



# Oak Bay Police Department

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October 17, 2024

Nicole Duncan, Chair  
Board of Education  
Greater Victoria School District No. 61  
Ph: 778-977-7927  
[www.sd61.bc.ca](http://www.sd61.bc.ca)

**RE: Follow up email sent June 18, 2024  
to Oak Bay Police Board Chair, Mayor Kevin Murdoch**

Ms. Duncan,

I write in response to your email request for data relating to gang activity in School District 61 (SD61) schools within the Oak Bay jurisdiction. Historically we have not utilized a system to flag files as being “gang related”. However, we can confirm that gang related files exist for the SD61 schools in the Oak Bay Jurisdiction.

To ensure that we are fully accountable to the public and that we have protected personal privacy, this information is being released to you under the authority of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

For clarity, the Oak Bay Police Department (OBPD) understands a “gang” to be a “Criminal Organization” as per Section 461.1(1) of the *Criminal Code*:

*a group, however organized, that*

- (a) is composed of three or more persons in or outside Canada; and*
- (b) has as one of its main purposes or main activities the facilitation or commission of one or more serious offences that, if committed, would likely result in the direct or indirect receipt of a material benefit, including a financial benefit, by the group or by any of the persons who constitute the group.*

*It does not include a group of persons that forms randomly for the immediate commission of a single offence.*

*A “serious offence” means an indictable offence under this or any other Act of Parliament for which the maximum punishment is imprisonment for five years or more, or another offence that is prescribed by regulation.*

## Data Analysis

Not every gang associate or incident is documented on police files by a specific flag or unique identifier. References to gang activity may be contained within a specific investigation or an offence such as drug trafficking, assault or robbery. Data linking gang activity to schools within the Oak Bay Police jurisdiction has been derived from a text-based search of police records. Other files have been linked through personal knowledge from the Community and Youth Liaison officer (previously referred to as the School Liaison Officer position).

Please see the following responses in answer to your three-part request for information:

### **Request 1: Any and all data pertaining to gang recruitment or other criminal activity involving youth, between 2015 to date.**

From 2015-2023, OBPD can confirm that we have data that meets this criterion. Specifically, there was one file in 2015 investigated by our Mobile Youth Services Team (MYST) and two files in 2023 investigated by our School Liaison Officer (SLO). The information obtained in relation to gang recruitment and activity is derived from sources that are classified/protected due to the high sensitivity of the information and to protect innocent persons.

### **Request 2: Any and all data pertaining to police calls for service to each SD61 school (broken down by each school) within the Oak Bay Police Department's jurisdiction, between 2015 to date.**

SD61 data for calls for service between 2015-2023 are as follows:

Oak Bay High School: 547

Willows Elementary School: 125

Monterey Middle School: 155

### **Request 3: A copy of any and all Oak Bay Police Policies and Procedures relating to vulnerable populations (including youth).**

Please refer to the attached OBPD Policies:

[OD160 – Vulnerable Groups](#)

[OB050 – Child Welfare](#)

[OB090 – Family/Relationship Violence](#)

[OB180 – Missing Persons](#)

[OD180 – Young Persons](#)

[OD280 – Bias Free Policing](#)

[OB220 – Sexual Assault](#)

OA150 – Medical Care of Prisoners  
OM090 – Extrajudicial Measures  
OD270 – Police Stops  
OM030 – School Liaison  
OA060 – Mental Health Act

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Murdoch', is written in a cursive style.

Kevin Murdoch, Board Chair  
Oak Bay Police Board