



SURREY'S CAR 67 PRESENTATION

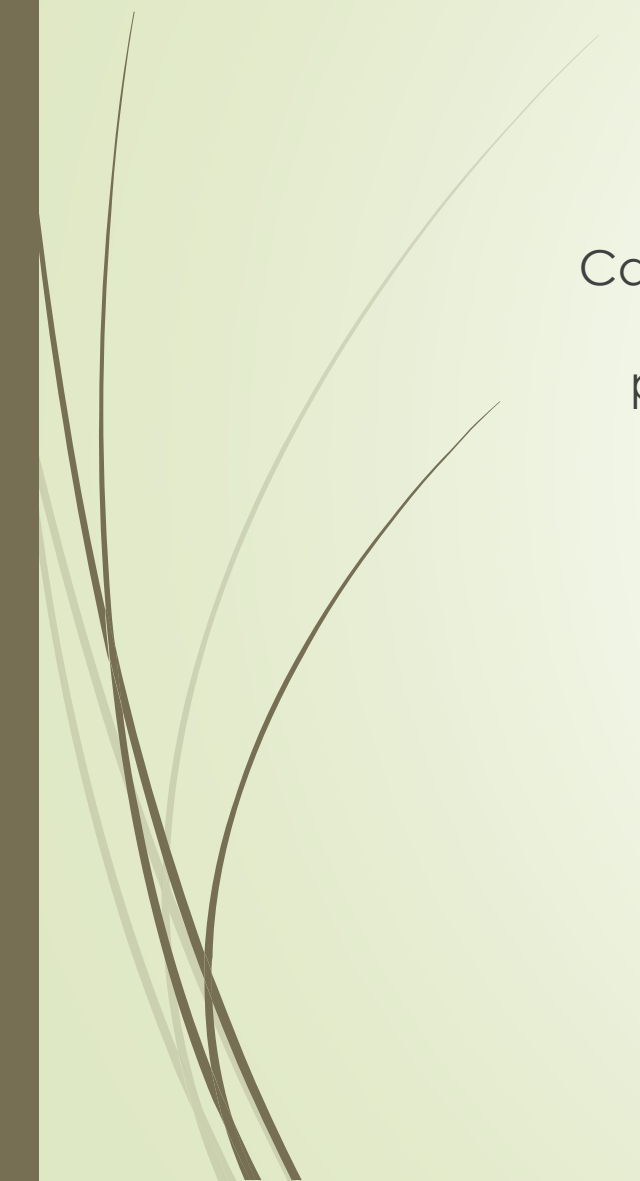
Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act

Presented By Tina Baker, RPN



CAR 67 HISTORY

Car 67 was established in the City of Surrey on November 29, 2000. The Car 67 program operates under a Memorandum of Understanding between the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and the Fraser Health Authority (FHA).





HOW IT WORKS



Car 67 pairs a uniformed RCMP officer with a Psychiatric Nurse in an unmarked police vehicle. The role of Car 67 is to respond to a person who is in a mental health crisis. We are able to provide the client with the least intrusive resolution of the emergency situation, avoiding unnecessary admissions to the hospital when possible.



