

Features of a Safe and Secure Committee

Community Advocates:

Members of a Safe and Secure committee bring issues forward and commit to seeing them resolved on behalf of the entire community.

Partnership:

The program addresses concerns by partnering residents with local police services, property management, private or public security, public health and any other community partners.

Community Development:

The committee involves the community in crime prevention initiatives by hosting workshops, safety audits and social events to connect and educate residents.

Regular Meetings:

The committee generally meets on a regular basis to stay up-to-date with safety issues and to plan workable solutions as they occur.

Safe and Secure Development Initiatives

- Introduction Letter to residents
- Crime Prevention Presentations
- Suggestion Box
- Safety Newsletters
- Incident Report Form
- Safety Walkabouts (Audits)
- Neighbours Night Out
- Walking Groups
- Community Social Events



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Crime Prevention Association of Toronto

... Because **we** care about **our** community!





What Is Safe and Secure?

The safe and Secure program creates and supports small working groups in vulnerable communities to address issues of crime and safety by partnering residents with local police services, property management, private or public security, public health and other community partners. Crime Prevention Association of Toronto assists and facilitates these groups in the development of safety strategies, the education of residents and the organization of special events to promote crime prevention.

By mobilizing communities at risk and empowering residents to address issues of safety collectively, Safe and Secure groups work towards creating to address, healthier environment that improves the overall quality of life for everyone.

Goals:

The Primary goal of the Safe and Secure Program is to:

- Reduce crime and violence in communities identified as being at risk

Secondary goals include:

- Reduce residents' level of fear
- Increase confidence and pride in their community
- Connect residents with each other
- Reduce the level of mistrust in police services
- Empower residents through partnership participation

The Safe and Secure Group Identifies Problems:

- Regarding illegal activity such as: drug dealers, prostitutes, trespassers, weapons and the accompanying violent crime they bring to the community. Information as to where these activities are taking place, times and involved parties are given to the police and property management.
- Regarding residents with health issues who require further assistance from health care workers for their own personal safety.
- With the physical environment of the building/complex

Safe and Secure Vs. Neighbourhood Watch

Safe and Secure is tailored as an alternative to Neighbourhood Watch in communities where Neighbourhood Watch is found to be less effective.

Safe and Secure may be helpful...

... in disconnected communities; where residents do not communicate with one another.

... where there is fear of authority, police, property management or social services.

... where there is an absentee landlord neglected buildings.

... in high crime areas where there is a high level of resident fear.

... where a large percentage of residents have social issues, substance abuse, mental health issues, chronic poverty, unemployment, disabilities, previous victimization.

... where residents do not feel comfortable reporting crime.

