



MARKERS OF A POTENTIAL PROBLEM LOCATION

Prepared by Vanier Community Association Safety Committee / vca.acv@gmail.com

The following are indicators that you may be living in, or near, a problem location. If you have any concerns whatsoever about your personal safety and the security of your home, we urge you to seek advice from our **Community Police Officer** at **613-236-1222 Ext. 5823**, the **Ottawa Police Service** at **613-236-1222 Ext. 7300** (non-emergency), **9-1-1** (immediate threat or crime in progress), or **3-1-1**.

This list is only meant to inform you of the potentiality of a problem. Individually or combined, these may not constitute a problem location or dwelling.

Markers of a potential problem:

- Dilapidated appearance of the building or house
- Boarded-up/broken windows or doors
- Property standard infractions such as an unkempt lawn (i.e. tall weeds)
- Excessive cigarette butts/dog poop on the property
- Large dog(s)
- Frequent visitors at odd hours
- Many visitors who stay for short amounts of time
- Multiple vehicles visiting the location day and night
- Loitering on/near the property
- Loud music/noise
- Intimidating/aggressive behaviours by the property owner(s)/tenant(s) towards neighbours
- Suspected drug dealing/consumption
- Prostitution-related activities
- Panhandling
- Graffiti
- Excessive litter/overflowing garbage cans
- Frequent calls to, or presence of, Ottawa Police Service or Bylaw Services
- Suspicion of an illegal rooming house
- General sense of unease or safety concerns
- Thefts/Break-and-enters have occurred nearby
- Suspicious or clandestine activities/behaviours
- Vandalism nearby
- Strong/suspicious odours
- Discarded syringes/drug paraphilia
- Insufficient lighting on the property
- Public nuisance/intoxication
- Verbal/physical abuse, threat, altercation etc.

Things you can do today to build a safer neighbourhood:

- Contact the **Ottawa Police** or the **Community Police Centre** (MacArthur Ave),
- **Bylaw Services (3-1-1)**, **Crime Stoppers**, your **City Councillor**, or **Vanier Community Association**
- Create/join a **Neighbourhood Watch** (contact vca.acv@gmail.com)
- Share your concerns with trusted neighbours
- Use and share crime prevention and reporting tools
- Join the **Vanier Community Association**
- Beautify your street/property (ex. pick up litter, plant a garden, remove/report graffiti)
- Be visible on your street
- Use your local park
- Volunteer with a community group
- Be vigilant and report, report, report!
- Organize a walkabout/bike ride
- Attend community meetings/workshops/coffee shops/events
- Visit local shops & services
- Share your skills: Help a neighbour paint/repair their home/shovel their laneway
- Have a street garage sale/garden tour
- Say 'Hi' to your neighbours and passers-by
- Keep your porch light on from dusk to dawn
- Help care for your elderly neighbours/single- parents/people with disabilities
- Turn your front yard into your backyard
- Build a "take one, leave one" library, knickknacks, garden tool or toy box on your front lawn
- Collaborate with your neighbours to plant miniature, box, or fairy gardens in your front yards

An engaged & collaborative community is a safe community.

If you see something, Say something!

