
RECODE	COHESION(LO THRU 4=1)(5 THRU HI=2)
RECODE	FORTRESS(LO THRU 50=1)(51 THRU 55=2)(56 THRU HI=3)
ASSIGN MISSING	FLAMATO,PA LOCK,SCREWS,BKWLAMTO,SLIDELOK,SLSCREWS,DHPINO,DHPINVNT,CALOCKS,BARS,GALIGHT,VDLOCK,PDLOCK,PDHINGE,RECSAFE(2)
CONSTANT	TABLES=FORTRESS BY COHESION/FORTRESS BY COHESION BY VICTIM/FORTRESS BY VICTIM/COHESION BY VICTIM
OPTIONS	4
STATISTICS	1,10

APPENDIX B

GROUP 1

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH MEETING

DATE: Wednesday August 25, 1982

PLACE: Mary J. L. Black Library

TIME: 7:30

POLICE PRESENT: Constable Peter Connors  
Crime Prevention Officer

STAFF PRESENT: Andrea Richmond (Project Leader)  
Joan Alkenbrack (Project Worker)  
Marcia Bevilacqua " "  
Alda dos Santos " "  
JoAnn Raynak " "

NUMBER OF GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT: 4 (3 guests present)

BLOCK CAPTAIN: 131 Mary Street

ASSISTANT BLOCK CAPTAIN:



## City Of Thunder Bay Police Force

425 EAST DONALD STREET, THUNDER BAY, ONTARIO P7E 5V1 PHONE 807 623-2711

G. F. Ouellette, Chief of Police

GROUP #2

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH MEETING

DATE: August 3, 1982

PLACE: Mary J. L. Black Library

TIME: 7:30 pm.

POLICE PRESENT: Constable Peter Connors (Crime Prevention Officer)

STAFF PRESENT: Andrea Richmond (Project Leader)

Joan Alkenbrack (Project Worker)

Marcia Bevilacqua (Project Worker)

Suzanne Desmoulin (Project Worker)

Alda dos Santos (Project Worker)

Rod Etheridge (Project Worker)

JoAnn Raynak (Project Worker)

NUMBER OF GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT: 6

BLOCK CAPTAIN: 128 E. Christina Street

ASSISTANT BLOCK CAPTAIN: 138 E. Christina Street

Address All Correspondence to  
The Chief of Police  
Referring to  
Our File No.  
Your File No.

GROUP#3

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH MEETING

DATE: August 5, 1982

PLACE: Mary J. L. Black Library

TIME: 7:30

POLICE PRESENT: Constable Peter Connors  
Crime Prevention Officer

STAFF PRESENT: Andrea Richmond (Project Leader)  
Joan Alkenbrack (Project Worker)  
Marcia Bevilacqua " "  
Suzanne Desmoulin " "  
Alda dos Santos " "  
Rod Etheridge " "  
JoAnn Raynak " "

NUMBER OF GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT: 7

BLOCK CAPTAIN: 195 Mary street

ASSISTANT BLOCK CAPTAIN: 193 Mary Street

GROUP#4

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH MEETING

DATE: August 9, 1982

PLACE: Mary J. L. Black Library

TIME: 7:30

POLICE PRESENT: Constable Peter Connors  
Crime Prevention Officer

STAFF PRESENT: Andrea Richmond (Project Leader)  
Joan Alkenbrack (Project Worker)  
Marcia Bevilacqua " "  
Alda dos Santos " "  
Rod Etheridge " "  
JoAnn Raynak " "

NUMBER OF GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT: 11

BLOCK CAPTAIN: 114 East Mary Street

ASSISTANT BLOCK CAPTAIN: 120 East Mary Street

GROUP#5

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

DATE: August 9, 1982

PLACE: Mary J. L. Black Library

TIME: 7:30

POLICE PRESENT: Constable Peter Connors  
Crime Prevention Officer

STAFF PRESENT: Andrea Richmond (Project Leader)  
Joan Alkenbrack (Project Worker)  
Marcia Bevilacqua " "  
Alda dos Santos " "  
Rod Etheridge " "  
JoAnn Raynak " "

