

Problem ID: 68

Reporting Division : DOWNTOWN District: ROSSDALE

Neighbourhood: LEGISLATIVE GROUNDS Address: 109 STREET / 97 AVENUE

Reg Rank Last Name First Name

1224 CST JOHNSTON C

Key Description: TROUBLE WITH YOUTHS

## **Problem Description:**

Security at the Legislature reported a high volume of traffic in the grounds from 22:00 to 05:00 hours. Prostitution, youths drinking and partying, high voume of vehicular traffic were all becoming common for this scenic and usually quiet part of the city. There were also indications that a portion of the drug scene had gravitated from Beaver Hill Park.

## Problem solving strategies and results:

A three-part plan was initiated to curb this problem. First of all, a period of time was set aside to identify any trends and activities, the numbers and types of people involved, and an overall grasp of the situation. The situation as listed was pretty well confirmed. Secondly, the drug aspect was to be addressed through an organized "buy and bust" operation. Finally, increased patrols would be utilized to add visibility during peak problem hours. Once implemented, it became apparent that these strategies were insufficient in dealing with the problem. For the most part, it persisted. However, an interesting observation was made. All these troubling activities were centered around cars. Whatever these problem individuals were up to, they didn't stray far away from the vehicles.

Consequently, it was decided the best way to address this problem was to limit the accessability of motor vehicles during the problem hours. Legitimate users of the grounds would not be inconvienced by restrictions in the middle of the night. A number of temporary barricades are erected every evening at bay access location. Legislative Protection Services now report the number of incidents are at their lowest in eight years. A very simple solution to a long-standing problem where more traditional efforts were less effective.