



**THE ANTI GRAFFITI
SYMPOSIUM**

2011 TAGS
Edmonton
Alberta, Canada
October 18 & 19, 2011

Post Conference
Reading Tags Workshop
October 20, 2011



EDMONTON 2011



On behalf of the City of Edmonton, welcome to the seventh annual TAGS: The Anti Graffiti Symposium.

The Anti Graffiti Symposium (TAGS) is an annual conference open to individuals working for municipalities, law-enforcement agencies, departments of justice, schools, community groups, businesses and other agencies affected by and working to prevent and reduce graffiti vandalism, and increase criminal and civil enforcement efforts.

The City of Edmonton's Capital City Clean Up Graffiti Management Program is pleased to be hosting the 2011 TAGS Conference with support from the Complaints and Investigations Section of the Community Standards Branch and the Edmonton Police Service.

TAGS was initiated in 2005 by the Vancouver Police Department (VPD). The VPD had the first two-member unit in Canada mandated to investigate graffiti crimes on a full-time basis. This unit identified that graffiti offenders are very mobile and share information online. They also recognized the need to increase their understanding of the link between graffiti as a minor crime which can lead to more serious offences. This conference was developed as a means to improve training and to provide graffiti investigators across Canada with the opportunity to develop investigative skills, network and share intelligence on tracking and tagger identification.

*Since its fledgling start, the event has grown into a national conference drawing local, provincial, national and international participants and speakers. This year the conference is divided into specific themes to address the changing needs of the participants: **enforcement, community engagement and research.***

Acknowledgements

The conference organizers would like to acknowledge all those that have contributed to the success of the 2011 TAGS conference, including but not limited to the following:

All of the Presenters who donated their time and expertise
Edmonton Radial Railway Society

Rona

Rowles & Company Ltd.

The Edmonton Journal

Tim Hortons

West Edmonton Mall

Westin Hotel

Staff of the various City Departments that assisted in coordinating the conference:

- *Community Building, Community Services*
- *Community Standards, Community Services*
- *Edmonton Police Service*
- *Office of Great Neighbourhoods, Community Services*
- *Training Administrative Services, Corporate Services*

RONA

**Tim
Hortons**



**EDMONTON
JOURNAL**



Agenda at a Glance: Tuesday

Notes to Participants:

- *Your breakout session choices are noted on your name tag. As some sessions are near capacity, please attend your assigned session choices. If you wish to change a breakout session, check at the registration desk so we can confirm available space. Thank you.*
- *Please wear your lanyard at all times at the conference. The color of your lanyard indicates to the photographer if we have your permission to take your photo. Your cooperation with this request is appreciated.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2011

Time	Stream One – Enforcement <i>All Enforcement Sessions will be held in the Main Ballroom: Manitoba/Saskatchewan</i>	Stream Two – Community Engagement <i>All Community Engagement Sessions will be held in the Alberta/BC Ballroom</i>	Stream Three – Research <i>All Research Sessions will be held in the Yukon Ballroom</i>	A L L D A Y T R A D E S H O W & P O S T E R S E S S I O N S
8:00 am	Coffee/Continental Breakfast (Man/Sask Ballroom)			
8:30 am	Welcome Address: Mayor Stephen Mandel, City of Edmonton Deputy Chief Neil Dubord, Edmonton Police Service (Man/Sask)			
8:45 am	Sgt. Val Spicer: <i>The Portrait of a Vandal</i> (Man/Sask Ballroom)			
9:45 am	Refreshment Break			
10:00 am	K.E. Keizer, PhD: <i>Spreading the Disorder</i> (Man/Sask Ballroom)			
11:00 am	E1 – Acting Sgt. Lee Jones <i>Investigative Solutions</i> (Man/Sask Ballroom)	C1 – Sharon Chapman <i>Programs that Work</i> (Alberta/BC Ballroom)	R1 – Sgt. Val Spicer <i>Graffiti: Road to art school or youth at risk behaviour?</i> (Yukon Ballroom)	
12:00 pm	Lunch Address: Tom Ethans, <i>Murals - Making a Difference</i> (Man/Sask Ballroom)			
12:50 pm	Greetings: Linda Cochrane, General Manager, Community Services, City of Edmonton (Man/Sask)			
1:00 pm	Deborah Lamm Weisel: <i>Responding to Graffiti – Getting the Most Bang for the Buck</i> (Man/Sask)			
1:45 pm	Refreshment Break			
2:00 pm	E2 – Sgt. Wendy Hawthorne <i>Style Comparisons and Graffiti Recognition</i> (Man/Sask Ballroom)	C2 – Brenda Morrison <i>Restorative Justice</i> (Alberta/BC Ballroom)	R2 – Mark McKenny <i>City of Edmonton Graffiti Vandalism Audit</i> (Yukon Ballroom)	
3:00 pm	Refreshment Break			
3:15 pm	Facilitated Round Table Discussion: Sandra Johnston, Johnson Research (Man/Sask Ballroom)			
4:15 pm	End of Sessions for the Day			
4:30 to 6:30 pm	Wine and Cheese – Networking (Devonian Room – The Devonian Room is located on the main floor, just behind and past the escalator)			