NUMBER OF GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT: 10

BLOCK CAPTAIN: 140 East Mary Street

ASSISTANT BLOCK CAPTAIN: 132 East Mary Street

GROUP: 6

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH MEETING

DATE: Monday August 23, 1982

PLACE: Mary J.L. Black Library

TIME: 7:30

POLICE PRESENT: Constable Peter Connors  
                  Crime Prevention Officer

STAFF PRESENT: Andrea Richmond (Project Leader)  
                  Joan Alkenbrack (Project Worker)  
                  Marcia Bevilacqua       "       "  
                  Suzanne Desmoulin     "       "  
                  Rod Etheridge        "       "

NUMBER OG GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT: 5

BLOCK CAPTAIN: 147 East Brock Street

ASSISTANT BLOCK CAPTAIN: 177 East Brock Street

GROUP: 7

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH MEETING

DATE: Tuesday August 24, 1982

PLACE: Mary J. L. Black Library

TIME: 7:30

POLICE PRESENT: Constable Peter Connors  
Crime Prevention Officer

STAFF PRESENT: Andrea Richmond (Project Leader)  
Joan Alkenbrack (Project Worker)  
Marcia Bevilacqua " "  
Suzanne Desmoulin " "  
Alda dos Santos " "

NUMBER OF GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT: 6

BLOCK CAPTAIN: 1212 Edward Street

ASSISTANT BLOCK CAPTAIN: 118 Brock Street

GROUP: 8

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH MEETING

DATE: Monday August 23, 1982

PLACE: Mary J. L. Black Library

TIME: 7:30

POLICE PRESENT: Constable Peter Connors  
Crime Prevention Officer

STAFF PRESENT: Andrea Richmond (Project Leader)  
Joan Alkenbrack (Project Worker)  
Marcia Bevilacqua " "  
Suzanne Desmoulin " "  
JoAnn Raynak " "  
Rod Etheridge " "

NUMBER OF GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT: 8

BLOCK CAPTAIN: 178 Brock Street

ASSISTANT BLOCK CAPTAIN: 140 Brock Street

GROUP: 9

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH MEETING

DATE: Tuesday August 24, 1982

PLACE: Mary J. L. Black Library

TIME: 7:30

POLICE PRESENT: Constable Peter Connors  
Crime Prevention Officer

STAFF PRESENT: Andrea Richmond (Project Leader)  
Joan Alkenbrack (Project Worker)  
Marcia Bevilacqua " "  
Suzanne Desmoulin " "  
Alda dos Santos " "

NUMBER OF GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT: 11

BLOCK CAPTAIN: 199-1 Francis Street

ASSISTANT BLOCK CAPTAIN: 163 Francis Street

APPENDIX C

POLICE CO-ORDINATOR  
CONST. PETER CONNORS

SECTION LEADER  
JUDITH HUGHES

GROUP LEADER  
WILLIAM HLADY

GROUP LEADER  
JERRY SALMELA

GROUP LEADER  
TERESA TRELINSKI

GROUP LEADER  
PEARL DICKS

BLOCK CAPTAINS  
AND  
ASSISTANT BLOCK CAPTAINS

~~Laura Gounnhok~~  
Gary Ferguson  
Verna Johnson  
Carmie McLean  
Mary Wolak  
Bonnie Sombray

