Neighbourhood Watch February 2020 Bulletin

Personal Safety Tips When You're Out and About

We're in February now, and that comes with Valentine's Day and the Family Day long weekend. Please be sure to enjoy the festivities responsibly. Keep the following tips in mind and be sure to share them with your friends and family:

Safety in numbers! - Criminals prey on vulnerability, and a person alone is a far more vulnerable target than a group. Whether it's your closest buddy or your entire office, always make sure someone you trust is with you when you're out on the town. This way, you know someone will be there to help you should anything happen.

Be mindful of your surroundings! - Observe your surroundings and read the room - are there rowdy people or groups creating a feeling of tension? Is someone across the room giving you too much unwanted attention? Observe the physical environment - where are the nearest exits? Ask yourself if you feel safe spending your leisure time here.

Be mindful of your belongings! - Never leave any belongings unattended. This goes for coats, bags, and especially drinks. Invest in coat check if its available or ensure a friend is watching your belongings, should you leave them.

Be friendly to staff! - You should be friendly to customer service staff all the time, but waiters, bartenders and security will do whatever they can to help you out if you find yourself in an uncomfortable situation and request their help!

Safe Uber/taxi practices! - If using Uber or Lyft, be sure to verify all details and be certain that the car that has pulled up is in fact the car that you ordered. Additionally, ask the driver who they are picking up. If they have been dispatched for you, they will know your name. As extra insurance, consider sending the vehicle and driver details to someone you trust.



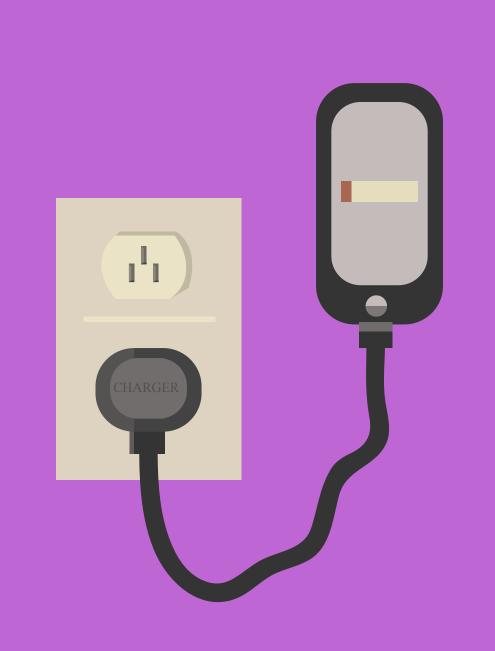


Personal Safety Checklist

Here's a list of things you should have arranged when preparing for a night out:



- A fully charged phone (and charger) cable and/or battery pack, especially in the winter)
- Emergency contacts, or contacts that you can check in with periodically to ensure you are safe.
- A way home or a place to stay (also ensure that friends or family are aware of these plans)
- Cash set aside for certain situations (ex. a cab with no POS device)







Looking for new ways to communicate with your Neighbourhood Watch? Try the Nextdoor app! (Click the logo for more information)



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