

\$292,861 to one or more third  
When the account was closed a  
ter, Katzman put the remaining  
in his own account, which he

count for \$120,000 made out to the PC  
Party at the request of Lorne McLaren,  
former Tory MLA for Yorkton.  
"They are separate and very differ-

payable to McLaren and Katzman's  
wife, Lucille, for the equivalent  
amounts.  
The trial is scheduled to continue today.



DON HEALY/The Leader-Post

Wednesday in the Core  
temperature — 25° — for  
e allowed residents to fin-  
it Canada predicts more  
although not approaching  
ed to hit 14° and tempera-  
und the mid teens.

# Crime levels drop in Regina

October 19  
The Leader-Post  
A3

By MIKE O'BRIEN  
of The Leader-Post

Regina is holding the line on its chronic car theft problem, but many motorists have become victims because they left valuable items in plain view inside their cars.

According to figures released at Wednesday's monthly meeting of Regina's board of police commissioners, break-ins, violent crimes and car thefts are all down over the same period last year.

However, theft under \$5,000 is up 17 per cent and mischief and willful damage is up 24 per cent. "We're seeing a problem with people leaving things in vehicles," Police Chief Cal Johnston told the board members. "This is a big part of what those numbers represent."

The police are responding with a new ad campaign that will debut soon, Johnston said. "It's going to be a two-part message. One is about leaving valuable items in view (of thieves.) The second is aimed at people who have an opportunity to buy merchandise at ridiculously low prices."

Their willingness to engage in suspicious deals perpetuates the market for stolen goods, Johnston said.

Johnston agreed with police board

member Mike Badham's comment that drug and alcohol addictions are at the root of much of Regina's property crimes.

"Absolutely," Johnston said. The police support various agencies that treat addictions, because that is what will ultimately affect the drug trade most, he said. "Without the demand, the supply then becomes almost negligible."

Wednesday's figures also show that, compared with the same period last year, the first nine months of 2000 have seen:

- Sex assaults fall five per cent while other sex crimes dropped 15 per cent.
- Robbery declined by eight per cent.
- Criminal harassment and stalking fell 36 per cent.
- Total crimes against the person dropped 2½ per cent.
- Break and enters fell by 10 per cent.
- Prostitution rose 12 per cent while drug offences declined by 39 per cent.

The figures for drug and prostitution offences are driven by enforcement levels. Increased rates tend to reflect a police crackdown, rather than an actual increase in incidents. Stricter policing of the roadways has produced a 10-per-cent jump in dangerous and impaired driving, and a 120-per-cent increase in the number of traffic tickets issued.

## Oregon man robbery suspect

A 58-year-old Oregon man is in RCMP custody after a bank robbery in Davidson on Wednesday.

Just before 10:30 a.m. Craik RCMP responded to a robbery at the Davidson Bank of Montreal. RCMP spokesman Cpl. Jerry Wilde said a middle-aged lone male entered the bank and forced his way behind the counter. He ob-

tained an undisclosed amount of cash before fleeing the scene in a vehicle. No one was injured in the robbery.

About a half an hour later, a suspect was stopped on the highway by Hanley RCMP. They arrested the suspect, who is a resident of the state of Oregon.

Wilde said the investigation is continuing.

# Gang-related killings remain high while homicides in prisons more than double

BY TIMOTHY APPLEBY, TORONTO

In line with the United States and other Western countries, Canada's homicide rate dropped once again in 1999, reaching its lowest level in more than 30 years.

In all, 536 people were killed, 22 fewer than in 1998, nudging the rate to 1.76 per 100,000 population, the lowest ratio since 1967, Statistics Canada said yesterday in its annual survey of homicide.

Nor is there any sign that young people are becoming more murderous. A total of 45 people aged 12 to 17 were accused of homicide last year — 12 fewer than in 1998, and seven lower than the previous 10-year average of 52. Four out of five of those young accused were male.

And belying common perceptions, not a single child is known to have been killed by a stranger in Canada last year. Of the 36 victims under the age of 12 — compared to 55 killed in 1998 and a yearly average of 53 over the past decade — the cases cleared by police show that almost 80 per cent were slain by a parent, and the rest by a family acquaintance.

But among the generally heartening data, some bleak findings nonetheless emerge.

While aboriginal persons represent just 3 per cent of Canada's roughly 32 million residents, 20 per cent of all those accused of homicide last year were natives, along with one in six of all victims.

Just one police officer was murdered last year — compared to an annual average of three since 1961.

Gang-related homicides, chiefly reflective of drug trafficking or revenge, also continue unabated. From 1991 to 1995, Canada saw an annual average of 19 such incidents. But in each year since 1996, that tally has been more than double the previous average, and there were 44 gang killings in 1999.

About three-quarters of all of last year's homicides were solved and more than 80 per cent of the victims knew their killers.

Robberies accounted for more than half the 60 stranger-on-

## Homicide rate

Canada's homicide rate and numbers as reported to police.

Year	Rate per 100,000 population	Number of homicides
1967	1.66	338
1968	1.81	375
1969	1.86	391
1970	2.19	467
1971	2.15	473
1972	2.34	521
1973	2.43	546
1974	2.63	600
1975	3.03	701
1976	2.85	668
1977	3.00	711
1978	2.76	661
1979	2.61	631
1980	2.41	592
1981	2.61	648
1982	2.66	667
1983	2.69	682
1984	2.60	667
1985	2.72	704
1986	2.18	569
1987	2.43	644
1988	2.15	576
1989	2.41	657
1990	2.38	660
1991	2.69	754
1992	2.58	732
1993	2.18	627
1994	2.05	596
1995	2.00	588
1996	2.14	635
1997	1.95	586
1998	1.84	558
1999	1.76	536

Source: Statistics Canada The Globe and Mail

stranger homicides.

Urban and rural homicide rates remained largely interchangeable, but as has been the case historically, killings were most prevalent in the west. British Columbia and Manitoba had the highest rates, while Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island had the lowest.

In Saskatchewan, the rate plunged dramatically — 13 killings in 1999, compared to 33 a year earlier, the lowest per capita level since 1963.

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# Murder rate falls to level not seen since 1967