

Problem ID: 5

Reporting Division :WEST

District:

Neighbourhood: CANORA

Address:

Reg

Rank

Last Name

First Name

1445

CST

EVANS-DAVIES

Key Description: MISUSE OF PARK BY DRUNKS

Problem Description:

A small community park (St. Anne) at 153 Street -102 Avenue became a concern for residents and the police. Complaints were received about excessive amounts of dirty needles, used condoms and broken beer bottles. The location was slowly being rendered unsafe for local children.

Problem solving strategies and results:

An elderly Dutchman residing a block north of the park seemed to have a special interest in restoring the place to its original condition. He would often report people attending the park that were drunk or were drinking and this was net with a police response when possible.

Cst. EVANS-DAVIES, who works in the area, made a further inspection of the park. He noted that the undergrowth of large trees, bushes and shrubs offered too much in the way of cover for drug use, alcohol consumption and a love struck population.

Discovering that a previous request to city Parks and Recreation had not been attended to with the necessary zeal. Cst EVANS-DAVIES and the Dutchman spent some time one morning clearing out bushes and stripping small

branches up to 3ft. from the ground.

A letter was sent to the city again requesting city crews to attend regularly to the park or to consider the Dutchman an ex-office grounds keeper appointed to oversee minor pruning operations as he saw fit.

A month after the initial clean up the Dutchman reported a marked decrease in his secondary income (bottle and can collection) and a noticeable absence of condoms and needles. It is anticipated that the simple maintenance program will prevent a reoccurance of this problem and the park will be used for the purpose intended.