



DOWNTOWN
PRINCE
GEORGE



PRINCE GEORGE
CHAMBER^{OF}
COMMERCE

**Safe Streets: Visible
Safety, Visible Growth**

Downtown Safety Matters

Public safety is essential to a vibrant and successful downtown. When people feel safe, they are more likely to visit, shop, work, and invest in the area. Visible issues such as graffiti, vandalism, broken windows and other incidents can quickly impact public perception and business confidence.

Maintaining a safe, well-cared-for environment helps ensure downtown remains welcoming for businesses, residents, and visitors.

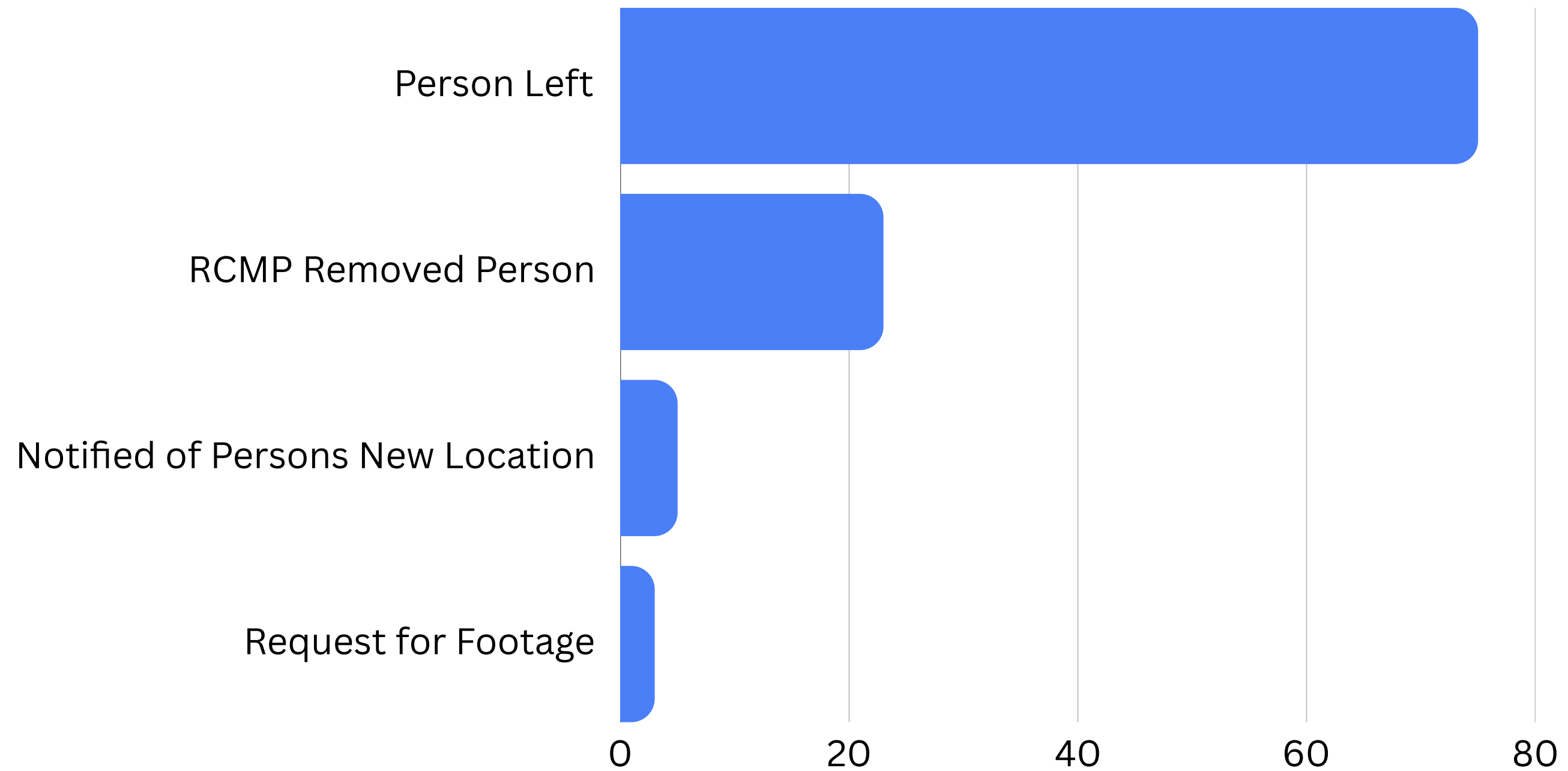


Camera Activity Overview

- 113 Incidents
- 35 calls to RCMP Only
- 5 calls to Fire Department
- RCMP attended with Fire Department



Camera Activity Overview



Challenges

- Reactive cleanup approach
- Limited funding dedicated to removal/repair of graffiti and other vandalism
- Increasing negative visual impact on downtown core



