

Many parents aren't teaching kids about the value of money: CPA Magazine

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SUMMARY

A quarter of kids haven't been taught about money, are missing out on an important advantage



There are some easy ways to begin talking to kids about money



VANCOUVER (NEWS1130) – How much do your kids know about the value of money?

One of our country's top financial publications says nearly one quarter of parents aren't teaching their children the basics.

"Teaching kids about money is one of the best things a parent can do to help them increase their odds of future prosperity," says Tamar Satov, a senior editor at CPA Magazine (<https://www.cpacanada.ca/en/connecting-and-news/cpa-magazine>).

"Seventy-four per cent of parents that we spoke with have taught their child about money. But that means more than a quarter [of kids] haven't been taught about money and they're missing out on an important advantage in life," she adds.

Some parents can feel uncomfortable talking about it but Satov insists it's a necessity.

"There are some easy ways to go about that. With the youngest children — the four and five-year-olds — take them out to the grocery store. Make sure to take some cash with you and explain... 'We work to earn this money. That's what we use to pay for our family's needs.'"

She adds never too early to start — even an allowance is a good lesson. "How can they learn to be responsible if they don't have a stake in it — they don't have their own money?"

Satov emphasizes the importance of parents creating a conversation around values about money. "They want to pass on those values, such as living within your means, saving your money... the idea of giving back to the community."

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BMO Marathon happening in Vancouver

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SUMMARY

Over 18,000 runners will be taking over Vancouver roads this weekend for the BMO Marathon 

Up to 90,000 spectators expected to line the BMO Marathon route 

VANCOUVER (NEWS1130) – A good weekend for runners, a bad one for drivers. Over 18,000 runners will be taking over Vancouver roads this weekend for the BMO Marathon.

Considering the race starts at Queen Elizabeth Park, makes its way to Point Grey and ends in Stanley Park, a lot of roads will be closed Sunday.

Marathon organizer Charlene Krepiakovich says they've worked closely with City engineers to make things as painless as possible for drivers.

"We have a rolling road closures so we don't shut everything down for the whole day. We try to open up the roads as quickly as we can after the runners have past certain intersections as safely as we can," she explains.

But she admits things will still be slow. "The best way to get in and around the city on Sunday is to use Main Street. Main Street is not impacted, that is sort of north-south and going east-west Sixth Avenue is not impacted."

And it's not just for the athletes – she says they expect up to have up to 90,000 spectators lining the route.

For a full list of road closures click here (<http://www.bmovanmarathon.ca/community/road-closures/>).



(<http://www.news1130.com/wp-content/blogs.dir/sites/9/2015/05/02/2015.MapCombined.jpg>)

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National Emergency Preparedness Week teaches us how to respond to a disaster

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SUMMARY

Communities all over the Lower Mainland holding events to teach people how to respond in a potential disaster



You should always have an emergency kit with first aid supplies, matches, food as well as several days of drinking water



VANCOUVER (NEWS1130) – It's National Emergency Preparedness Week (<http://www.getprepared.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/ep-wk/index-eng.aspx>), with communities all over the Lower Mainland holding events to teach people how to respond in a potential disaster.

You're being told to be ready for 72 hours without electricity or running water.

Abbotsford fire chief Don Beer says recent disasters like the earthquake in Nepal definitely put the topic in mind for a lot of people. "The reality for us is that we live and breathe this but I recognize that for most of the people it doesn't come to the forefront unless there is something in the news that brings it to light."

Chilliwack emergency coordinator Jim MacDonald says you should always have an emergency kit with first aid supplies, matches and food that won't spoil as well as several days of drinking water available. "I mean we get so used to just turning on the tap and getting pure clean water out of it but in the event of a large scale emergency. Often that is the first thing goes and we really can't survive without it."

He adds you also need to make a plan for how you can contact friends and family if phone networks are down.

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No quick fix for Vancouver's crisis as we kick off Mental Health Awareness Month

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SUMMARY

VPD admits solving the mental health issue in the city is a slow process



May is Mental Health Awareness Month



Vancouver Coastal Health says one-in-five people have some form of a mental illness

VANCOUVER (NEWS1130) – May is Mental Health Awareness (<http://www.cmha.bc.ca/get-informed/events/awareness-weeks>) Month and despite repeated pleas for help, experts and police are accepting the fact the ongoing crisis in Vancouver won't be fixed any time soon. However, steps are being taken to ensure front-line members are properly trained.

So far this year, Vancouver Police officers have made nearly 1,000 apprehensions under the Mental Health Act and compared to the same time last year, that's up just a bit.

But, Andrew MacFarlane with Vancouver Coastal Health (<http://www.vch.ca/>) explains they work with several local agencies and adds those interactions with police are not necessarily a bad thing.

