



# ALERT

ALBERTA LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TEAMS

News release

September 15, 2011

## SCAN closes problem property in Edmonton

*Edmonton...* A problem home in Edmonton's core has been ordered closed and vacated for 60 days following an investigation by Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT) that began in November 2010.

The case was investigated by ALERT's Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN) unit. SCAN began the probe after receiving public complaints about suspected drug trafficking and prostitution-related activity at a residence at 11233 94 Street.

During the investigation, SCAN attempted to resolve the matter informally, including sending a warning letter to the property owner. Following the warning, the alleged activity continued and SCAN then took steps to obtain a community safety order (CSO). The court granted the order on September 14, 2011.

During a 60-day closure period, the owner of the property must vacate the house. The owner will be allowed back on the property on November 14, 2011, and will not be allowed any visitors for the following 30 days.

The CSO will remain in effect for one year, during which time the owner must receive approval from the SCAN unit or Edmonton Police Service before renting out any room in the property to a tenant. The prospective tenant must complete a written application, provide references, and enter into a written tenancy agreement.

If the conditions of the CSO are not met, further legal action will be taken by SCAN, including applying to the courts to close the property for another 30 days.

Throughout the investigation, SCAN members worked closely with the Edmonton Police Service (EPS). This property has been a problem for police for many years. EPS has responded to 75 occurrences since the current owner took possession of the property in August 2009.

While the police deal with criminal complaints against people, SCAN investigators use civil legislation to target problem properties around the province used for illegal purposes such as prostitution, drug use and drug trafficking, and gang activity.

"Police had been called out to this property over and over again. The community was starting to lose hope that the problem would ever be solved," said Enio Perizzolo, acting manager of the SCAN unit. "We want people to know that they don't need to give up. There is another avenue. They can call SCAN and we will take a different approach to cleaning-up their neighbourhood."

Albertans who suspect a property in their neighbourhood is being used for illegal activity should contact SCAN toll-free at 1-866-960-7226 (SCAN) or online at [www.scan.alberta.ca](http://www.scan.alberta.ca). All complaints are confidential. Concerned citizens should never investigate on their own.

SCAN is part of ALERT, an umbrella organization established by the Government of Alberta to bring together law enforcement resources to tackle serious and organized crime. Close to 400 municipal police, RCMP and sheriffs work for ALERT.

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**Note to Editors: Enio Perizzolo, acting manager of the SCAN unit, will be available to speak to reporters at the property (11233 94 Street) at 11 a.m. today.**

**Media inquiries may be directed to:**

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