HOW IT WORKS

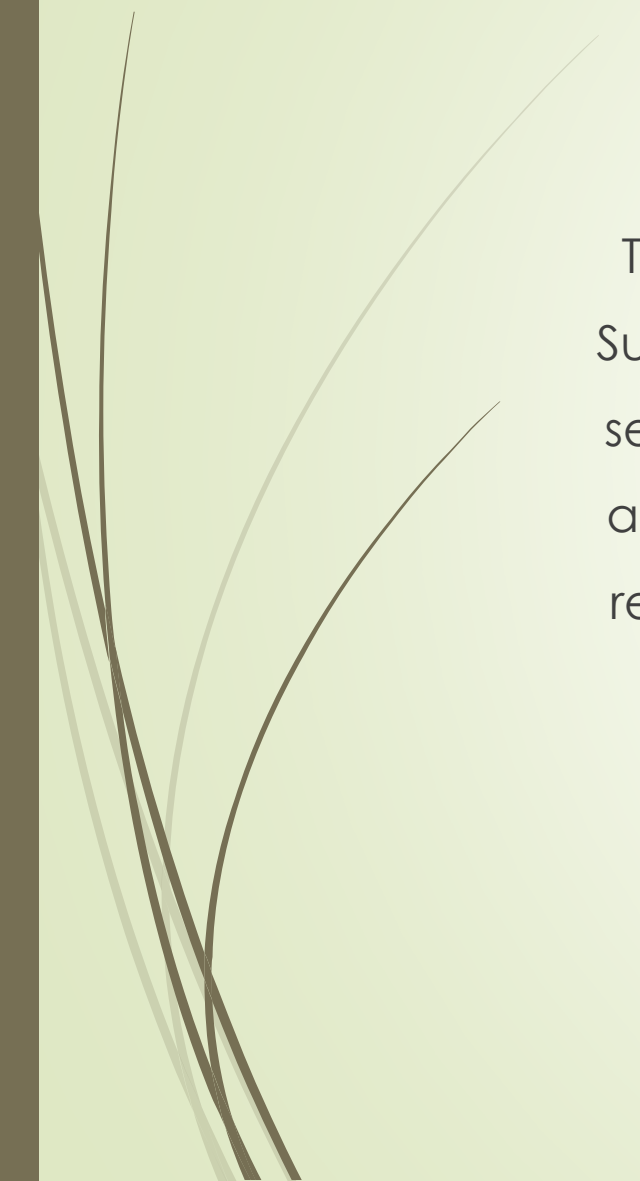
Car 67 can be asked to assess any person who are experiencing anything and not limited to psychotic disorders, depression, suicidal/homicidal ideations, hoarding tendencies, brain injuries and substance abuse.

Car 67 works the hours of 1300-0100 7 days a week.





WHAT WORKS WELL



The Car 67 team has a well established partnership with the community of Surrey we are able to bridge the gap between law enforcement and acute settings like the hospital and community mental health services. The nurse is able to do a comprehensive mental status exam as well as a pharmacology review to ensure medication compliance and also assess for side effects of medication and assess lab values.



