RCMP·GRC

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE • GENDARMERIE ROYALE DU CANADA

**Comox Valley RCMP
Detachment**

QUARTERLY REPORT
CITY OF COURTENAY

October 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

Calls For Service

In 2023, there were 14864 Calls for Service in Courtenay. This was 5 files more than in 2022 and a 5 percent decrease in Calls for Service relative to 2021.

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2019	1057	919	1190	1132	1324	1264	1296	1313	1143	1071	1068	1198	13975
2020	1318	1155	1142	1080	1205	1260	1466	1341	1235	1310	1180	1055	14747
2021	1190	1148	1299	1308	1269	1440	1398	1445	1394	1242	1270	1199	15602
2022	1055	1008	1232	1240	1242	1318	1395	1389	1482	1322	1095	1081	14859
2023	1241	1122	1226	1228	1379	1339	1406	1359	1165	1084	1086	1229	14864

Most Common Call Types

Of the most common types of Calls for Service in Courtenay in 2023, those that increased the most relative to 2022 were Check Wellbeing (8% increase), Unwanted Person (24% increase), Disturbance (10% increase), Suspicious Circumstance (6% increase), and Assist Police/Fire/Ambulance (30% increase), and Mischief (4% increase) files.

	Final Case Type	Year					% Change from 2022	Difference from 2022
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		
1	CHECK WELLBEING	654	898	1294	1293	1398	8%	105
2	UNWANTED PERSON	612	740	1001	1085	1346	24%	261
3	TRAFFIC INCIDENT	1092	1192	1320	1076	1077	0%	1
4	DISTURBANCE	761	934	927	877	968	10%	91
5	SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	547	586	651	657	698	6%	41
6	THEFT	944	981	843	829	698	-16%	-131
7	PROPERTY	904	835	863	716	691	-3%	-25
8	ASSIST POLICE/FIRE/AMBULANCE	**336**	**412**	**504**	**477**	**620**	**30%**	**143**
9	ASSIST OTHER AGENCY	492	530	710	637	542	-15%	-95
10	MISCHIEF	385	502	453	441	457	4%	16

Most Common Call Locations (Excluding RCMP Detachment)

In 2023, the location with the most Calls for Service in the Comox Valley was the Connect Warming Centre. It was also the location at which there was the greatest increase in Calls for Service relative to 2022.

	Location	Year					% Change from 2022	Difference from 2022
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		
1	685 CLIFFE AVE (Connect Warming Centre)	1	33	144	128	464	263%	336
2	757 RYAN RD (Superstore)	254	195	204	292	268	-8%	-24
3	101 LERWICK RD (Hospital)	281	256	330	252	224	-11%	-28
4	420 CUMBERLAND RD (Provincial Court)	253	135	133	212	147	-31%	-65
5	1029 RYAN RD (Washington Apartments)	54	76	29	111	142	28%	31
6	2751 CLIFFE AVE (Driftwood Mall)	186	198	205	189	133	-30%	-56
7	300 6TH ST (Library)	163	68	59	58	127	119%	69
8	3199 CLIFFE AVE (Walmart)	151	119	164	200	121	-40%	-79
9	COURTENAY	26	46	81	82	118	44%	36
10	450 RYAN RD (7-Eleven)	116	120	107	70	98	40%	28

Most Common Downtown Calls For Service

In 2023, the most common Call for Service in Downtown Courtenay pertained to Unwanted Person files. There were 252 more Calls for Service regarding Unwanted Persons than there were for the next most common type of Call for Service. In 2023, Calls for Service pertaining to Unwanted Person files increased by 89 percent (289 files) relative to 2022.

With regard to the 110 percent (43 file) increase in Calls for Service pertaining to Assaults in Downtown Courtenay in 2023 relative to 2022, 36 of the 82 incidents occurred at the Connect Warming Centre. This was over triple the number of Calls for Service pertaining to Assaults at the Connect Warming Centre in 2022 (10 files).