BLOCK CAPTAINS  
AND  
ASSISTANT BLOCK CAPTAINS

James Ball  
Dan Menard  
Henry Pearson  
Noe Rawluk  
Ken Vranich

BLOCK CAPTAINS  
AND  
ASSISTANT BLOCK CAPTAINS

(To be assigned as recruited)  
MAS HYES  
~~Laura Gounnhok~~

BLOCK CAPTAINS  
AND  
ASSISTANT BLOCK CAPTAINS

David Anderson  
Gordon Backus  
Raymond Boucher  
Dapne Caruso  
Lannette Lahti

APPENDIX D



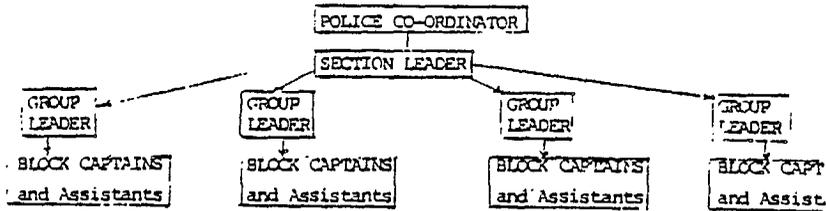
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER  
WESTFORT NEIGHBOURHOOD  
VOL. II, #1  
MARCH 4, 1983

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To all neighbours in the Neighbourhood Watch Program in the Westfort Community, the following is a NEWSLETTER which will bring you up to date as to what has been happening in the area since August of 1982.

The Neighbourhood Watch Program is now officially in effect as of January 29, 1983. This is the date our signs were unveiled. The captains and assistant captains would like to thank all those neighbours who joined in the unveiling of the signs. Since this date we are on our own. What we do, intend to do, etc. is entirely up to us as a community. Our community of some 200 homes plus, has been sectioned off into 10 (ten) groups. Each group has their own Block Captain and Assistant Captain. You will meet and see your captains and assistants at our first meeting on March 16, 1983.

In November of 1982, all Block Captains and Assistants were called for their first meeting with Constable Connors, our Police Co-ordinator. At this meeting, the positions of Section Leader and four Group Leaders were filled. The mechanics of the Neighbourhood Watch Program is as follows:



This is the way it works: for example, if there is a suspicious looking vehicle driving slowly up and down your street and you decide to contact the police, this will in turn send of a chain reaction of telephone calls, unless of course, you can provide the necessary information yourself, like a licence plate number, description of vehicle and perhaps even a description of the driver or occupant(s). If not, the police department, knowing we are now in full operation, will contact the Section Leader and ask for the above information from the community. The section leader in turn will contact the group leaders, who in turn contact each neighbour in their individual sections.

At this same meeting we were also informed that through the survey done on each individual home last August, that 57% of the crime in our neighbourhood is outside the home. Fifty-four percent (54%) of our 200 homes have poor back yard security. Before August of last year there were:

- 4 sheds broken into
- 5 bicycles stolen
- 3 thefts over \$200
- 3 cars broken into

Basically what we must do is improve our backyard security. We must keep our front and back lights on during the night and keep our sheds locked.

We ask that those neighbours that have hedges growing either in the front or back of their homes, please try to keep them at a reasonable height and thickness.

Some Block Captains and Assistants found it difficult to actually hold an individual "group meeting". Those that did found the turnout poor and costly. Therefore, at the Block Captains meeting of

February 16, 1983, it was decided that we would try and hold a COMMUNITY MEETING. This includes everyone in the Neighbourhood Watch Program from East Christina to Francis Street. This meeting will be a question and answer meeting. We will discuss the contents of this Newsletter in detail at that time. Constable Connors will be there to answer any of your questions.

\*\*\*\*\*

General Neighbourhood Watch Meeting

March 16, 1983

7:30 p.m.

Mary J. L. Black Library

\*\*\*\*\*

Although we are, at present, a non-profit program and one without a budget per se, unfortunately there is and will be expenses. Unfortunately, the Mary J. L. Black Library is NOT FREE. If there is someone who knows of a place where we can gather as a community, which is free or cheaper, please advise at the March 16th meeting.

The Library is charging \$5.00 for the large auditorium plus \$3.00 for the use of their 100 seats. The coffee is optional. We will discuss this at the March 16th meeting. It has been suggested that we donate 50c per meeting (each person) to cover costs of the hall and coffee. This of course is subject to change and will also be discussed at the March 16th meeting. There may be some bookkeeping involved here and at the meeting we will have to find a treasurer. If there is anyone in the community interested in this position, please let us know at the March 16th meeting.

