

Securing your premises during COVID-19 related business closures

Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers and local police suggest business owners consider measures like these to secure their property while it's closed during the current pandemic

1. Move merchandise away from windows or remove it altogether from a retail space.
2. Have shatterproof (burglar resistant) glass in your windows.
3. Add window shutters if your store is in a high- risk area for crime.
4. Lock valuables in a safe or remove from the premises.
5. Shred sensitive papers.
6. Keep a record of serial numbers for valuables, and/or engrave them with a driver's licence number in case they're stolen and later recovered.
7. Check your locks – pin tumbler cylinder locks work well.
8. Have one key and lock for outside doors and a different key and lock for interior doors.
9. Re-key your store/business if keys are lost – and ensure you keep a log of who has keys.
10. Ensure your alarm is working properly.
11. Flood your premises with light.
12. Improve outdoor lighting to ensure your business and the space around it are well-lit. Trim trees and shrubs near windows and entries. Don't give burglars a place to hide.
13. Make sure you can be there to accept any deliveries, or arrange to have any outstanding orders delivered to a different address.
14. Make sure papers and flyers don't pile up at your entrance. It signals you're not often there. Contact neighbouring businesses so everyone can all keep an eye on each other's property.

If you see a crime in progress or suspicious activity:

- Call police at 9-1-1
- Anonymous tips may be provided through Crime Stoppers' downloadable "P3" app for **Apple and Android phones**, by calling Crime Stoppers at **1-800-222-8477**, online at solvecrime.ca, or by following the link on the Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers [Facebook page](#). Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers accepts tips in 115 different languages and will pay a reward of up to \$5,000 for information leading to an arrest.

Visit us online at www.solvecrime.ca

(Sources: Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers, RCMP, Vancouver Police Department, Canadian Fraud Centre, Interpol, World Health Organization)