



Crime Stoppers

High School Program



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History of Crime Stoppers

Crime Stoppers was created in 1976 by a Canadian-born Police Detective named Greg MacAleese who was working with the Albuquerque City Police Service in New Mexico.

At the time, Albuquerque had the dubious honour of being one of the top ten U.S. cities in violent crimes per capita. MacAleese had run out of leads in a homicide investigation in which a young college student working at a gas station was murdered by being shot twice with a sawed-off shotgun.

MacAleese, was frustrated by the lack of leads in this senseless killing, reasoned that the public had information that could assist him in solving the case.

MacAleese approached the local cable television company, and with their cooperation released a video taped re-enactment of the crime.

He also established a "TIPS" line on which he could receive calls regarding the case, and the callers anonymity was guaranteed. This guarantee was intended to alleviate the fear that the caller may have in relaying their information.

MacAleese offered a cash award to overcome any apathy a person may have out of his own pocket.

After 72 hours of airing the re-enactment, two suspects had been named and enough evidence gathered to arrest and charge both with the murder. Thus the first Crime Stoppers Program was born.

Newfoundland and Labrador Crime Stoppers was formed in November of 1992 and is governed by a volunteer Provincial Board of Directors.

The RCMP and the RNC each have a Police Officer to act as Provincial Co-ordinators for the program, as well the RCMP has a public service employee hired to manage the provincial office of Crime Stoppers in the province.

Crime Stoppers Program Overview

In Newfoundland and Labrador a Board of Executive Directors governs the Program for the province.

Crime Stoppers programs are registered as non-profit charitable organizations. They are structured as working alliances between the community, the media and Police.

Police services in the province enthusiastically support Crime Stoppers, as do government agencies with enforcement responsibilities, such as Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and The Department of Natural Resources to name two. Two Police Co-ordinators manage the program in Newfoundland and Labrador and reports to the Board of Directors.

The Co-ordinators are responsible for the Tips line, media releases, liaising with the Board of Directors and maintaining a rapport with enforcement agencies. The community component (the Board) is responsible for program policy, fund-raising, promotions, development of short and long-term planning and keeping financial records.

The media donate their time, space and professional opinion on the creation and placement of "Unsolved Crime" stories such as the "Crime of the Week". Without the media contribution, the Crime Stoppers message would not get out to the potential caller.



Why it works

Crime Stoppers believe that someone, other than the criminal, has knowledge of the crime in each case. The main factors that hinder people from calling the Police on a crime are **APATHY** and **FEAR OF REPRISAL**. Crime Stoppers combats apathy by offering a cash award for the arrest of the person(s) responsible for a criminal activity. A guarantee of **ANONYMITY** eliminates the fear of reprisal.

How it works

The tipster calls and provides information to the tip line operator. A code number is given to the tipster at the end of the call, and their identity is never revealed or requested. They are instructed to call Crime Stoppers in the future for an update, quoting their code number. If the information leads to an arrest, the caller is eligible for a cash award. There is no call display on the tip line telephone and the calls are not taped or traced. The caller does not have to give evidence in court. They are done with the process once they hang up their phone.

Responsibilities of Newfoundland and Labrador Crime Stoppers Board of Directors

Board members are responsible for:

- Maintaining the ANONYMITY of the program
- Ensuring that the Crime Stoppers number is maintained
- Creating the policies for their Crime Stoppers Program
- Overseeing the Program to ensure policies are carried out
- Raising funds
- Determining award amounts
- Keeping the business and financial records
- Promoting the program
- Developing short and long range plans

Introduction of Student Crime Stoppers

Student Crime Stoppers is a very successful program that has proven to be cost-effective and efficient in schools where it is in operation. The program began in Boulder, Colorado and has spread across North America. Here in Newfoundland we are reaching out to as many schools as possible, many of which have already joined the program.

The program has the ability to provide our schools with benefits which ultimately affect all our communities. Benefits include the following:

- Students taking charge of their own environment
- Closer relationship among students, schools and Police services
- Deterrence of potential offenders, producing lower crime rate
- Student participation
- Student knowledge of the Police operations
- Security in the knowledge that something is being done about crime
- Cost effectiveness and efficiency
- Greater success in solving and preventing crime

A Student Crime Stoppers tip can result in a suspect being arrested by the Police and/or disciplined by school authorities.

School Administration or Teacher Liaison

- Ensures the ANONYMITY of the program
- Provides liaison with the Police Co-ordinator
- Receives Crime Stoppers information from the Police Co-Ordinator
- Administration investigates the Crime Stoppers Tips
- Reports the status of all tips to the Crime Stoppers Provincial Office



The Role of the Police Co-ordinators

These officers serve as liaisons between the Student Crime Stoppers Liaison Teacher, the school, and Newfoundland and Labrador Crime Stoppers. The Co-ordinators have a thorough knowledge of the program and a commitment to ensuring that the policies of the Crime Stoppers Program are adhered to.



