

Prince Albert Police Service

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Prince Albert, Saskatchewan S6V 3P4

Dale R. McFee
Chief of Police

February 8, 2008

Valerie Todd
Projects Manager
Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators
2323 St Laurent Blvd
OTTAWA ONTARIO K1G 4J8

Dear Valerie:

Prince Albert Police Service is submitting an application for the CCMTA - Police Partnership Award.

Prince Albert Police Service in partnership with Saskatchewan Government Insurance have developed a program that is focused on road safety particularly on "INTERSECTION SAFETY". Saskatchewan Government Insurance provides funding and has assisted in developing the details of the operations of the Intersection Safety Program with the Prince Albert Police Service.

The Intersection Safety Program was developed from a concern over the number of collisions that occur at intersections within Prince Albert. Data obtained from Saskatchewan Government Insurance over a time frame from 1996 thru 2006 shows that there were two (2) intersections in which a total of 344 collisions occurred. Of these, 281 collisions were right angle; rear end and left turn opposite. To determine an average cost of collisions we took the lowest variable number provided being \$2500.00 for right angle collisions and then multiplied this by 256 (number of right angle collisions). $256 \times \$2500.00 = \$640,000.00$. The lowest cost for damage over a ten-year period is estimated at \$640,000.00. This number, although considerable is the lowest number and it doesn't take into account any injuries sustained. These numbers clearly indicate a strong need for solutions. Prince Albert Police Service S/Sgt. Bill Chow and SGI Traffic Supervisor Shannon Eil formed a plan to combat this issue.

The plan includes key points that the Prince Albert Police Service provides. Key points include manpower and equipment required to monitor intersections within the City. Saskatchewan Government Insurance provides funding to allow a focused effort of enforcement at intersections. Intersections are monitored by police personnel and when offenders are noted they are stopped and at the discretion of the officer educating the driver on the focus of intersection safety. The officer's focus is to ensure the driver is not a repeat offender. The officer uses a combination of enforcement and education to better our position in attempting to prevent re-occurrence.

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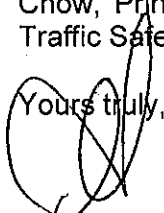
To kick off the program, Prince Albert Police Service held a press conference with Shannon Ell, Supervisor of Traffic Safety, Saskatchewan Government Insurance and Deputy Mayor, Ted Zurakowski and a Member of Government. The press conference was to raise awareness to the public. The key message of Intersection Safety Program and traffic signal abeyance were effectively delivered. The public was made aware of the high number of senseless collisions that occur at our intersections and the significant associated costs to the insurance industry and ultimately the taxpayer. Prince Albert Police Service in 2007 operated the Intersection Safety Program and will continue to be in partnership with Saskatchewan Government Insurance in 2008. Prince Albert Police Service and SGI are both committed to this program and are presently trying to evaluate the effectiveness of the Intersection Safety Program. Due to time delays in payouts and related claims it is difficult to determine the cost saving associated to the program in relation to claims. However, statistics gathered from Prince Albert Police Service data indicates that when you compare the same time period from 2006 and 2007 at the intersections noted above, accidents reported to the Prince Albert Police Service **decreased by 60%**. This is a significant reduction and certainly adds credence to the program.

Prince Albert Police Service and Saskatchewan Government Insurance want the outcome of the Intersection Safety Program to decrease the number of collisions, number of injured people and the number of drivers that disobey not only traffic signal laws but laws when operating vehicles in Prince Albert and in the Province of Saskatchewan. If these benefits can be obtained not only has this program made the streets in Prince Albert safer, but a fair statement would also indicate a considerable tax savings through a savings in claim payouts.

The Intersection Safety Program's goal is not enforcement, but the education of the drivers in Prince Albert to be more aware of traffic signals, other vehicles at intersections and those collisions at INTERSECTIONS can be avoided. The program included the fact that signs were placed at all applicable intersections that indicate a high collision intersection. This program provides a cost effective way through enforcement and education to drive down collisions. A photocopy of the sign design is attached to this letter.

The representatives that would attend to accept the award if successful would be S/Sgt Bill Chow, Prince Albert Police Service and Shannon Ell, Saskatchewan Government Insurance, Traffic Safety Supervisor.

Yours truly,



Dale R. McFee
CHIEF OF POLICE

DRMcF/jr
Attachment



**HIGH
COLLISION
LOCATION**