

The Tofield RCMP responded to 35 occurrences from November 29, 2021 to December 5, 2021 (inclusive). Also included in these calls for service were ten traffic complaints/tickets, five suspicious person/vehicle complaints, five wellbeing check, one 911 complaint/false alarm, four motor vehicle collisions and traffic enforcement provided by the K Division Traffic Unit.

On November 30, 2021, Tofield RCMP responded to an uttering threats complaint in Beaver County. Tofield RCMP spoke to the complainant who advised that they had heard a known individual make detailed threats to a number of persons in the community, including a police officer. On December 2, 2021, Tofield RCMP arrested and charged Terrence Timothy JOHNSTON (66), of Beaver County with the following:

- 1) Uttering threats x 2
- 2) Criminal harassment

Terrence Timothy JOHNSTON was held before a judicial hearing and was released on conditions to appear in Vegreville Provincial Court on December 13, 2021.

On November 30, 2021, Tofield RCMP responded to a domestic disturbance in Beaver County. RCMP attended and spoke to the parties involved and found that a verbal argument had possibly turned physical. This file is still under investigation.

On November 30, 2021, Tofield RCMP responded to a mischief complaint in Tofield. RCMP spoke to the complainant who advised that their business had an egg thrown at it. This file is still under investigation.

On December 1, 2021, Tofield RCMP responded to a vehicle hit and run in Tofield. Tofield RCMP attended the scene and the complainant advised that a vehicle failed to maintain their lane and in the process had struck the victims vehicle, causing significant damage. The suspect vehicle subsequently fled the scene. The driver of the vehicle was later located along with the damaged suspect vehicle. This file is still under investigation.

On December 2, 2021, Tofield RCMP responded to a sexual assault in Holden. RCMP spoke to the victim who provided details of an incident which occurred in the past. This file is still under investigation.

On December 3, 2021, Tofield RCMP responded to a theft complaint in Tofield. Tofield RCMP were notified of people who were actively stealing goods from a local business after hours. Tofield RCMP attended and were able to arrest all parties and confirmed that one of the suspects had warrants. All property was returned and no charges laid at this time.

On December 4, 2021, Tofield RCMP conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle and while dealing with the driver had developed grounds that the driver may be impaired. RCMP administered a field sobriety test that the driver failed under the Alberta IRS program. The drivers license was seized and vehicle was towed and seized for 30 days.

On December 4, 2021, Tofield RCMP conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle and while dealing with the driver had developed grounds that the driver may be impaired. RCMP administered a field sobriety test that the driver provided a caution under the Alberta IRS program. The drivers license was seized and the vehicle was towed and seized for 7 days.

NOVEMBER IS CYBER CRIME AWARENESS MONTH

What is cybercrime?

The RCMP defines cybercrime as any crime where a cyber element (that is, the internet and information technologies such as computers, tablets or smart phones) has a substantial role in the commission of a criminal offence.

INDIVIDUALS

Don't be afraid to say no

Don't be intimidated by high-pressure sales tactics. If a telemarketer tries to get you to buy something or to send them money right away:

- Request the information in writing
- Hang up

Watch out for urgent pleas that play on your emotions.

Do your research

Always verify that the organization you're dealing with is legitimate before you take any other action:

- Verify Canadian charities with the Canada Revenue Agency
- Verify collection agencies with the appropriate provincial agency
- Look online for contact information for the company that supposedly called you, and call them to confirm
- Verify any calls with your credit card company by calling the phone number on the back of your credit card

If you've received a call or other contact from a family member in trouble, talk to other family members to confirm the situation.

Watch out for fake or deceptive ads, or spoofed emails. Always verify the company and its services are real before you contact them.

Don't give out personal information

Beware of unsolicited calls where the caller asks you for personal information, such as:

- Your name
- Your address

- Your birthdate
- Your Social Insurance Number (SIN)
- Your credit card or banking information

If you didn't initiate the call, you don't know who you're talking to.

Beware of upfront fees

Many scams request you to pay fees in advance of receiving goods, services, or a prize. It's illegal for a company to ask you to pay a fee upfront before they'll give you a loan.

There are no prize fees or taxes in Canada. If you won it, it's free.

Protect your computer

Watch out for urgent-looking messages that pop up while you're browsing online. Don't click on them or call the number they provide.

No legitimate company will call and claim your computer is infected with a virus.

Some websites, such as music, game, movie, and adult sites, may try to install viruses or malware without your knowledge. Watch out for emails with spelling and formatting errors, and be wary of clicking on any attachments or links. They may contain viruses or spyware.

Make sure you have anti-virus software installed and keep your operating system up to date.

Never give anyone remote access to your computer. If you are having problems with your system, bring it to a local technician.

Be careful who you share images with

Carefully consider who you're sharing explicit videos and photographs with. Don't perform any explicit acts online.

Disable your webcam or any other camera connected to the internet when you aren't using it. Hackers can get remote access and record you.

Protect your online accounts

By taking the following steps, you can better protect your online accounts from fraud and data breaches:

- Create a strong password by:



- Using a minimum of 8 characters including upper and lower case letters, and at least 1 number and a symbol
- Creating unique passwords for every online account including social networks, emails, financial and other accounts
- Using a combination of passphrases that are easy for you to remember but hard for others to guess
- Enable multi-factor authentication
- Only log into your accounts from trusted sources
- Don't reveal personal information over social media

BUSINESSES

Know who you're dealing with

Watch out for invoices using the name of legitimate companies. Scammers will use real company names like Yellow Pages to make the invoices seem authentic. Make sure you inspect invoices thoroughly before you make a payment.

Compile a list of companies your business uses to help employees know which contacts are real and which aren't.

Don't give out information on unsolicited calls

Educate employees at every level to be wary of unsolicited calls. If they didn't initiate the call, they shouldn't provide or confirm any information, including:

- The business's address
- The business's phone number
- Any account numbers
- Any information about equipment in the office (e.g., make and model of the printer, etc.)

Limit your employees' authority

Only allow a small number of staff to approve purchases and pay bills.

Watch for anomalies

Beware of:

- Larger than normal orders
- Multiple orders for the same product
- Orders made up of "big-ticket" items

These orders may be fraudulent.

Reporting cybercrime

If you have been a victim of cybercrime, fraud or scams, please report it to:

- your local police
- the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC) using their [Online Reporting System](#) or by phone at 1-888-495-8501

If you didn't fall victim but experienced a cybercrime, fraud or scam, you should still report it to the CAFC at <https://www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/index-eng.htm>

Reporting is critical as it helps law enforcement to combat cybercrime. It also helps identify connections across separately reported cybercrime incidents, such as links to organized crime.

2021 TOFIELD RCMP COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

Thanks to all those who have participated in the 2021 Tofield RCMP Community Engagement Survey. Sergeant Knelsen will now collect your answers and will respond to your top issues and concerns in the new year 2022. Sergeant Knelsen would like to thank everyone in advance for taking the time to work with him to become involved and identify community concerns during this challenging time.