Agenda at a Glance: Wednesday

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2011

Time	Stream One – Enforcement <i>All Enforcement Sessions will be held in the Main Ballroom: Manitoba/Saskatchewan</i>	Stream Two – Community Engagement <i>All Community Engagement Sessions will be held in the Alberta/BC Ballroom</i>	Stream Three – Research <i>All Research Sessions will be held in the Yukon Ballroom</i>
8:00 am	Coffee/Continental Breakfast (Man/Sask Ballroom)		
8:30 am	Greetings: Kathy Barnhart, Branch Manager, Neighbourhood and Community Development, Community Services, City of Edmonton, and Chair of Capital City Clean Up Steering Committee (Man/Sask Ballroom)		
8:40 am	A Graffiti Artist's and Tagger's Perspective Panel Presentation (Man/Sask Ballroom) Kristina Copeland, Facilitator Pontus Agren Scott Sueme		
9:45 am	Refreshment Break – Extended to Allow Participants to Review Poster Sessions		
10:00 am	E3 – Steven F.E. Phipps <i>The Role of Legislation</i> (Man/Sask Ballroom)	C3 – Kathy Wipf & Shelby Murphy <i>Educating the Public on Graffiti</i> (Alberta/BC Ballroom)	R3 – Dean Sydlowski <i>CPTED in Practice: The Edmonton Transit Project</i> (Yukon Ballroom)
11:00 am	Facilitated Discussion Report Back: Sandra Johnson, Johnson Research (Man/Sask Ballroom)		
11:45 pm	Lunch (Man/Sask Ballroom)		
12:30 pm	Lorne Fletcher: City of Langford, along with Cedric Steele Realty Ltd. and Pacific Coast Flooring Inc., Civil Suit (Man/Sask Ballroom)		
1:30 pm	Refreshment Break		
1:45 pm	E4 – Det. Ken Davis <i>Local to International: The Capture</i> (Man/Sask Ballroom)	C4 – iHuman Youth Society Youth and Dr. Diane Conrad <i>Uncensored</i> (Alberta/BC Ballroom)	R4 – Kristy Trinier <i>Graffiti in the Modern World: Pop Culture, Politics, and Public Art</i> (Yukon Ballroom)
2:45 pm	Refreshment Break		
3:00 pm	Cynthia M. Nikitin: <i>Creating Safety Communities Through Placemaking</i> (Man/Sask Ballroom)		
4:00 pm	Conference Wrap-Up (Man/Sask)		
4:15 pm	End of Official Conference		

TAGS Keynote Speakers



K.E. Keizer, PhD
Associate Professor/PhD, University of Groningen, The Netherlands

Kees Keizer, PhD, is Assistant Professor at the Social Psychology Department of the University of Groningen. His main research interests are social influence, the influence of the environment on social norms and rules. His research on norms received several awards and was published in Science magazine. He cooperates with many organizations outside the scientific domain and his research often focuses on behaviour in real life settings.



Sgt. Val Spicer
PhD Candidate, Institute for Canadian Urban Research Studies School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, and Sergeant, Vancouver Police Department

Sergeant Valerie Spicer has been a police member with the Vancouver Police Department for the past 13 years. She spent her first four years as a patrol constable in the south west sector of Vancouver. For the following four years, she joined the property crime unit as a graffiti investigator. She is currently part of the beat team working in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver. She holds a bachelor of Fine Arts from Concordia University (1991), a Master of Art History from the University of Montreal (1994), and a Master of Criminology from Simon Fraser University (2004). She is a PhD candidate in the Criminology program at Simon Fraser University. She co-initiated the RestART program which is a restorative art program for graffiti offenders for which she received an honorable mention from the Canadian Minister of Justice. She met with graffiti investigators from across North America including New York, San Francisco, Seattle, Portland Montreal, and Toronto, and realized that formal graffiti investigation training was very sparse. As a result, she initiated a Canadian graffiti investigator conference called TAGS (The Anti-Graffiti Symposium). She has presented at various conferences including the British Columbia Forensic Conference, the Applied Research Symposium at the Justice Institute of British Columbia, the American Society of Criminology and the Western Society of Criminology Conference. Her other academic research areas include chronic property offending, juvenile risk predictors, problem oriented policing, environmental criminology, fear of crime, computational criminology and CPTED.