If you like the idea of a Newsletter, it will be up to you to decide how often you would like one. Eventually we will have to pay for the copying of the Newsletter. This will have to be kept in mind as an expense.

Some of you were contacted at the beginning of February regarding a red and white van that was seen cruising the Mary Street area. Although it was a false alarm, (the two fellows were delivering for the owner of the van and were given the wrong address), the system did work. Within several hours of contact with the Section Leader, the police had a description of the Van, the two fellows driving it and the licence plate number.

On February 16, 1983, the Block Captains and Assistants met for their second meeting. Constable Connors informed us that in December of 1982 the following crimes were committed in our area:

- 1 car damaged on E. Francis
- 1 theft over \$200.00 - E. Christina
- 1 mischief - E. Mary
- 1 Break and Enter - Edward Street

At the general community meeting in March, we hope to discuss possible ideas as to how to educate ourselves against crime. The following are a few suggestions and we hope to obtain a few more from you at the meeting.

1. Locksmith - demonstrate various locks, how to secure your boats and motors.
2. Alarm Systems - demonstrations.
3. Film on "Home Security".
4. Film "Lady Beware".
5. Ken Boshkoff - Task Force on Vandalism.
6. Policemen talk to our teenagers and children on a more personal basis - how to take care of bikes - put bicycles away at night and lock up.

If you have any further suggestions we would like to hear them at the March 16th meeting.

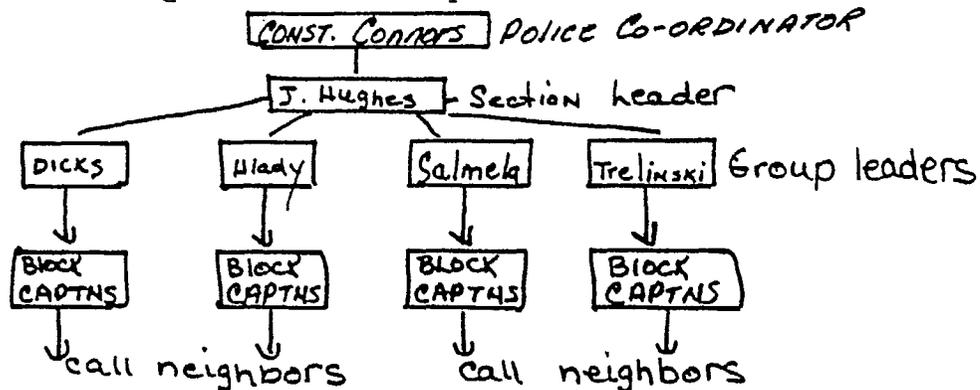
AS THE SOUTH SIDE OF FRANCIS STREET IS NOT YET INVOLVED WITH THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM, WE ASK IF THE NORTH SIDE OF FRANCIS STREET WOULD INVITE THE SOUTH SIDE TO OUR MEETING ON MARCH 16, 1983 SO THEY TOO CAN JOIN US AND BECOME PART OF OUR PROGRAM.

Judy Hughes  
Section Leader  
Westfort Area  
Neighbourhood Watch  
Program

MEMORANDUM

Neighborhood Watch Program  
Groups 4 and 5

On November 24, 1982, Constable Peter  
Toussaint called the Block Captains and the  
Assistant Block Captains for their first  
meeting. At this meeting a Section Leader,  
and four Group Leaders were chosen. The  
following is what transpired:



If something happens in our neighborhood  
which may mean a neighborhood search, etc.,  
talking to neighbors, the police only make one  
phone call to the Section Leader. The Section  
Leader calls the four Group Leaders; the  
Group Leaders call their designated Block  
Captains and Assistants. These Block Cap-  
tains then call the individual homes in  
their particular group. This saves the  
police from making umpteen phone calls and  
interviews and it saves a lot of precious  
time. If you see or hear anything suspic-  
ious, you are not to hesitate to call the  
police.

