

Parking News Bulletin

May 2008

Bentall Real Estate Services receives Safer Parking Awards

**Thank you to
our Sponsor:**



**Safer Parking Award
Winners:**

900 W Cordova Street

160 Water Street

Pacific Centre
(3 Entrances: Howe at Duns-
muir, Howe at West Georgia,
Robson at Howe)

Pacific Centre North
777 Dunsmuir St.

Pacific Palisades Hotel
1277 Robson Street

Jewish Community Center
950, W 41st Street

Bentall Centre
540 Thurlow Street

Bentall Centre
550 Burrard Street

Bentall Centre
1040 W. Pender Street

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On April 18, 2008, Bentall Real Estate Services announced the beginning of 'Life Safety Month' with a celebration, where they received three Safer Parking Awards from the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) in conjunction with the Safer Parking Initiative (SPI).



(L-R) Inspector Adua Porteous, VPD, Kevin Soltani, Manager, Security & Life Safety and Jon Wellman, Vice President, General Manager, Bentall Real Estate Services, Constable Jeff Campbell

"Bentall Real Estate Services is widely recognized for its ability to maintain and promote the highest safety standards in the industry," said Kevin Soltani, Manager, Security and Life Safety and Bentall Real Estate Services. "We are always looking for best practices and innovations to implement."

Safer Parking in the News



Parking in one of Vancouver's many facilities has often left drivers feeling afraid that their vehicle will be broken into. CTV contacted the Safer Parking Initiative to find out what drivers can do to ensure that their vehicles are safe.

VPD Superintendent Warren Lemcke reminded drivers that simply removing possessions from your vehicle while it is

To show their ongoing commitment to improving safety in Vancouver, Bentall offered tenants of their properties the opportunity to participate in several safety training sessions, including CPR, First Aid, personal and fire safety.

parked can greatly reduce the likelihood that it will be broken into. Knowing where to park, and what to avoid can also increase the driver's ability to protect their belongings.

CTV reported that many parking facilities are improving their conditions, inspired by the Safer Parking Initiative. The reporter noted that security gates, regular security patrols, proper lighting, light colored walls, and better controlled access to the facility can discourage thieves.

The Safer Parking Program & Award



The Vancouver Police Department operates and manages The Safer Parking Program that is responsible for facility evaluations, award designation, and data collection for the Safer Parking Initiative.

The Safer Parking Award is a visual identifier or brand, granted to those parking facilities that have been vetted by the VPD and met a set of criteria that help to deter criminal activity and anti-social behaviour, in order to prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime in the parking facility.



Colin Brown, SPI Spokesperson and Chief Operating Officer, Canadian Direct Insurance (R) with **Vancouver Mayor, Sam Sullivan** (L) promclaim Safer Parking Day in the City of Vancouver

Getting Involved!

The Safer Parking Initiative is open to all businesses, community groups and parking facility owners and operators that share the desire to help reduce crime and increase the public's confidence in our city, making Vancouver an even more desirable destination to work, live and visit.

"We believe the SPI will lead to increased public use of parking facilities, which will promote increased revenues for businesses that depend on customers and employees who drive to work, shop or use services in downtown Vancouver," reports Colin Brown

Project Civil City

In 2006 Vancouver Mayor Sam Sullivan initiated Project Civil City in the hopes of reducing crime, homelessness, and public disorder in Vancouver by 50% before 2010.

The recent inclusion of the Safer Parking Initiative in Project Civil City shows a distinct effort to alleviate citizens' concerns and to increase the safety of citizens while using Vancouver's parking facilities.

"The Safer Parking Initiative is a great example of the business community working with Police to prevent crime," said Vancouver City Councillor Kim Capri. "As the City of Vancouver takes action to reduce homelessness and improve public order through Project Civil City, I hope we will see more businesses participating in initiatives like this."

Profile: Colin Brown, Canadian Direct Insurance

Canadian Direct Insurance (CDI) is a proud member of the downtown Vancouver community.

Colin Brown (inset left), COO, CDI, and a long-standing member of the insurance industry, believes that the downtown community has the opportunity to greatly reduce theft and vandalism in the city.

Brown feels that being a part of the downtown community means being responsible for the safety and well-being of those who work, visit and live downtown. The SPI is the first step in creating that environment

"Like other SPI partners we have an interest in reducing auto break-ins and improving the safety of parking lots for the benefit of the public. We believe the SPI will lead to increased public use of parking facilities, which will promote increased revenues for businesses that depend on customers and employees who drive to work, shop or use services in downtown Vancouver," comments Brown.

CDI will continue working with the Vancouver Police Department to encourage operators to have their facilities evaluated and nominated for a Safer Parking Award.