Deborah Lamm Weisel, PhD
Research Asst. Professor, North Carolina State University

Deborah Lamm Weisel has more than 20 years experience researching crime and public safety problems. She routinely collaborates with local police across the United States to develop effective responses to problems such as crime in public housing, street level drug markets, gangs, prostitution and graffiti. Weisel has served as project director and principal investigator of two major studies funded by the National Institute of Justice, U.S. Department of Justice. One examined how police in San Diego and Indianapolis balanced their community policing efforts with gang control; the other examined the evolution of criminal youth gangs in Chicago and San Diego into more organized crime groups. Weisel has also collaborated with numerous jurisdictions to reliably benchmark gang problems, develop long-term strategies and measure their impact over time. On the faculty of North Carolina State University, Weisel conducts research and teaches mid-career law enforcement officers. She was previously a Senior Research Associate of the Police Executive Research Forum in Washington DC. She holds a doctorate in Public Policy Analysis from the University of Illinois-Chicago and is the author of "Graffiti" – a publication in the popular series Problem-Oriented Guides for Police published by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services in Washington D.C. The guide can be downloaded at <http://www.popcenter.org/problems/graffiti/>.



Lorne Fletcher
Manager, Community Safety and Municipal Enforcement, City of Langford

Lorne Fletcher is the Manager of Community Safety and Municipal Bylaw Enforcement at the City of Langford on Vancouver Island. In this role, he has helped with some of the progressive changes over the past 17 years within that very promising community. Lorne recently retired after six years as President of the License Inspectors' and Bylaw Officers' Association of British Columbia (LIBOA) and in that capacity he worked on projects with the Provincial Government to bring about various legislative improvements especially in the area of Bylaw Courts. Additionally, he has volunteered over 3,800 hours in the past 21 years as an Auxiliary Constable with the RCMP 'E'-Division Provincial Auxiliary Constable Program. He presently sits on the Provincial and National Advisory Committees for the RCMP Auxiliary Constable Program and has chaired the Bylaw Subcommittee for the Greater Victoria Crystal Meth Task Force. Lorne is currently working with LIBOA, the Justice Institute of BC and the BC Police Services Branch, to review and formalize professional standards for Bylaw Enforcement Officers working in British Columbia. Recently, the City of Langford's Municipal Bylaw Enforcement Division has made national news headlines with its legal pursuits to address accountability of graffiti vandals and irresponsible parents.



Tom Ethans

Executive Director, Take Pride Winnipeg

Tom Ethans has been the Executive Director of Take Pride Winnipeg since 1997. The organization runs 10 programs dealing with litter, graffiti, murals, plastic bags, environmental education, a front yard garden contest and a home painting program for senior citizens. Tom is a single father raising two children and is an avid golfer.



Cynthia M. Nikitin

Vice President, Projects for Public Spaces, New York, New York

Cynthia Nikitin has led numerous large-scale and complex projects during her 19 years with Projects for Public Spaces, as Vice President for Downtowns. With a portfolio of more than 200 projects, Cynthia's technical expertise stretches from the development of downtown master plans and transit facility and station area enhancement projects, to the creation of corridor-wide transportation and land use strategies for state highways, to the development of public art and park master plans for major cities, and the coalescing of civic buildings, like libraries and art institutions, into civic centers. Currently, she is spearheading a placemaking, public space, and quality of life initiative with UN HABITAT's Global Safer Cities and Sustainable Urban Development Network; a new initiative which has resulted in the drafting by UN Habitat of the first ever Public Space resolution. Cynthia presented at the UN Women Safer Cities for Women and Girls stakeholder planning meeting in Cairo in July 2011 and at the Safe and Resilient Communities conference in Johannesburg, South Africa in July 2010. She has also facilitated training sessions for the Waterloo Regions Crime Prevention Council on the direct effect and connection of public spaces on community safety, perceptions of safety and the fear (or non-fear) of crime.

A Graffiti Artist's Perspective Panel



Pontus Agren

Student, Simon Fraser University

Pontus Agren has a Bachelor of Arts degree (Honours) in criminology from Simon Fraser University. He has experience in hip-hop graffiti on both sides of the law. After 10 years of writing illegal graffiti, Pontus participated in a Restorative Justice Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP). That VORP experience led him to become the first anti-graffiti coordinator in the City of Surrey. Pontus now participates in RestART, a Restorative Justice based graffiti abatement project that works with graffiti writers to help them turn their illegal graffiti practices into legal, productive outlets for their art. Pontus recently completed a university thesis on RestART entitled "Vancouver's Restorative Art (RESTART) Anti-graffiti Project: An Exploration and Evaluation of the General and Specific Benefits and Challenges."