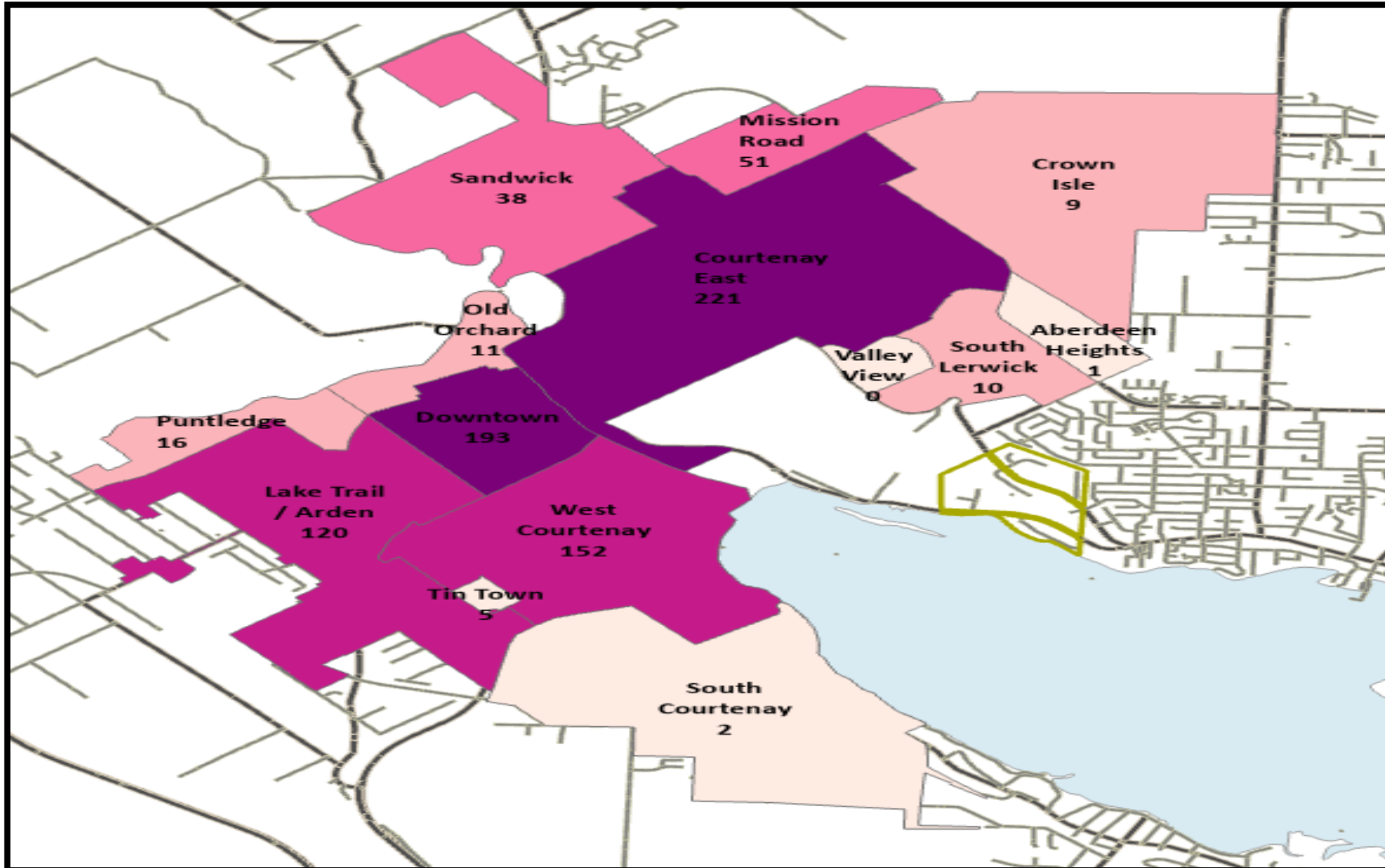|	Final Case Type	Year					% Change from 2022	Difference from 2022
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		
1	UNWANTED PERSON	186	189	331	323	612	89%	289
2	CHECK WELLBEING	135	126	257	276	360	30%	84
3	DISTURBANCE	183	142	161	178	266	49%	88
4	TRAFFIC INCIDENT	223	230	237	178	205	15%	27
5	THEFT	154	152	125	124	187	51%	63
6	SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	92	74	92	106	170	60%	64
7	MISCHIEF	72	122	109	103	144	40%	41
8	BREACH	174	90	101	177	135	-24%	-42
9	ASSIST POLICE/FIRE/AMBULANCE	40	53	102	94	133	41%	39
10	ALARM FALSE	77	73	69	89	103	16%	14
11	PROPERTY	108	88	112	86	102	19%	16
12	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	92	93	84	86	96	12%	10
13	ASSAULT	41	32	45	39	82	110%	43
14	ABANDONED 911	97	55	102	63	55	-13%	-8
1	ASSIST GENERAL PUBLIC	31	43	62	36	50	39%	14

Violent Crime

In 2023, there were 963 Violent Crime files in Courtenay. This was an 8 percent increase over the 894 Violent Crime files in 2022.