We were informed, through the survey  
done on each individual home last August, that  
57.2% of the crimes in our neighborhood are  
outside the home. 54% of our 200 homes  
have poor back yard security. There have  
been in the past year:

- 4 sheds broken into
- 5 bicycles stolen
- 3 thefts over \$200
- 3 cars broken into

Basically what we must do now is improve our backyard security. We must keep our front and back lights on. We must keep our sheds locked. If you go down Christina Street (the block just off Edward), you will see that almost all the homes are lit in the front and also in the back. Mary Street is BLACK. You find the odd home has put their front light on. We ask that those who have front and back hedges, please keep them cut at a reasonable length.

The Neighborhood Watch Signs were to be up some time in December. Unfortunately this did not come about.

It was decided that the Block Captains will meet once a month. The meeting was adjourned by Constable Peter Connors who has now left it up to the individual Block Captains to relay what transpired at this meeting to their neighbors. We are also now on our own and it is now up to us as a community to make this work.

#### DECEMBER 2, 1982

Groups 4 and 5 were notified of the first neighborhood watch meeting. Letters were sent to all concerned. Although we had a total of 9 (nine) homes represented we did accomplish a great deal. EUT, to make this N.W.P. a real success we must have the rest of the community's (not only the adults but the children as well) enthusiasm and participation in these meetings and discussions so that we can educate ourselves against crime.

Our first meeting was held at the Mary C. L. Black library. The cost of the hall was \$5.00 + \$3.00 for the use of their 30 cup coffee pot. It was decided

that since we (at the present time) have no funds available, we would all pay \$0.50 per meeting (which is once a month) just to cover the cost of the hall. Coffee at this point is optional. Will be discussed again.

The nine homes represented agreed to meet once a month, at the beginning of each month (subject to change) and the Elock Captains at the end of each month. Our next Neighborhood Watch Meeting will be scheduled for the beginning of February.

We discussed how we were going to educate ourselves against Crime. The group came up with the following suggestions:

1. Locksmith - demonstrate various lock techniques
2. Ken Eoshkoff - Task Force on Vandalism
3. Film - Lady Beware - Const. Connors
4. Policeman talk to our children - Const. Connors - lock up bikes, etc.
5. Self Defense seminar
6. Thunder Bay Rape Centre - seminar
7. First Aid around the home

Basically the above is what transpired at our first meeting. We do hope that perhaps the next meeting in February will attract a few more families.

January 11, 1983

Constable Connors called. The signs will be going up on January 21, 1983. We invite the neighborhood watch community to join us on January 29, 1983 at 2:00 p.m. (Saturday) along with the press, Alderman Ietlanc, and Lysnes, Constable Connors, Ken Eoshkoff, at the corner of Christina and Kingsway for a group picture. Please tell your neighbors.

*Judy Hughes*  
Judy Hughes  
Section Leader

APPENDIX E



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF THUNDER BAY

BY-LAW NUMBER 259 1982

A By-law to regulate neighbourhood watch program signing.

Whereas Section 210 141 provides that By-laws may be passed for prohibiting or regulating signs and other advertising devices the posting of notices on buildings or vacant lots within any defined area or areas or on land abutting a defined highway or part of a highway;

AND WHEREAS Section 194(6) of The Municipal Act provides that councils may pass By-laws providing for the use by the public lands of which the Corporation is the owner and for the regulation of such use and the protection of such lands;

AND WHEREAS Section 104 of The Municipal Act provides that every council may pass such By-laws and make such regulations for the health, safety, morality and welfare of the inhabitants of the municipality in matters not specifically provided for by the said Act as may be deemed expedient and are not contrary to law;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF THUNDER BAY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. This By-law applies to the whole of the City of Thunder Bay.
2. Signs in the form of the sign shown in Schedule "A" hereof may be erected with the authority and in accordance with the directions of a member of the Thunder Bay Police Force as part of the Neighbourhood Watch Program.
3. Except as provided in Section 2 hereof, no person shall erect, post, place or use any sign in the form shown in Schedule hereto or any sign that is likely to cause persons to believe that it is a sign authorized hereunder.
4. Any person violating any of the provisions of this by-law shall be subject to a penalty of not more than Twenty-five (\$25.00) Dollars, exclusive of costs, and all such penalties shall be recoverable under The Provincial Offences Act.
5. This By-law shall come into force and take effect upon its final passing hereof.

