



YELLOWHEAD RURAL CRIME WATCH

Box 215, Evansburg, AB T0E 0T0

March 2016

I can't believe another year has come and gone. Wow, that was quite the winter this year! I can't say I didn't like it.

The past year has been an active one with a public safety presentation, numerous discussions regarding social media and if or what role we may want to play in that and the yearly poster contest. Our regular general meetings for 2016 are on April 12, June 14, September 13 and November 8. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

In June of 2015 we had a safety presentation in the Seniors Centre in Wildwood. The attendance was quite good and the presentation by Jason Welin was fantastic (thanks so much Jason). Jason came prepared to do a presentation on numerous specific subjects and let those present choose which one they wanted to hear. Everyone agreed they wanted the Seniors Safety presentation. The presentation included a PowerPoint presentation and Jason took the time to break it into sections, discuss each one separately and answer everyone's questions as they arose. Everyone left feeling that the presentation was worthwhile and pertinent for them and gave them a deeper insight into how to be safer in their own lives. Again, thanks Jason for a great job.

We had great participation in our annual poster contest again last year from all four schools. Congratulations to the winners. We were also very fortunate to have one first place and one second place winner at the Provincial level.

Money, money, money – the subject most don't want to hear about yet the thing that makes the difference between making it or breaking. As much as I don't like to discuss it, the reality is that none of us can move through life very well without it and the cost of everything keeps going up. In our organization we are fortunate enough to have some reserves so we are not in a corner but the reality is that we can not continuously draw on the reserves and expect to stay operational. At the AGM we discussed this issue and voted to increase the yearly subscription dues (the dues collected to maintain our operating expenses throughout the year) to **\$30**.

~~Cut along perforation and return with your annual fee of \$30.~~

To keep our records current, please fill in the following information and return with your annual fees to

Yellowhead Rural Crime Watch, Box 215, Evansburg, AB, T0E 0T0.

Please do not send cash. Thank you.

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____



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Social media is all the rage right now, especially with our young people. Over the past year we have had numerous meetings with other organizations regarding this and the role we may want to play in this arena. We can all see that information via newspapers and newsletters is not likely to reach our younger people like putting it on Facebook/Twitter or any of the other social media sites would. While we all agree that we need not only more members but also younger members in our organizations to keep them alive and well, we disagree on how this could be accomplished through social media. At our Annual General Meeting we had a good discussion on this subject and felt that we may participate in adding safety information to the Mackay, Niton, Evansburg, Entwistle Community Crime Watch site on Facebook but we will not be setting up our own site. Their name alone would create some confusion and the fact that we would only post events we receive from the RCMP makes us somewhat uninteresting to the group we would try to target. On their site, they also post individual posts that include things like “such and such a vehicle has been driving around our area – be aware”. The site appears to be well controlled so we may consider adding some safety information and some contact information from YRCW. We will discuss this further at our April 12/16 meeting.

We hold election of officers every year at the annual general meeting. The list of officers for the next year are:

- President – Christel Durham
- 1st Vice President – Charlotte Winters
- 2nd Vice President – Linda Engstrom
- Treasurer – Sue Evans
- Board of Directors: Cora Safioles, Hank Wilkie, Bill Benford, Bruce Winters, Jason Welin and Bruce Boone.

At the 2015 AGM I made it fairly clear that I would not let my name stand as President for 2016. However, here I am again this year. You all need to understand that this is truly my last year so someone will have to step forward and take a really good look at this position. Our Treasurer, Sue, is also staying on for this year but will not stay on for the next therefore that position needs to be filled as well. This is a fantastic, worthwhile organization with awesome members but it is time to make some very critical decisions in this regard. Give this some thought and if you are interested, please come to the next meeting, step forward and give it a really good look.

The Alberta Provincial Rural Crime Watch Annual General Meeting and Workshop was held in Hanna this year. We did not have anyone attending. For the past few years the Provincial Board has had some issues with Revenue Canada which caused them to lose their Charity status. This issue has now been resolved and they are doing well.

Wishing you a safe, healthy year,

Christel Durham