



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

PROPOSAL DOCUMENT

NOVEMBER 2020



Keeping our community safe was one of the driving factors for the creation of the Grand Cornell Residents Association (GCRA). Below is a brief introduction to the Neighbourhood Watch program and how you can help with the roll out for the Grand Cornell Community.

WHAT IS NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH?

The Neighbourhood Watch program is supported by the York Regional Police (YRP) and can help with the prevention of crime in a neighbourhood. This is achieved primarily through improved awareness, closer relationships, and collaboration among neighbours.

Most members **will not** be required to perform special tasks, attend all meetings or patrol the neighbourhood.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN BENEFITS OF A NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM?

- **PREVENTING** crime (e.g. to reduce neighbourhood crimes such as break-ins, theft of automobiles, theft from automobiles and property damage).
- **BUILDING** a stronger neighbourhood by facilitating friendship and collaboration amongst neighbours.
- **STRENGTHENING** our relationship with York Regional Police through a designated Crime Prevention Officer.
- **LEARNING** tips and strategies to enhance our safety and security.

WHAT COULD THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PROGRAM LOOK LIKE FOR GRAND CORNELL?

- **Neighborhood Watch signs** will be added as *Street Signs* at strategic locations. *Home Door / Window decals*, and *Magnetic Car Signs* may be available in the future. Signs at strategic locations serve to **warn intruders** that the community has banded together and committed to watching out for each other.
- Defined blocks with **Block Captain(s)** to lead and facilitate maximum participation of the residents within the Block.
- Close collaboration with the **Crime Prevention Officer from York Regional Police**.



HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE IN MAKING GRAND CORNELL A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE?

There are multiple ways you can be involved to keep our community safe:

- Attend a GCRA community meeting
- Volunteer to be a Block Captain
- Attend a York Regional Police session

ATTEND A GCRA COMMUNITY MEETING

GCRA will be hosting an introduction meeting for the community (member and non-members) to provide additional information on the Neighbourhood Watch program. To accommodate as many people as possible, two dates will be offered, but the content will be the same for both meetings.

Meeting dates are **December 9, 2020** and **December 15, 2020**.
Additional details will be provided closer to the date.

VOLUNTEER TO BE A BLOCK CAPTAIN

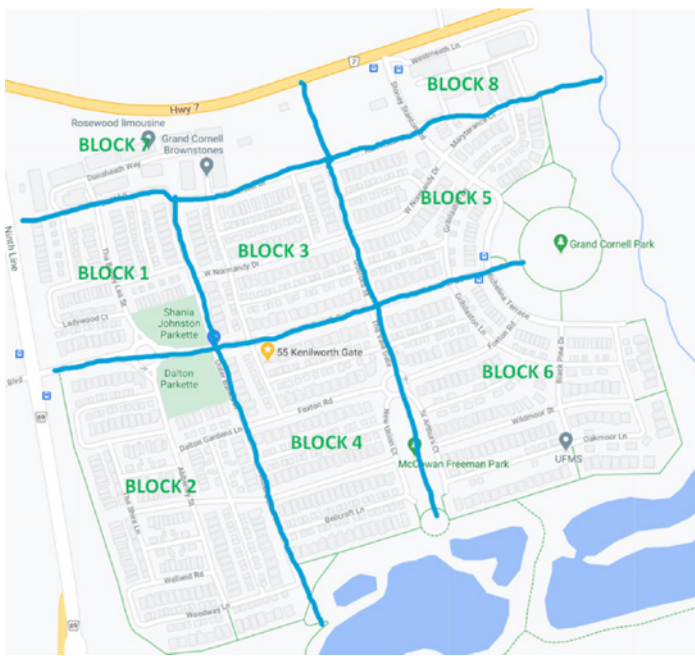
To make this an effective program, GCRA is looking for volunteers to be Block Captains. See below for more information on Blocks and Roles / Responsibilities. Please email improvements@gcra.ca with your information and Block number to volunteer.

ATTEND A YORK REGIONAL POLICE SESSION

GCRA will be holding a meeting on **December 17, 2020 at 7pm** with Constable Hinds from the York Regional Police to officially launch the program.

Constable Hinds will offer us insights such as how to make our homes less inviting as targets, how to identify crime, how to make our personal property less desirable and how to be alert to suspicious activities.

Additional details will be provided closer to the date. Don't worry if you can't make this meeting. We hope to host more in the future.



GRAND CORNELL BLOCKS

The community of Grand Cornell has been divided into 8 Blocks, in accordance with guidance from the York Regional Police Crime Prevention Officer. Each Block will be led by a Block Captain(s).

We are looking for volunteers from each Block to take on the role of the Block Captain.

Please email improvements@gcra.ca with your information and Block number to volunteer.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A BLOCK CAPTAIN?

A Block Captain is in charge of communication and coordination with York Regional Police. The Captains from each Block will also be the “glue” of the Grand Cornell Community and will work with the GCRA Organizers to develop meaningful projects that are beneficial for the safety of Grand Cornell. The Captains will be key in recruiting new Neighbourhood Watch members, keeping the participants list current, and participating in occasional meetings. The Blocks are defined based on a certain number of households within the area. The objective is to limit the size of the Block to enable effective cooperation between neighbours. Each block will have at least one captain.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AWARENESS

- **Neighbourhood Watch signs** from the City of Markham will be located at strategic locations
- Increase Awareness through the GCRA.ca website, [GCRA Facebook page](#) and community [WhatsApp group](#)
- Additional Resources from the York Regional Police
 - [Crime Prevention FAQ](#)
 - [Online Reporting](#) of crimes and suspicious activity
 - [Home Security and Protection](#) - tips to improvements



We look forward to your participation. If you have any ideas, suggestions, questions/concerns regarding the program, or if you'd like to volunteer as a Block captain, please reach out to improvements@gcra.ca

A PROTECTED COMMUNITY



GCRA.CA

LIFE IS GRAND IN THE GRAND