Kristina Copeland

Cultural Planner, Engineering Services, City of Vancouver

Kristina is a Cultural Planner for the City of Vancouver's Great Beginnings Program and Celebrate Vancouver 125 Mural Program. This position involves outreach work within the 'Great Beginnings' area that includes Gastown, Japantown, Chinatown, and Strathcona which make up Vancouver's Downtown East Side. The work involves building partnerships with community organizations and individuals in order to develop graffiti abatement strategies through; community driven murals, education, prevention, restorative justice and social enterprise. These projects have produced 30 murals, nine transformer boxes hand painted in youth art, two RestART (Restorative Justice Art workshops), and have employed more than 100 artists and involved more that 300 volunteers.



Scott Sueme

Abstract Painter

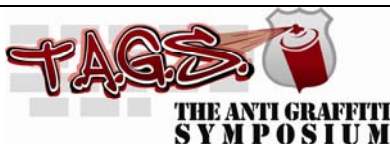
Scott is an abstract painter with roots in graffiti. His paintings are an exploration of spontaneity and intuition; a departure from his critically structured and designed letter based graffiti pieces. His process juxtaposes improvisation and strategy, layering dense shapes and bold colors over subtle tones and surfaces. The resulting narratives range from highly kinetic compositions to uniform geometrics. Sueme currently works out of his studio in the Downtown Eastside in Vancouver. He continues to travel and showcase his work on an international level both outdoors and in galleries. He maintains to be a relevant figure in the graffiti culture, aspiring to openly converse on the art form and further its development through the discussion of technique and processes.

Roundtable Discussion

Johnston Research

Johnston Research is a qualitative research company based in Edmonton. Sandra Johnston has been operating Johnston Research for five years now. Working with a wide variety of clients in both the private and public sector, Johnston Research explores the opinions that exist in the market and seeks to understand the factors which influence those opinions. Johnston Research has a long history with the City of Edmonton and last year coordinated a research project in which they investigated opportunities for community based or education based prevention programs aimed at youth to deter involvement in graffiti activities.

Facilitators for the Session: Sandra Johnston, Shauna Young and Corinne Saad



TAGS Breakout Speakers



Sharon Chapman

Graffiti Project Manager, Capital City Clean Up, City of Edmonton

Sharon Chapman has an education background in economics and political science from the Universities of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. She worked for 14 years in the communications field in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, serving for eight years as the Director of Communication for the Saskatchewan Children's Advocate; an officer of the Legislative Assembly which investigates complaints against the government concerning services for children. The majority of her career has been working within the public and non-profit sectors for health promotion and social development agencies. Sharon joined Capital City Clean Up in 2008 as the City's first Graffiti Project Manager and has been working since that time to develop and expand Edmonton's graffiti vandalism reduction and prevention programs.



Detective Ken Davis

Gang/Narco Unit, Yonkers, NY

Ken Davis was one of the cofounders and field coordinators for the Yonkers Community Action Program's "Off the Wall" – a community-based graffiti art program that generated hip-hop canvases, pieces and production on HIV/AIDS awareness throughout the City of Yonkers, NY and parts of lower Westchester County (1990-2000). During this same decade, he was one of the graffiti/gang police officers inside the Yonkers Police Department's Community Affairs Division. This unit apprehended numerous prolific graffiti vandals and participated in various city and community gang reduction programs. Today, Ken Davis is a detective within the Yonkers Police Department's Gang/Narcotics Unit. He is the author of TAG 18.3; a photo-documentary exploring graffiti participants and gang members through the symbols they generated. He is a strong advocate in uniting apprehension, prosecuting, prevention, intervention, restorative justice, restoration, and information management services against graffiti vandalism.



Sergeant Wendy Hawthorne

Vancouver Transit Police

Sergeant Wendy Hawthorne has been investigating graffiti crimes for over 25 years in the Metro Vancouver region. In May 2009, Sgt Hawthorne initiated the creation of the Lower Mainland Graffiti Task Force for Metro Vancouver. The Task Force brought contacts together from the Metro Vancouver RCMP, Municipal and Railway Police to work in partnership toward effective enforcement and pro-active solutions to this ongoing blight on our communities. Sergeant Hawthorne's passion for graffiti is to ensure that, from her more than quarter century commitment to policing and recognition as an expert across Canada, we as communities, law enforcement, volunteers, and all those affected by this senseless crime continue to work together.