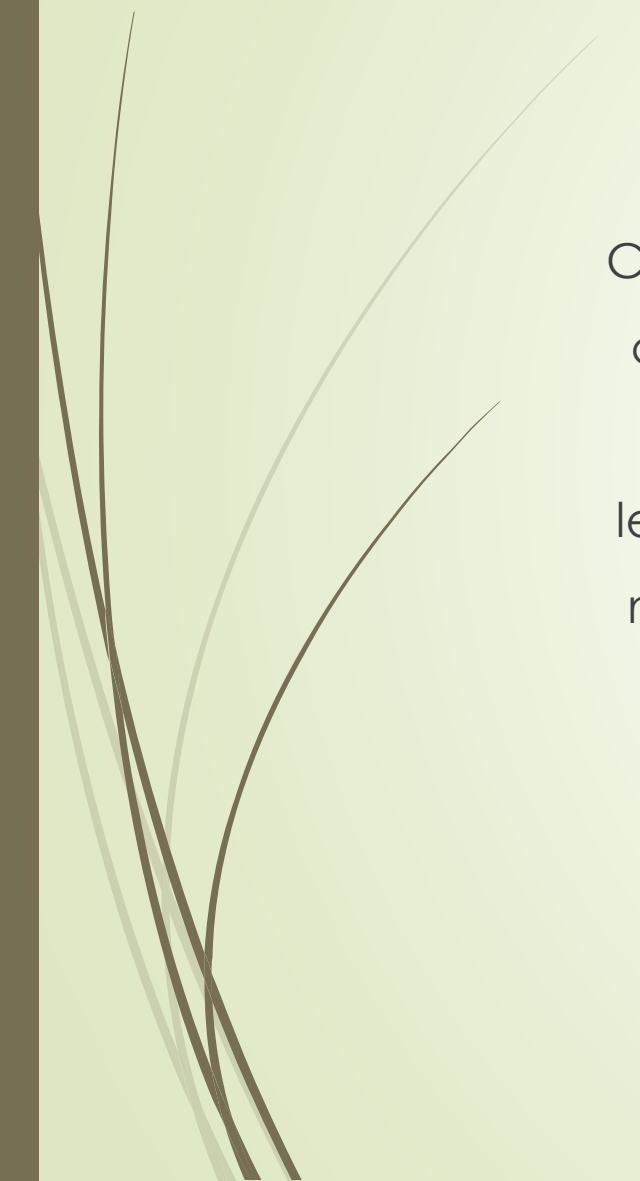
WHAT WORKS WELL



The combination of medical records and RCMP prime files allow Car 67 to have the bigger picture of the possible mental health or situational crisis an individual may be experiencing. This information allows the nurse and the RCMP officer to make the most informed decision on how best to serve the client in need. The nurse is able to converse with emergency room staff and or clinicians to ensure that all clients needs can be met in a safe and productive environment. Car 67 makes all efforts to maintain the client's wellness in the community and tries to divert clients from unnecessary emergency room visits which helps alleviate congestion in the emergency rooms.



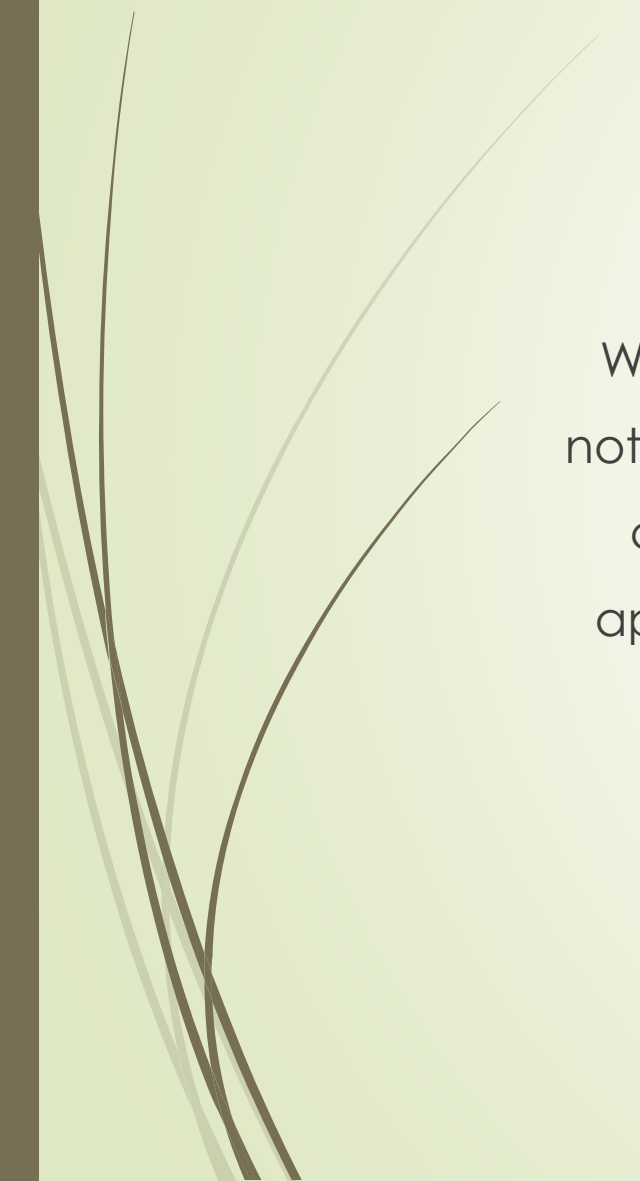
WHAT WORKS WELL



Car 67 also participates in a Mental Health Forum once a month. This forum consists of a multi-disciplinary team including, Psychiatrist, BC ambulance Service, Parole officers, Emergency staff and community staff. This forum leaves the teams with a collaborative and consistent approach on how to manage the more difficult clients who have frequent encounters with the RCMP/Car 67.