Enacted and Passed this 30th day of AUGUST, 1982, as witnessed by the Seal of the Corporation and the hands of its proper Officers

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY [Signature] City Clerk

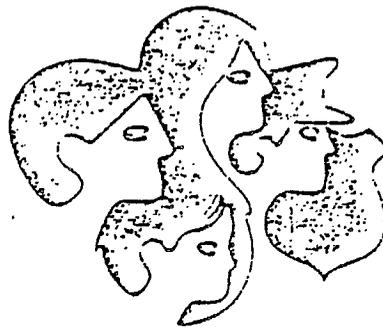
[Signature] Mayor [Signature] City Clerk

Read a First time this 30th day of AUGUST, 1982



SCHEDULE "A" to  
By-Law Number 459, 1982

# NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH COMMUNITY



Working Together  
To Prevent Crime

APPENDIX F

THUNDER BAY POLICE FORCE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street

CO-OPERATION PREVENTS CRIME

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Any information that you provide us with will be kept strictly confidential.

CASE NUMBER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7

PART I

HOME SECURITY SURVEY

FIRST, WE WOULD LIKE TO EXAMINE AND ASK A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT THE WAY YOU SECURE YOUR HOUSEHOLD, OUT BUILDINGS, AND YARD IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PERSONS TO DAMAGE OR STEAL YOUR PROPERTY.

(TO BE READ BY INTERVIEWER)

PART I

HOME SECURITY SURVEY

1. Are the house numbers

(1) small?

(2) large?

[  
8

2. Are the house numbers

(1) the same colour as the background?

(2) contrast in colour from the background?

[  
9

3. Are the house numbers

(1) not visible from the street?

(2) visible from the street?

[  
10

4. Are the shrubs/bushes (under 8 feet) blocking the view of any of the windows or doors?

(1) yes

(2) no

[  
11

5. Are there trees (over 8 feet) blocking the view of any of the windows or doors?

(1) yes

(2) no

[  
12

6. Is there an operative front door light?

(1) no

(2) yes

[  
13

7. If yes, is it a 40 watt covered bulb:

- (1) no
- (2) yes

  
 14

8. Is there a window(s) in the front door or immediately beside the door?

- (1) yes
- (2) no

  
 15

9. If yes, is the window laminated glass?

- (1) no
- (2) yes

  
 16

10. Describe the front door lock.

- (1) No lock at all
- (2) Key in the knob
- (3) Mortised lock
- (4) Rim lock
- (5) Dead latch bolt
- (6) Jimmy proof
- (7) High security rim lock
- (8) Dead bolt single cylinder
- (9) Dead bolt double cylinder

  
 17

11. (a) Describe the front door hinges

- (1) Exterior not pinned
- (2) Exterior pinned
- (3) Interior

  
 18

(b) Is the front door

- (1) Hollow core
- (2) Solid core

  
 19

12. Is there a door viewer in the front door?

(1) no

(2) yes

20

13. Is there a patio door on the household?

(1) yes

(2) no

21

14. If yes, is there a lock stick or Charlie Bar?

(1) no

(2) yes

22

15. If yes to question 13, are there screws in the top track?

(1) no

(2) yes

23

16. Is there an operative back/side door light?

(1) no

(2) yes

24

17. If yes, is it a 60 watt covered bulb?

(1) no

(2) yes

25

18. (a) Is there a window in the back/side door or immediately adjacent to it?