iHuman Youth Society Youth and Dr. Diane Conrad, University of Alberta

Underway since Fall 2009, the participatory research project High Risk Youth Uncensored: An Educational Exchange is a partnership between the not-for-profit community arts-based youth organization iHuman Youth Society (Outreach worker Wallis Kendal; www.iHuman.org), Edmonton and Area Child and Family Services High Risk Youth Unit (Casework Supervisor Peter Smyth), and the University of Alberta (Dr. Diane Conrad) with initial funding from the REACH Edmonton Council for Safe Communities. Based on a need identified by the community, the project involves iHuman youth as key collaborators working at developing a series of arts-based workshops to educate service providers about how to best meet the particular needs of the high risk youth populations they serve. Youth are involved in identifying issues, developing curriculum materials and presenting the workshops. As well as educating service providers (educators, social workers, law enforcement, health practitioners, etc.), the project benefits the youth involved and the community at large.



Acting Sergeant Lee Jones

Tactical Flight Officer, Saskatoon Police






Constable Lee Jones has been Involved in Graffiti Criminal Investigations since 2001. He has developed and refined several proven techniques and provides ongoing assistance to other agencies through investigative techniques and style comparison analysis. He has lectured at the international level and is regarded as a Subject Matter Expert.



Constable Dave Ladic

Calgary Police Service

Constable Dave Ladic has been a member of the Calgary Police Service since 1998 and in 2005 began developing his understanding of how to investigate graffiti vandalism. As a community liaison officer, Cst. Ladic saw first hand the impact that graffiti vandalism had on members of the community. Cst. Ladic began attending training relating to graffiti vandalism including TAGS in 2006, with most of Dave's training coming from investigating graffiti vandalism including executing 30 search warrants and more than 100 interviews with graffiti vandals. Dave has presented at TAGS, the City of Edmonton graffiti workshop and AASRO (Alberta Association of School Resource Officers).

	<p>Mark McKenney President, MGM Management</p> <p>Mark McKenney is the President of MGM Management. This B.C. based consulting firm has performed over 20 major environmental audits for municipal and provincial clients including litter audits. More recently the company worked with the City of Edmonton to cooperatively develop a methodology to perform graffiti audits in major urban settings.</p>
	<p>Brenda Morrison Ph.D, Assistant Prof., Co-Director, Centre for Restorative Justice, School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University</p> <p>Dr. Brenda Morrison is Co-Director of the Centre for Restorative Justice and an Assistant Professor in the School of Criminology at Simon Fraser University. She is a social psychologist with field experience in outdoor education, government administration and restorative justice. A particular focus of her work relates to school communities, and the institutions that serve these communities. Brenda enjoys the company and passion of a diverse range of local, national and international associations. New adventures with friends and family keep her spirit alive and well.</p>
<p><i>Photo Not Available</i></p>	<p>Constable Shelby Murphy Royal Canadian Mounted Police</p> <p>Constable Shelby Murphy has been a member of the RCMP for the last eight years. She began her career in Coquitlam, British Columbia. In March 2011 she became a full time Anti-Graffiti Coordinator for the City of Burnaby where she works with her counterpart, Kathy Wipf. Shelby is responsible for investigating and enforcing the criminal aspect of graffiti vandalism and also enforcing the graffiti bylaw by issuing tickets to offenders caught in the act. Together, both Anti-Graffiti Coordinators work in partnership to prevent graffiti and educate the victims, offenders, and community as a whole.</p>
	<p>Steven F.E. Phipps Lawyer, Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP</p> <p>Steven Phipps graduated from the University of Alberta Law School in 1988. After 10 years in private practice Mr. Phipps joined the City of Edmonton's legal department. For the next 13 years Steven provided legal advice to various enforcement areas of the City as well as to Edmonton City Council on a number of municipal enforcement issues. He was also involved in the preparation and drafting of many municipal bylaws having a regulatory or enforcement component. In 2011 he joined the Edmonton office of Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP. Steven Phipps is a regular speaker at legal and other conferences.</p>
	<p>Dean Sydlowski Director, Corporate Security, City of Edmonton</p> <p>Dean Sydlowski is currently the Director of Corporate Security at the City of Edmonton. He is a Certified Protection Professional (CPP) recognized by the American Society of Industrial Security (ASIS). Dean is a graduate from the University of Alberta where he obtained his Security Management Certificate. His background includes 10 years in progressively responsible positions with Edmonton Transit Security and three years as a Security Advisor prior to becoming the Director of Corporate Security. In Dean's spare time, he volunteers as the Vice Chair for the Edmonton and Northern Alberta ASIS Chapter and teaches in the Police and Security Program at Mac Ewan University.</p>
	<p>Kristy Trinier Public Art Director, Edmonton Arts Council</p> <p>Kristy Trinier is the Public Art Director of the Edmonton Arts Council, where she administrates the Percent for Art program and manages the Civic Art Collection on behalf of the City of Edmonton. She has a Master's degree in Public Art from the Dutch Art Institute (DAI) in The Netherlands and a Bachelor's degree in Visual Art from the University of Victoria. With a background in arts administration, she previously worked with The Banff Centre. She is a practicing artist in the mediums of sound art, video, and sculpture installation, and has exhibited her artwork internationally, including the Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Art and photo Miami art fair.</p>
<p><i>Photo Not Available</i></p>	<p>Kathy Wipf Anti-Graffiti Coordinator, City of Burnaby</p> <p>Kathy has worked for the City of Burnaby for over 30 years and has been the Anti-Graffiti Coordinator for the last 4 years. In 2007, the Mayor's Task Force on Graffiti was established and members of the Community, RCMP, Burnaby Councilors and Business Organizations were brought together to address the issue of graffiti and develop creative solutions. Kathy is a bylaw officer who is responsible for enforcing the graffiti bylaw. She works in partnership with Burnaby RCMP Anti-Graffiti Coordinator Shelby Murphy. Together, they are working on creating educational information for community members, the Graffiti sub-culture, educators and parents.</p>

