

Don't lock car door and risk losing the contents

Auxiliary members of Caledon OPP teamed up Nov. 9 with members of the Policing Advisory Council of Caledon (PACC) and Crime Prevention sub-committee members to conduct a theft prevention exercise, Lock it or Lose it.

The purpose of this initiative was to ensure that owners locked their vehicles to deter the possibility of theft.

Lock It or Lose It was developed by OPP and the Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC) as a proactive crime reduction program designed to encourage drivers to take simple precautions that will protect their valuables from theft.

Auxiliary and PACC members were checking vehicles in the retail parking lots of Wal-Mart and the Smart Centre in Bolton. A total of 266 vehicles were inspected and 19 doors were discovered unlocked. Among the valuables in plain view included Global Positioning Systems (GPS), purses, wallet, cellular phones and alcohol.

“This program was very successful and serves as a reminder to motorists to take precautionary measures in order to reduce the chance of becoming a victim,” observed Caledon OPP Interim Detachment Commander, Inspector Dom Beckett. “Taking the extra couple of seconds to lock your vehicle, roll up your vehicle's windows, and pocket the keys when you park your vehicle will save you time and frustration should you become a victim of this preventable crime. The OPP recognizes that this is a great demonstration of community mobilization by engaging community members to actively participate in crime reduction programs.”