(1) yes

(2) no

26

(b) Is the back/side door

(1) Hollow core

(2) Solid core

27

19. If yes, is the window laminated glass?

- (1) no
- (2) yes

28

20. Describe the back/side door lock

- (1) No lock at all
- (2) Key in the knob
- (3) Mortised lock
- (4) Rim lock
- (5) Jimmy proof
- (6) High security rim lock
- (7) Dead latch bolt
- (8) Dead bolt single cylinder
- (9) Dead bolt double cylinder

29

21. Describe the back door hinges

- (1) Exterior not pinned
- (2) Exterior pinned
- (3) Interior

30

22. Is there a door viewer in the back door?

- (1) no
- (2) yes

31

23. Are there sliding windows on the house?

- (1) yes
- (2) no

32

24. If yes, have locks or lock sticks been installed in all such windows?

- (1) no
- (2) yes

33

25. If yes to question 23, have screws been placed in the top tracks  
in all such windows?

- (1) no
- (2) yes

34

26. Are there double hung windows on the house?
- (1) yes  
(2) no
27. If yes, have all such windows been pinned?
- (1) no  
(2) yes
28. If yes to question 26, have all of the double hung windows been pinned for ventilation?
- (1) no  
(2) yes
29. Are there casement windows on the house?
- (1) yes  
(2) no
30. If yes, have latches or bolts been installed on all such windows?
- (1) no  
(2) yes
31. Are there basement windows?
- (1) yes  
(2) no
32. Are there bars on all the basement windows?
- (1) no  
(2) yes
- 35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41

33. Is there a sleeping area in the basement?
- (1) yes  
(2) no
34. Is there a garage on the property?
- (1) yes  
(2) no
35. Is there an operative outdoor light on the garage?
- (1) no  
(2) yes
36. If yes, is it a 60 watt covered bulb?
- (1) no  
(2) yes
37. Is the vehicle door to the garage locked or bolted from the inside?
- (1) no  
(2) yes
38. Describe the pedestrian garage door lock.
- |                                  |                               |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (1) No lock at all               | (6) (a) Jimmy proof or        |
| (2) (a) Key in the knob or       | (b) Bolted hasp with          |
| (b) Screwed on hasp with padlock | backing plate and padlock     |
| (3) Dead latch bolt              | (7) High security rim lock    |
| (4) Mortised lock                | (8) Dead bolt single cylinder |
| (5) Rim lock                     | (9) Dead bolt double cylinder |
39. Describe the pedestrian garage door hinges.
- (1) Exterior hinges not pinned  
(2) Exterior hinges pinned  
(3) Interior hinges

40. Does anyone in your household own a bicycle?

(1) yes

(2) no

49

41. If yes, are all the bicycles licensed?

(1) no

(2) yes

50

42. If yes to question 40, is it marked for identification (Social Insurance Number) or is the serial number recorded?

(1) no

(2) yes

51

43. If yes to question 40, are all the household bicycles locked or stored in a locked area?

(1) no

(2) yes

52

44. Is there a storage shed on the property?

(1) yes

(2) no

53

45. If yes, is the door

(1) NOT locked at all

(2) Padlocked - (Hasp not secured)

(3) Hasp secured and padlocked

54

46. Are all household recreational items and outdoor tools

(1) not secured at all

(2) chained or locked

(3) stored in a locked structure

55

47. Are the household valuables (stereos, cameras, etc.) marked with an identification number or are the serial numbers recorded?

- (1) no
- (2) yes

56

48. Is there a rear lane adjacent to the backyard property lane?

- (1) yes
- (2) no

57

49. If yes, is the house number displayed in the back yard and visible from the lane?

- (1) no
- (2) yes

58

50. Is there fencing around the front yard?

- (1) no
- (2) yes

59

51. If yes, is the fencing around the front yard?

- (1) Partial
- (2) Complete

60

52. Is there fencing around the back yard?

- (1) no
- (2) yes

61

53. If yes, is the fencing

- (1) Partial
- (2) Complete

62

PART II

VICTIM EXPERIENCE

NEXT, WE ARE SEEKING INFORMATION ABOUT PROPERTY CRIMES IN THIS AREA. THIS INCLUDES SUCH THINGS AS MARKING UP PROPERTY, STEALING FROM GARDENS, SLASHING TIRES, BREAKING FENCES, ETC. WE ARE ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN THE PROPERTY CRIMES THAT YOU PERSONALLY KNOW ABOUT AND IF ANY HAVE DIRECTLY HAPPENED TO YOU. (TO BE READ BY INTERVIEWER)

