

Crime Prevention Association of New Brunswick Inc.

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What is CPANB?

The Crime Prevention Association of New Brunswick was incorporated as a non-profit organization in October 1994. CPANB includes members of all ages and sectors including teachers, health promoters, community leaders. social development practitioners, police officers, social workers, lawyers and correctional officers who advocate and promote social development and personal safety for all New Brunswickers.

CPANB is a member of New Brunswick's Roundtable on Crime and Public Safety which supports the Provincial Crime Prevention Strategy.

CPANB seeks to help mobilize communities, promote effective crime prevention strategies, encourage collaboration. support Crime Prevention through social development, and reduce crime opportunities public through awareness and education.

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What's Happening Nationally? Rising rents

Since April 2021, the average price of rent in Canada has increased by 20%, reflecting an average increase of \$340/month, or over \$4000/year. This can be attributed to several factors:

First, the cost of housing in Canada has increased to a point where buying a home is not feasible for many. This increases the number people who must rely on renting to keep a roof over their head. The second factor is the rental housing shortage



that is occurring across Canada, with limited safe, affordable and vacant units, leaving fewer options for renters.

There is increasing pressure from advocates calling for better tenancy protections in Canada: ACORN, the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, is an independent organization focused on fighting to change current housing by-laws and advocating for the lowermiddle class.

Homelessness in New Brunswick

Recent statistics (2023) indicate that an estimated 659 people are experiencing homelessness in NB's three major cities: Fredericton, Moncton, and Saint John, with statistics unavailable for smaller municipalities.

The New Brunswick Housing Corporation was renewed and will be responsible for the oversight of financial housing programs, the development and implementation of a provincial housing strategy, the creation and maintenance of provincial housing, and The Residential Tenancies Tribunal. Previously, several departments within NB were responsible for different aspects of housing; the NB Housing Corporation ensures one entity will be responsible for housing.

Some are hopeful that this will help the current housing crisis in NB. Others, such as the New Brunswick Coalition for Tenants' Rights, say that more resources are required to address the current housing problems.

What's Happening Provincially?

New Brunswick's Empty Pantry



New Brunswickers know that groceries aren't cheap, and that isn't expected to change anytime soon. While prices tend to increase with inflation, food costs in the Maritimes are experiencing **sharp increases** with little sign of slowing down.

A study by Proof, a research team that conducts annual reports on food insecurity, has found that Atlantic provinces have the highest rate of food-insecure households in Canada: **New Brunswick is in second place with a rate of 22.7%.** This finding is consistent with data collected by Greener Village in Fredericton, **where 1 in 5 people** using the food bank have a net income in the negative before considering groceries.

What's Happening Locally?

Bike Theft Prevention

The Fredericton Police Force and the University of New Brunswick (UNB) Fredericton have partnered with 529 Garage, a bike registration service, to help reduce bicycle theft and make the community more bike friendly. According to 529 Garage's website, cities and police forces who have used this program have seen <u>a decline of up to 40%</u> in bike thefts in their area.

While the service costs money to use, the City of Fredericton is covering the costs. The program will offer tamper-resistant decals that will help locate the owners of stolen bikes. 529 Garage can operate across geographical boundaries and in



multiple languages to help return stolen bikes wherever they end up. The Fredericton Police Force will be giving away free 529 shield decals at pop-up locations around the city throughout the summer. UNB students can access 529 shield decals through the UNB Security and Traffic Office.

If you're interested in learning more about 529 Garage or registering your bike, <u>click here.</u>
Have a safe summer: wear a helmet and lock up your bike when it's not in use.



Are you interested in joining the Love Shouldn't Hurt campaign to end intimate partner violence in New Brunswick? Learn more here.



Do you have a submission?

Do you have a crime prevention initiative that you'd like to see featured here? Submissions can be emailed to ipsprevention.jspprevention@qnb.ca