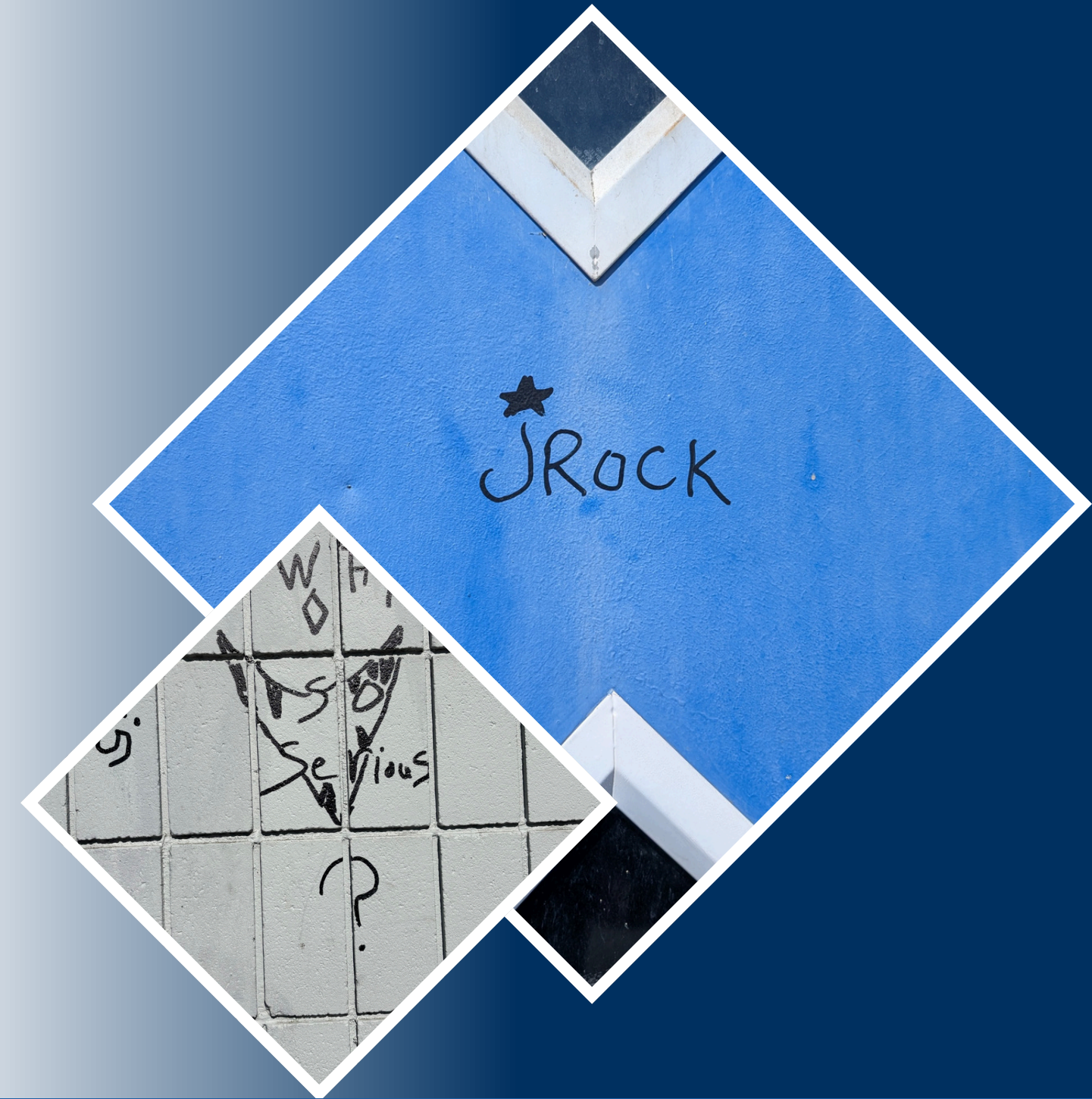
Proposed Graffiti Removal Partnership

Partner:

- Prince George Activator Society

Brief summary:

- 3-person supervised crew
- Once per week
- 5-month pilot
- Focus on reintegration and Indigenous participation



Community Impact

- Cleaner, more welcoming downtown
- Employment and rehabilitation opportunity
- Strengthened city-DPG partnership
- Visible public safety investment



Budget Overview

- Labour: \$6,400
- Materials: \$2,500
- Transportation: \$1,000
- Total: \$10,000
- \$4,800 in-kind staff supervision contribution



ROI & Strategic Value

For \$10,000 we get:

- 5 months of consistent cleanup
- Reduced repeat tagging
- Stronger public perception
- Employment pathway for high-risk individuals
- Alignment with public safety priorities



Downtown Safety Advocacy Timeline

August 2025 – February 2026

Phase 1: Awareness & Documentation

August – September

- Letters sent to Mayor & MLAs
- Alleyway tours begin
- Retail & Business Crime Forum engagement

Phase 2: Community Mobilization

October – November

- Multiple Council alley walks
- Safe Streets Rally (CN Centre)
- Business survey distributed
- Follow-up strategy meetings

Phase 3: Government Escalation

December – January

- Advocacy letters to Federal & Provincial governments
- Meetings with Ministers & Premier
- Presentation to Public Safety Committee
- Bill C-14 recommendations submitted

Phase 4: Action & Implementation

December – February

- Downtown Security Camera Program launched
- Graffiti Removal Funding Proposal submitted (\$10,000)
- BC Housing coordination meeting
- SafeGrowth discussions initiated

Member Survey - February 2026

47 responses from 540 members – 8.7% response.