54. Has any of your property been stolen or damaged at this house/apartment in the last year?

- (1) yes (2) no

63

55. If yes, state type of crime

- (1) Theft from yard  
(2) Wilful damage (vandalism)  
(3) Break and Enter  
(4) Theft from auto  
(5) Auto theft  
(6) Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please specify

64

56. Area of structure victimized was:

- (1) House (6) Fences  
(2) Car (7) Apartment  
(3) Yard (8) Away from house  
(4) Garage (9) Other  
(5) Garden

65

57. Did you report it to the police?

- (1) yes (2) no

66

58. If yes, how soon after did you report it to the police?

- (1) Almost immediately  
(2) Within four (4) hours after you noticed it  
(3) The next day  
(4) A few days later

67



64. How many do you visit in their homes?

- (1) Less than 3                      (3) Between 7 and 10  
(2) Between 4 and 6                (4) More than 10

73

65. Do you feel a part of this neighbourhood?

- (1) yes                                (2) no                                (3) somewhat

74

66. Do you think that there is any neighbourhood spirit?

- (1) yes                                (2) no                                (3) somewhat

75

67. For example: If a stranger was hanging around your house,  
would your neighbours do anything about it?

- (1) yes                                (2) no                                (3) I'm not sure  
or don't know

76

68. What do you think your responsibility is when you think some kind  
of crime is going on?

- (1) Phone police                      (2) Phone neighbour  
(3) Talk to offender                (4) Other (please specify)
- 

77

69. What would you actually do if you saw someone damaging or stealing  
your neighbour's property?

- Would you: (1) talk to the offender  
(2) phone police  
(3) phone your neighbour  
(4) ignore it and not report it

78

70. Have you ever done any of the above?

- (1) yes (2) no

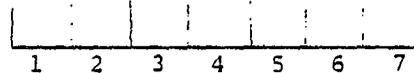
79

71. If yes, did you:

- (1) Phone the police  
(2) Phone your neighbours  
(3) Talk to the offender  
(4) Ignore it and not report it.

80

72. How many people can you recognize on sight as being in your neighbourhood:



- (1) None (5) 11 to 20  
(2) 1 or 2 (6) 21 to 50  
(3) 3 to 5 (7) More than 50  
(4) 6 to 10

8

73. How many of your neighbours do you know well enough to ask a favour of, if you needed something:

- (1) None (5) 11 to 20  
(2) 1 or 2 (6) 21 to 50  
(3) 3 to 5 (7) More than 50  
(4) 6 to 10

9

74. In general, how easy or difficult, is it for you to tell a stranger from someone who lives in your neighbourhood:

- (1) very easy  
(2) easy  
(3) difficult  
(4) very difficult  
(5) never gave it much thought

10

Evaluation Page Insert

80. Do you think you have more contact with your neighbours than before the Neighbourhood Watch Program began?

- (1) Yes (2) No

16

81. If yes, in what way has greater contact occurred:

- (1) by telephone  
(2) over the fence or on the street conversations  
(3) Neighbourhood Watch Meetings/Activities  
(4) Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

17

82. Do you think Neighbourhood Watch has had any impact on decreasing the occurrence of crime in your neighbourhood?

- (1) Very much  
(2) Somewhat  
(3) Not at all

18

83. Would you recommend Neighbourhood Watch to people living in other neighbourhoods?

- (1) Yes (2) No

19

84. Sex of the respondent:

- (1) female  
(2) male

20

85. Status of the respondent:

- (1) owner  
(2) renter

21

83. How interested would you be in acting as a neighbourhood block captain?

- (1) Very interested
- (2) Somewhat interested (maybe)
- (3) Not interested at all.

┌  
19

84. Sex of the respondent

- (1) female
- (2) male

┌  
20

85. Status of the respondent

- (1) Owner
- (2) Renter

┌  
21

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