HOW POLICE RESPOND WHEN CAR 67 IS OFF DUTY



When the RCMP are dealing with mental health related calls when Car 67 is not on shift the RCMP officer must first determine if the client is in an immediate crisis and/or putting themselves or others at risk, if so, the RCMP officer will apprehend the client under the BC Mental Health Act and take them to the nearest hospital emergency department for further evaluation.



HOW POLICE RESPOND WHEN CAR 67 IS OFF DUTY

Car 67 will be sent a follow up with the client when Car 67 returns to duty.





HOW TO IMPROVE CAR 67

The Car 67 program will always benefit the RCMP if we continue to maximize the number of officers have exposure to Car 67. The Psychiatric Nurse can provide invaluable teaching and guidance in mental health.

Car 67 in Surrey has one nurse for 12hrs a day we are not able to reach as many RMCP officers as we would like in order to provide exposure to our service. It would be beneficial if Car 67 could be a 24/7 service.



HOW TO IMPROVE CAR 67



Being that Surrey is a large city and the population continues to grow. Mental health crisis occur irrespective of the day or time. Psychiatric nurses are mental health professionals that not only guide and educate the officers in dealing with complex mental health situations, but provide sensitive, informed care that someone in mental health crisis needs.



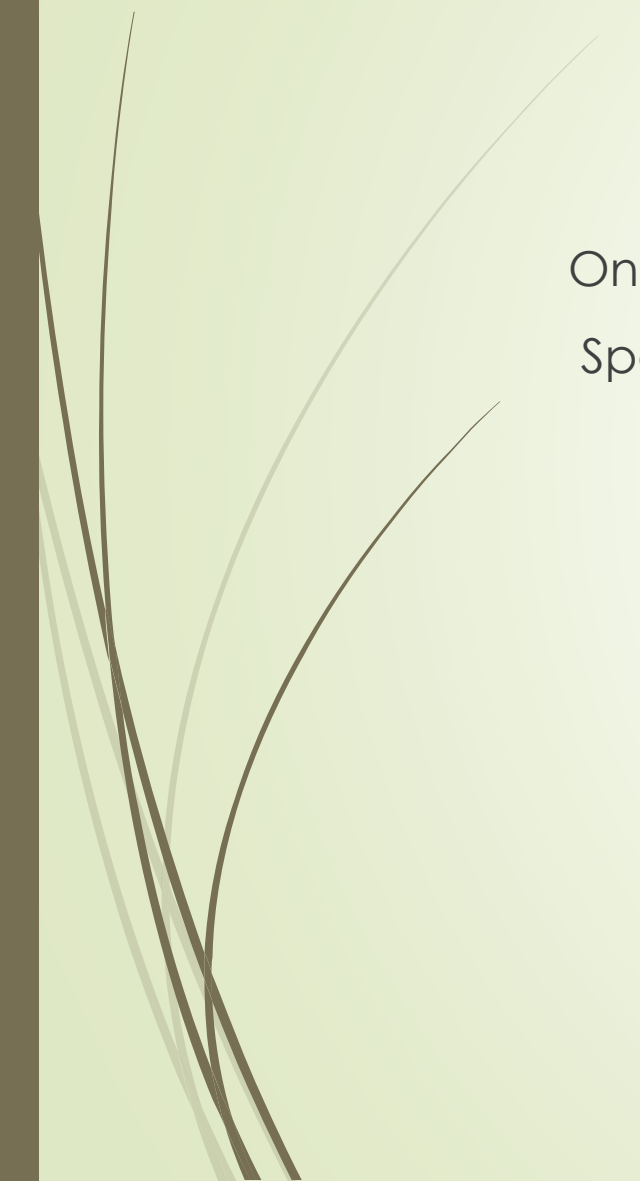
HOW TO IMPROVE CAR 67



We also believe it would be beneficial to incorporate BC Ambulance and Fire departments in the service, so they are able to contact the RCMP and Car 67 when they are attending scenes where Car 67 would be appropriate. In addition to the above, education sessions on mental health from Fraser Health to the RCMP/Police on a more consistent basis would also be beneficial.



CONCLUSION



On behalf of the Fraser Health Authority and Car 67 we would like to thank The Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act for asking us to participate in todays meeting and allowing us to share our program.