Over the past five years, the most common type of Violent Crime file in Courtenay was Assault. Relative to 2022, there was an 18 percent (73 file) increase in Assault files in 2023.

File Type	Year					% Change from 2022	Difference from 2022
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		
ASSAULTS	302	365	409	402	475	18%	73
UTTER THREATS	190	208	257	212	201	-5%	-11
HARASSMENT	164	209	199	162	176	9%	14
SEX OFFENCES	57	63	82	85	63	-26%	-22
EXTORTION	10	7	12	11	26	136%	15
ROBBERY	14	14	29	13	16	23%	3
KIDNAPPING	2	4	2	4	3	-25%	-1
WEAPONS OFFENCES	1	2	1	3	2	-33%	-1
INTIMIDATION	0	0	0	0	1		1
HOMICIDE	3	0	0	2	0	-100%	-2
ARSON	1	1	0	0	0		0
Grand Total	744	873	991	894	963	8%	69

In 2023, the areas of Courtenay in which there were the highest number of Violent Crime files were Courtenay East and Downtown.
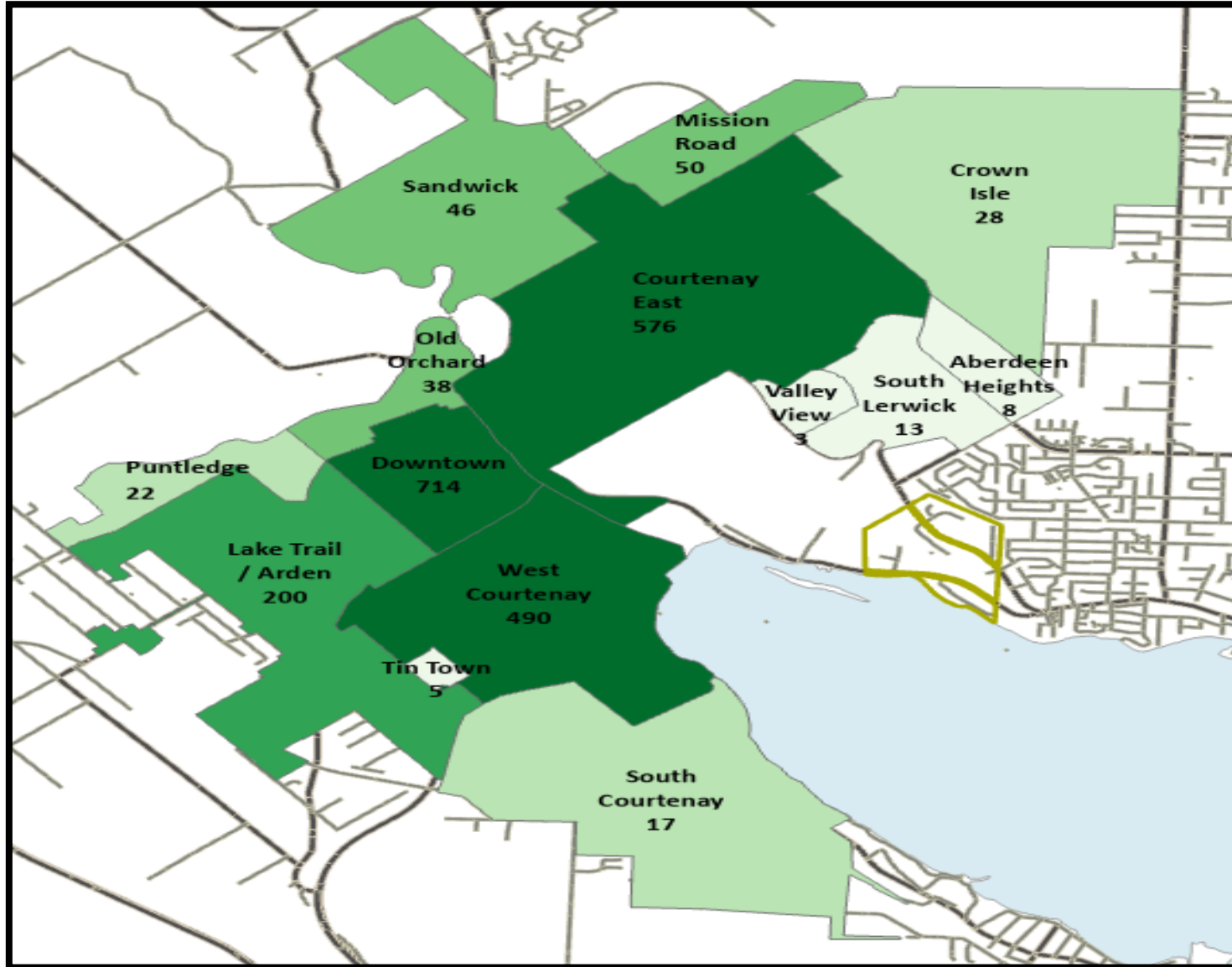
Types of Property Crime