Keynote Presentation Descriptions

<p>K.E. Keizer, PhD Associate Professor/PhD, University of Groningen, The Netherlands</p>	<p>Spreading the Disorder</p> <p>Graffiti, litter and unreturned shopping carts are all signs that reveal a lack of respect for a certain norm. This presentation will talk about the effect such signs have on people's behavior and will include a series of controlled (field) experiments which show that disorder spreads (an idea often referred to as the "broken window theory"). The research results, for example, reveal that graffiti vandalism can induce littering and even stealing. Kees will talk about the practical implications of his research and why prohibition signs can induce norm violating behavior while someone cleaning the streets can spark helpfulness and friendliness towards strangers.</p>
<p>Sgt. Valerie Spicer PhD Candidate, Institute for Canadian Urban Research Studies (ICURS), School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University and Sergeant, Vancouver Police Department</p>	<p>The Portrait of a Vandal</p> <p>Who are graffiti vandalism taggers? Why do taggers tag/vandalize and the link between graffiti, serious criminal offences and fear in a community.</p>
<p>Deborah Lamm Weisel, PhD Research Asst. Professor, North Carolina State University</p>	<p>Responding to Graffiti - Getting the Most Bang for the Buck</p> <p>Every year, millions of dollars are spent responding to graffiti – responses ranging from prevention and clean-up, to investigation and enforcement. Is your community getting the most bang for the buck? And are there enough resources invested in the right places? This presentation is focused on deconstructing varied responses to different types of graffiti and distinguishing key stakeholders of graffiti – victims, offenders, targets and guardians. This strategic approach ensures sufficient resources are targeted when and where they are most needed and most effective.</p>
<p>Lorne Fletcher Manager, Community Safety and Municipal Enforcement, City of Langford</p>	<p>Graffiti Vandals - You CAN make them PAY</p> <p>Lorne will provide a brief overview of the investigation, as well as the steps taken by his Officers to bring a prolific graffiti vandal to task through the Supreme Court of B.C. over thousands of dollars of graffiti damage inflicted within their community of Langford. He will explain how relevant case law has been set in holding a vandal and his parents accountable for the damage done to public as well as private properties in an enforcement process the City has used on more than one occasion.</p>
<p>Cynthia M. Nikitin Vice President, Projects for Public Spaces New York, New York</p>	<p>Creating Safety Communities Through Placemaking</p> <p>Unpacking the factors that contribute to unsafety in public spaces can provide deeper insights into the root causes of graffiti, not least of which is the systemic failure of government and institutions to engage and empower marginalized populations in creating the life of the city and in reducing anti-social and criminal behavior. At the same time, it enables us to consider how changes made to the built environment and specifically to the design of public spaces – a park, a bus stop, a plaza – can induce or alternatively deter anti-social activity from panhandling to graffiti to drug dealing and crime. Cynthia Nikitin will demonstrate how, by redesigning public spaces with and for the people using them, including the most disenfranchised, disempowered, and disengaged, they will take ownership over them and make them safer through shared social control and the pursuit of common interests.</p>
<p>Tom Ethans Executive Director Take Pride Winnipeg</p>	<p>Murals - Making a Difference</p> <p>Winnipeg, through Take Pride Winnipeg, Business Improvement Zones, the City of Winnipeg, schools and businesses have partnered to commission over 500 murals throughout the city since 1995. This presentation will delve into the reasons that murals make a difference in the community, and how other cities can transform their walls into colorful works of art.</p>