- How many criminal and other public disorder incidents did your business experience in the past year?
 - 36.2% - 0 and 29.8% - 1-5
 - 4.3% (2 respondents) – 50-99 incidents in the past year and 2.1% (1 respondent) reported more than 100 incidents



Member Survey - February 2026

- How much money did criminal and other public disorder incidents cost your business in the past year?
 - 40.4% - 0, 14.9% - less than \$500, and 23.4% - \$1,000 to \$4,999
 - 8.5% (4 respondents) – more than \$10K
 - 2.1% (1 respondent) - \$5,000 to \$9,999
 - 2.1% (one respondent)

“the crime in downtown cost us a lot as clients do not want to come to our location.”



Save our Streets Coalition (SOS) Poll

- An SOS province-wide survey conducted by Research Co. reports that 90% of British Columbians believe crimes are going unreported and 71% state lack of confidence in the justice system as the reason.
- 86% of British Columbians support harsher penalties, including jail, for repeat offenders and keeping those offenders behind bars while awaiting trial.



Save our Streets Coalition (SOS) Poll

- Correcting the course and returning safety to our communities will require that prolific criminals be incarcerated faster and for longer terms. That will only happen with the province ensuring greater fluidity in our court system. That will require more support for prosecutors and judges and/or allowing police to lay charges without prosecutorial approval.
- SOS also advocates for a complete build out of the continuum of care for those suffering from addiction and mental illnesses. Providing greater ease of access to that care would assist greatly in reducing the level of crime, violence and public disorder in B.C. communities.





**THANK YOU!
QUESTIONS?**