In 2023, there were 2366 Property Crime files in Courtenay. This was a 9 percent decrease from the 2608 Property Crime files in 2022. In 2023, the type of Property Crime for which there was the largest increase in files relative to 2022 was Mischief – Cause by Act or Omission. This category of files included incidents in which people refused to leave businesses and set up tents where they were not permitted.

File Type	Year					% Change from 2022	Difference from 2022
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		
MISCHIEF TO PROPERTY	505	675	915	1000	962	-4%	-38
SHOPLIFTING	337	282	266	320	296	-8%	-24
OTHER THEFT U/5000	307	314	294	283	281	-1%	-2
FRAUDS	242	295	256	282	227	-20%	-55
THEFT FROM VEHICLE	339	400	377	302	163	-46%	-139
MISCHIEF-CAUSE BY ACT/OMMISS'N	24	33	19	45	95	111%	50
BIKE THEFT	149	111	92	64	71	11%	7
BREAK & ENTER - BUS	86	85	71	74	69	-7%	-5
AUTO THEFT	69	79	89	78	64	-18%	-14
BREAK & ENTER - RES	76	71	84	47	58	23%	11
BREAK & ENTER - OTH	68	56	58	49	26	-47%	-23
POSSESS STOLEN PROPERTY	27	43	33	24	26	8%	2
OTHER THEFT O/5000	10	6	11	11	12	9%	1
THEFT FROM MAIL	23	30	15	15	9	-40%	-6
THEFT UTILITIES	4	5	10	6	4	-33%	-2
ARSON	9	10	22	8	3	-63%	-5
Grand Total	2275	2495	2612	2608	2366	-9%	-242

Map of Property Crime by Area of Courtenay

In 2023, the areas of Courtenay in which there were the highest number of Property Crime files were Downtown, Courtenay East, and West Courtenay.

CDSA Offences

In 2023, there were 71 CDSA Offences in Courtenay, which was a 50 percent decrease from the 142 CDSA Offence files in 2022. This decrease is largely attributable to a reduction in Drug Possession files, consistent with the decriminalization of personal possession amounts of certain illegal drugs.

File Type	Year					% Change from 2022	Difference from 2022
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		
DRUG POSSESSION	98	84	113	111	37	-67%	-74
DRUG TRAFFICKING	73	57	26	27	30	11%	3
DRUGS OTHER	3	16	3	3	2	-33%	-1
DRUG PRODUCTION	5	3	3	1	1	0%	0
DRUG IMPORT EXPORT	0	0	0	0	1		1
Grand Total	179	160	145	142	71	-50%	-71

Traffic Offences

In 2023, there were 272 Traffic Offence files in Courtenay, which was a 17 percent increase over the 232 Traffic Offence files in 2022.

File Type	Year					% Change from 2022	Difference from 2022
	2019	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**		
IMPAIRED OP MOTOR VEHICLE	231	184	228	216	243	13%	27
DANGEROUS OP MOTOR VEHICLE	10	8	11	5	12	140%	7
PROHIBITED DRIVING	12	10	3	9	7	-22%	-2
MOTOR VEHICLE INCIDENTS	6	5	5	2	9	350%	7
IMPAIRED OP BOAT/VESS/AIR	0	0	0	0	1		1
Grand Total	259	207	247	232	272	17%	40

Downtown Foot Patrol Successes

- **24 8-hour shifts were filled from May 17-Sept 2. These shifts were over and above Member's regularly-scheduled shifts (overtime on select Fri/Sat/Sundays) with some scheduled shifts going unfilled.**

- **Officers made 23 arrests for various matters including individuals with outstanding arrest warrants and in responding to crimes in progress.**

- **43 additional patrols of City of Courtenay Parks and trails including: Simms Park, Lewis Park, Cooper Park, Standard Park, Harmston Park, Airpark, and Bill Moore Park as well as foot patrols of the Riverway trail.**

- **Officers made 105 business enquiries, with many businesses being frequented multiple times.**

- **70 police files were generated for crimes in progress such as shoplifting, theft from vehicle, in progress assaults, illegal camping, causing a disturbance and consuming liquor in public.**