Another responsibility of the Police Co-ordinators is to arrange payment to the successful tipster, ensuring that their anonymity is maintained.

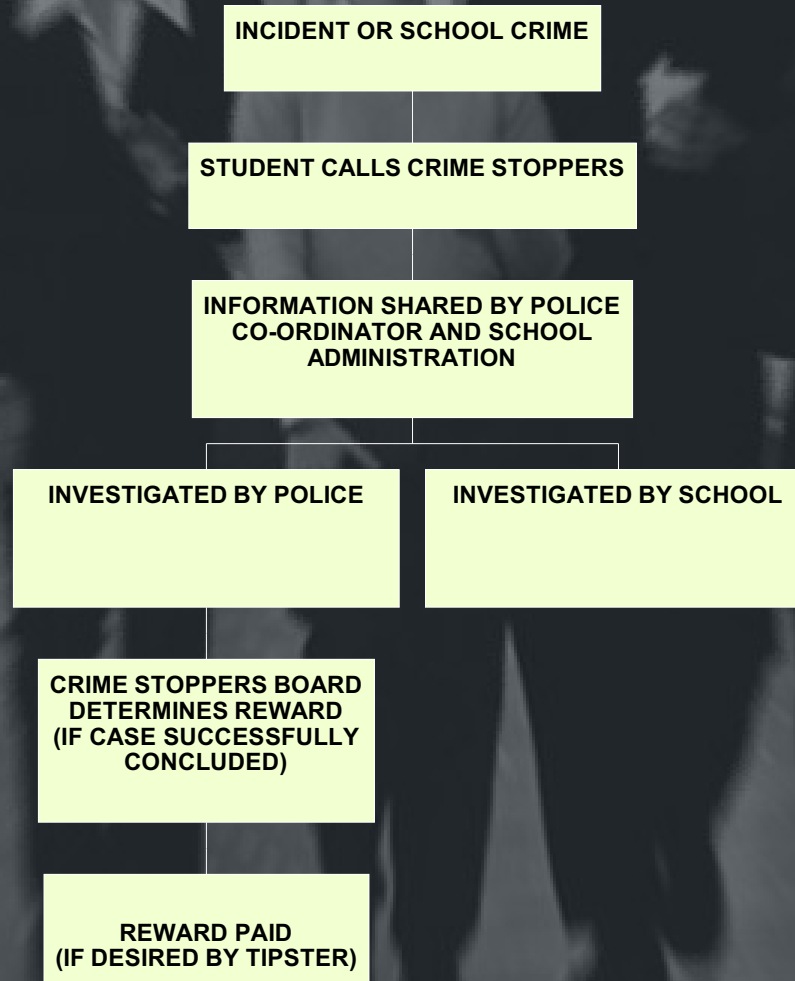
How the High School Crime Stoppers Program can work for you

In most instances, the majority of people like to feel safe in their homes, communities and in their schools. The High School Program if initiated can in fact obtain that outcome within the walls of your school. A school, in fact is it's own community which should be safe and secure in order to ensure the greatest results, and the greatest pupils we can create. I give you a few examples of how the High School Program has worked in other schools.

- A school has a young person selling \$200 worth of drugs a day, on the premises. Somebody took it upon themselves to call into Crime Stoppers, which in turn was passed on to the drug investigation team. This person was apprehended and gave up his source of the drugs.
- A school had 2 scales stolen from the Chemistry Lab. Approximate value of the scales was \$3000. Information came to Crime Stoppers and the person was apprehended and the scales returned to the school within two weeks from date of theft.
- A school was consistently being disturbed by false fire alarms. The Teacher Liaison of the Crime Stoppers Program created a Crime of the Week notice and posted on the school bulleting board detailing the illegal act. Within 3 days the culprit was identified, and reprimanded for his actions.

APPENDIX I

LIFE OF A STUDENT CRIME STOPPERS TIP



APPENDIX II

High School Crime Stoppers Program

- Newfoundland and Labrador Crime Stoppers will pay up to **\$300** for information that leads to the arrest and criminal charge of a person(s) responsible for this or ANY CRIME within your School. To find out how you can receive a cash award without giving your name or meeting a police officer, call Crime Stoppers toll free, **1-800-222-TIPS**, that's **1-800-222-8477** or submit your tips online a www.nlcrimestoppers.com
- Remember: WE WANT YOUR INFORMATION, NOT YOUR NAME
Contact us Now!!

