



# Neighbourhood Watch

People Helping People to Prevent Crime



## Working With You in the Community

**Neighbourhood Watch** is a program aimed at reducing crime in the community. It involves getting to know one's neighbours and introducing them to the concept of **Neighbourhood Watch** – that is, good neighbours working together, alert to the potential of crime and willing to look out for one another's interests.

Neighbours working together through **Neighbourhood Watch** can combat crime in their area the most effective way – before it starts. Through the active participation of citizens in crime prevention, **Neighbourhood Watch** provides a means of reducing the opportunity for crime to occur. Citizens are taught how to make their homes less inviting as a target for thieves; how to participate in Operation Identification, making their personal property less desirable to burglars; and, how to be alert to suspicious activity in their neighbourhoods.

Very few people are in a position to protect their homes and property all of the time. Vacation, business and shopping trips, or even an evening out will leave home unattended and vulnerable to theft. The **Neighbourhood Watch** program will provide a sense of security for individuals or families who leave their homes for any length of time. The program will also help to co-ordinate the efforts of the police and the community in tracking down criminals. Strong community involvement is encouraged because neighbour unity can deter crime. Neighbours joined together do help correct situations that threaten their peace and safety.

## Involvement

For more than twenty years, Aviva Canada Inc., One of Canada's largest property/casualty insurers, has offered printed material to support the **Neighbourhood Watch** program. More recently Aviva has developed the Neighbourhood Watch Registry. [www.neighbourhoodwatchregistry.com](http://www.neighbourhoodwatchregistry.com) is a website designed to aid in the communication of all Neighbourhood Watch communities across Canada. The website includes downloadable program materials as well as an order form to obtain those materials which are cannot be downloaded. It also includes a tool through which local police services and Neighbourhood Watch Chapters can use to communicate, via e-mail, crime alerts, community events, or other information they wish to share with their communities.

To date Aviva has distributed well over five million pieces of material to **Neighbourhood Watch** groups across Canada, and hopes to strengthen its support through the Neighbourhood Watch Registry and future initiatives.

Aviva believes that in addition to preventing crime, supporting Neighbourhood Watch will result in reduced insurance claims and more stable insurance rates for the consumer.