

**Subject: FW: Media Release - Mountain Bikers Beware**

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**To:** <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Passed on to you, courtesy - Ernie Crist

-----Original Message-----

From: Kelly WEEKS [<mailto:kelly.weeks@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>]

Sent: Monday, October 03, 2005 11:35 AM

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Mountain Bike Owners, Beware!!

The North Vancouver RCMP would like to issue a warning to bike owners. There are criminals who are looking to steal your bike! There has been an increasing amount of reports recently of break and enters to sheds, garages and yards where the target of the theft appears to be expensive mountain bikes. The North Shore, considering it's geography, and it's biking culture, creates a haven for property criminals targeting high end bicycles. In order to prevent some of these crimes the North Vancouver RCMP wish to remind it's residents of certain things that they should, or should not be doing. Here are some tips to keep in mind.

Do's

- If you are not physically riding your bike, it should be locked! Yes, even if it is inside a locked garage or your residence.
- Invest in a quality bike lock. Ensure that when your bike is locked, to protect the frame, the rear and the front tire.
- Have all of your bike info readily available in case of theft. The minimum info should include the make, model, colour, value, and most importantly, the Serial Number.
- Be aware of the other descriptors of the bike, such as, frame size, speed, lights, fenders, stickers, engravings or other characteristic equipment on the bike.
- Have a photo of the bike.

Do Not

- Do not rely on the bike shop to store your bike info, particularly the serial number. Any time delay from a bike being stolen, to notifying the police with a serial number is crucial.
- Do not leave your bike unattended, even momentarily, unless properly locked. Remember that bike locks are not a guarantee against theft, and given enough time and the proper tools any lock can be defeated. However, the better the lock, the more the deterrent to the thief.
- Do not advertise to criminals. While at home, do not store your bike in view of the public (on balconies or in an open garage for example).

Once again, keep in mind that just as they do with cars, there are criminals out there that are looking for an opportunity to steal your bike to make a quick buck. If you would like more tips on what to do to keep your bike safe, contact your local Community Policing Office. Also, your local bike shops are a good source of information.

KELLY WEEKS

Executive Assistant


Office of the Superintendent

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