“We want our system — and police are an important part of that, ambulance is an important part of that, the city is an important part of that — all our players need to come together with a plan of how we're going to do this. When a client is picked up under Section 28, they're picked up by a police officer who probably got a phone call from 911 and they go out there and they make a decision around whether this person is safe for themselves or safe to engage with others. And if they're not safe to engage with others then the police are in a position to pick them up and bring them to a hospital for a psychiatric assessment.”

There are two separate teams currently helping officers handle mental health cases.

One is the Assertive Community Treatment (http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/library/publications/year/2008/BC_Standards_for_ACT_Teams.pdf) (ACT) unit that includes officers and mental health professionals that deal with those with severe mental illnesses who have regular contact with police.

The other is the Assertive Outreach Team (<http://www.cmhahkpr.ca/program-and-services/peterborough/community-support-services/homelessness-partnering-strategy/assertive-utreach/>) (AOT), which is a first of its kind in BC. It follows up with people that have been flagged as potentially being problematic.

MacFarlane points to the implementation of those teams as success stories. “We're experiencing reductions in terms of clients that are going to VGH or St. Paul's over a month's period of up to 85 to 100 per cent decrease and not only is that in terms of the number of times they're going there, but the number of visits they're actually having that end up in admission. The ACT team has been having up to 77 per cent reduction, in terms of clients spending time in the hospitals over a two-year period.”

Vancouver Police Constable Brian Montague says the de-escalation training members undergo to take on mental health calls is vital and stresses, yet again, they're not mental health workers.

Last year alone, the VPD made over 3,000 apprehensions under the Mental Health Act. “We're still seeing extremely high numbers when it comes to the number of calls our officers are dealing with. The numbers will fluctuate and the fact that the numbers are stabilizing is better news than what we've been seeing and that's the rapid increase of numbers over the last couple of years. But, we'd like to see those numbers drop.”

He admits solving the mental health issue in the city is a slow process and it's unlikely we'll see a major drop in the statistics in the near future.

“No, I think that's unrealistic. I think we're going to see high numbers for a while until some significant changes are made. We need to look at this as a medical problem and unfortunately right now our front-line officers are becoming front-line mental health workers and have been for years. We have to change that. We have to prevent it from happening in the first place and that's one of the things we're really focusing on and some of the work we're doing with Vancouver Coastal Health and our Mental Health Unit. We have 17 members that work on our Mental Health Unit full-time, so it's a real priority for us.”

Montague adds the crisis is tapping their resources and he wants people to understand some of the calls they attend may end up in tragedy.

“Our training is never ending. And unfortunately, when you're dealing with someone who is psychotic, delusional, suffering from hallucinations, who is not following the directions of a police officer, who is intent on harming himself or others — all the training in the world isn't going to help. Thankfully, most of the situations our officers deal with and they deal with tens of thousands every year safely with someone in custody. If we don't deal with the situation as a medical problem first, it's going to be dealt with as a police problem later and we don't want to force our officers in that position because they're being forced right now.”

With mental health also comes a stigma and misconception about what officers do when handling those types of calls. "Until you've literally walked a mile in one of our officers' shoes, you don't know what they deal with on a day-to-day basis. And I'm not here to make excuses — they're paid to do a job and they're trained to do a job, but they're expected to be an expert in all fields. In most jobs, they expect people to be an expert at one thing, but our officers have to be experts in many," explains Montague.

"And there's a stigma attached to mental health, there's no doubt about it. But that's part of the training our officers get is not to stigmatize. But when I refer to stigmatizing mental health, I'm referring to when we, as a police department, say we had to deal with someone from suffering from mental health, I'm not talking about someone who is suffering from anxiety. A large majority of the population has some sort of mental health issue — many people will suffer from them at one point in their lifetime. I'm not talking about minor mental health issues that individuals are fully capable of going through and doing their day-to-day activities with, I'm talking about serious mental health issues that not only affect them but people around them that put people's lives in danger."

Nearly two years ago, Vancouver Police Chief Jim Chu and Mayor Gregor Robertson declared a mental health crisis in the city. Following that five recommendations were made to curb the problem, however, securing 300 beds for those suffering from severe mental health and addiction has yet to be fulfilled.

Vancouver Coastal Health says one-in-five people have some form of a mental illness.

Mental Health Apprehensions from VPD

1st Q YTD

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Baltimore lifts curfew as tensions ease following rioting and looting

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SUMMARY

Baltimore's mayor has lifted a citywide curfew



BALTIMORE (NEWS1130) – People in Baltimore expressed pleasure Sunday that officials were lifting the curfew in place since Tuesday, a day after rioting and looting broke out over the death of Freddie Gray.

Chanell Banks says many people wanted to go out to bars and restaurants on Saturday night to watch the Mayweather-Pacquiao fight, but couldn't because of the curfew.

"You don't realize how much you enjoy your freedom until somebody tells you can't do something," she said.

Oronde Short also was glad the curfew would be ending, "I think it's great because this way the citizens of Baltimore can get on with their normal lives."

Gray, a black man, died after suffering a severe spinal injury while in police custody. Six officers face charges ranging from manslaughter to second-degree murder.

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