Breakout Session Descriptions

Stream 1 Enforcement	Stream 2 Community Engagement	Stream 3 Research
Session E1	Session C1	Session R1
<p>Acting Sgt. Lee Jones, Tactical Flight Officer, Saskatoon Police</p> <p>Investigative Solutions This session will guide you in a proven process for ensuring a successful investigation and ways to maximize your Crown's ability to gain convictions. Gain insight on a global community problem and effective solutions.</p>	<p>Sharon Chapman, Graffiti Project Manager, Capital City Clean Up, City of Edmonton</p> <p>Programs that Work Community involvement and support is the key to a successful graffiti vandalism program. Find out ways to engage the community in graffiti prevention, education, removal and enforcement.</p>	<p>Sgt. Valerie Spicer, PhD Candidate, Institute for Canadian Urban Research Studies, Simon Fraser University & VPD</p> <p>Graffiti: Road to art school or youth at risk behaviour? Understanding the inclination to become involved with graffiti vandalism by individuals with specific types of developmental conditions, including ADHD, FASD, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, and others.</p>
Session E2	Session C2	Session R2
<p>Sgt. Wendy Hawthorne, Vancouver Transit Police</p> <p>The Penmanship of a Vandal Sgt. Hawthorne was the first to develop and successfully utilize graffiti style comparisons for court purposes to gain charges on prolific graffiti vandals. Hawthorne will cover what a Graffiti Style Comparison is, what is needed to present successful cases for charges and some other creative methods for holding our prolific and repeat graffiti vandals accountable.</p>	<p>Brenda Morrison, Ph.D, Assistant Prof., Co-Director, Centre for Restorative Justice, School of Criminology, Simon Fraser University</p> <p>Restorative Justice. Ways to link enforcement with community service partnerships and options for young offenders/group homes.</p>	<p>Mark McKenny, President, MGM Management</p> <p>City of Edmonton Graffiti Vandalism Audit A review of the methodology and results of the 2010 City of Edmonton Graffiti Vandalism Audit, which sampled 20 Edmonton neighbourhoods and identified, Edmonton's most prolific taggers, characteristics of graffiti and descriptions of the properties where the graffiti occurred. The study created a "Graffiti Index" in order to compare graffiti vandalism occurrences from year to year.</p>
Session E3	Session C3	Session R3
<p>Steven F.E. Phipps, Lawyer, Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP</p> <p>The Role of Legislation Legislation is one tool available to assist in the prevention of graffiti vandalism. This session will review examples of legislation in place at the federal, provincial and municipal levels and the roles such legislation can play as part of an overall enforcement strategy.</p>	<p>Kathy Wipf, Anti-Graffiti Coordinator, City of Burnaby & Shelby Murphy, Royal Canadian Mounted Police</p> <p>Educating the Public on Graffiti The City of Burnaby and the Burnaby RCMP Anti-Graffiti Coordinators are working on an educational campaign focusing on: teachers, students, youth-at-risk, families, police as well as business and property owners about the effects of graffiti in their communities and environments. This is an interactive session, so bring your ideas to learn what's new and brainstorm some ideas on how education can help in your schools and communities.</p>	<p>Dean Sydlowski, Director, Corporate Security, City of Edmonton</p> <p>CPTED in Practice – the Edmonton Transit Project An overview of a two-year graffiti pilot project along the NE LRT Transit Corridor, in which CPTED principals were applied to decrease graffiti in one of the highest hit areas for graffiti in Edmonton.</p>
Session E4	Session C4	Session R4
<p>Det. Ken Davis, Gang/Narco Unit, Yonkers, NY</p> <p>Local to International: The Capture This session will describe how a local graffiti crime incident developed into an international graffiti investigation – an investigation consisting of graffiti identification/ analysis, open sources of intelligence, search warrant, online graffiti networks and cross-jurisdiction cooperation.</p>	<p>iHuman Youth Society Youth and Dr. Diane Conrad, University of Alberta</p> <p>High Risk Youth Uncensored: An Educational Exchange Forum theatre scenes, devised and performed by the youth, will present why and how youth become involved in graffiti. The session will engage the audience in a performative dialogue around the complex and tragic issues they encounter with the potential to transform social relations between high risk youth and service providers.</p>	<p>Kristy Trinier, Public Art Director, Edmonton Arts Council</p> <p>Graffiti in the Modern World: Pop Culture, Politics, and Public Art From music videos to political campaigns, graffiti and street art can be found in advertising, art galleries, and educational programming. This session will survey the roots of graffiti to its impact on modern day culture.</p>

Trade Show Participants

CANEM Security Solutions

CANEM provides remote CCTV Security/Risk Management services to proactively protect property from graffiti, illegal dumping, trespassing, etc.

