

FROM/DE: Lanark County OPP
Detachment

DATE: March 24, 2020

TIPS FOR BUSINESSES CLOSING DUE TO COVID - 19

As many non-essential businesses are ordered to close by midnight tonight, the Lanark County OPP has a few tips for owners to protect their businesses and contents:

- Remove all valuables from storefront displays
- Remove all cash from tills and leave open with the cash tray out and visibly empty
- Ensure alarm systems are working and all contact lists are up-to-date
- Post on doors/windows that the premises are monitored by an alarm company and that no money is kept on the premises. Include the 1-888-310-1122 number to call the OPP should anyone notice a break-in or damage
- Clean all windows and floors prior to leaving and note when you've done so (have a log) as this will help investigators should there be a break-in
- Consider a surveillance system which can be monitored remotely by phone/online
- Consider putting a laminate on all windows/glass to discourage and help prevent easy entry
- Keep some lighting on inside to help with video surveillance and consider lighting on timers if possible
- Ensure all doors and windows are locked and secure
- Ensure all exterior lighting is functioning and on – consider motion sensor lights as another option
- Remove anything on the exterior which could be used to gain entry to your premises (bricks, ladders, poles, construction materials)
- Regularly check the building and keep track of when you check (have a log) but go at different times
- Like your home, if it looks cared for and looks like someone is home or around regularly, thieves will move on to other locations

To the general public, Lanark OPP would request that we all help to keep our families, communities and businesses safe and secure. If you see any suspicious activity around a business that you know are closed or any homes where people aren't around, call police or report online if not in progress.

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