Redwood Plastics Corporation

Since 1971 Redwood Plastics has worked directly with customers to find solutions for a variety of problems including shock, abrasion, noise, wear and friction. In partnership with our manufacturing divisions, Redwood Plastics molds, machines, and fabricates a wide-range of high quality, custom components.

Rona

Rona Home and Garden is a proud sponsor of the Capital City Clean Up Graffiti Management Program. Rona provides direct support for the Graffiti Wipe Out Program and Graffiti Clean Up Kit program by providing CCCU with significant discounts on supplies and pricing and direct discounts to property owners on paint.

SurfaceScience

SurfaceScience is a surface company to GardGroup Inc. that has been Canada's leading developer and distributor of surface coatings since 1978. Its proprietary products and services incorporate and maintain some of the most stringent industrial and eco environmental guidelines in today's competitive marketplace. SurfaceScience strives to make GardGroup the world's name for trusted product standards and service excellence. It is the newest member of the GardGroup family of Companies. Established in 2007, its mandate is to preserve and protect today's various surfaces from harsh environment which we live in. The GardGroup team is comprised of industry professionals with extensive background in the coatings and surface protection industry. Their organization handles all types of distribution from individual dealer/ applicator to regional, national and international levels of distribution. The SurfaceScience brand was designed in 2007 to bring a unique blend of quality service and technology to the consumer. Their Eco Technology products are designed to respect our planet and its resources. SurfaceScience is actively involved in the coating/maintaining of wind turbine blades and graffiti removal.

The World's Best Graffiti Removal System

The World's Best Graffiti Removal System manufactures and markets a complete line of graffiti removal chemicals. World's Best (WB) is the dominant world wide supplier of graffiti removal chemicals with over 80% of all Australian municipalities; 50% of British councils; over 400 US cities and about 50% of all large Canadian greater metropolitan areas using their products. WB is focused on promoting a simple, safe, and systematic approach to graffiti control.

Poster Session Participants

Painting Murals Inside, for the Outside: Riverdale's Mural Project

This presentation documents a mural project that took place in 2010/11 in Riverdale, an older community in central Edmonton. Two murals were painted in the muralist's studios and installed on the exterior walls of Riverdale House. Riverdale House is a small community center that was consistently 'tagged' with graffiti. It now displays two murals commissioned by the Riverdale Community League. The mural on the south side of the building, painted by Karen Blanchet (www.karenblanchet.com) depicts scenes of the community's past and present. The east facing mural, by Pedro Rodriguez de los Santos, is a colorful mural inspired by Mexican art that includes drawings by children in the Riverdale community. The mural process began with community engagement sessions to collect stories and ideas from Riverdadians. An 'extension' of the mural project saw two theatre workers write and perform a play that explained the stories of the events and people depicted in Blanchet's mural. Project Managers Lorna Thomas (lorhto@live.com) and Loraine Johnson acted as the liaisons between the funders, the muralists, the actors and the community. Funds for the Riverdale murals were received from: The Capital City Clean Up Graffiti Management Program (City of Edmonton); The Edmonton Community Public Art Grant (administered by the Edmonton Arts Council); The Parent Advisory Committee of Riverdale School, and the Riverdale Community League.

Become a Graffiti Fighter Today!

The goal of our poster is to highlight our membership program and the benefits of being a Graffiti Fighter. The poster will feature various graffiti statistics (increase in graffiti, money, program success) and photographs and why becoming a Graffiti Fighter is vital to stop urban blight. Stop Urban Blight is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the elimination of graffiti vandalism and reducing the money businesses, cities, and citizens are forced to spend dealing with this problem. Our mission is to provide education in graffiti prevention, abatement and removal. "Graffiti Fighters" are members of Stop Urban Blight and help drastically reduce graffiti in our communities.

Reading Taggers Post Conference Workshop

As part of this year's conference, Edmonton is hosting a separate half-day hands-on session on Thursday, October 20, where graffiti experts will lead participants around Edmonton to learn how to read graffiti vandalism symbols and tags, identify crew symbols and look at graffiti vandalism patterns. Thanks to all those participating in this year's sold out session.

Facilitators: *Sgt. Wendy Hawthorne, Vancouver Transit Police*
Acting Sgt. Lee Jones, Saskatoon Police Service
Cst. Dave Ladic, Calgary Police Service
Sgt. Valerie Spicer, Vancouver Police Department



***Keep tabs on the conference results and
next year's conference through our website:
www.tagsconference.com***

TAGS 2011 is coordinated by

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