

What is SCAN?

The SCAN unit operates under the *Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*, which uses legal sanctions and court orders to hold owners accountable for illegal activity happening on their property. This includes drug activity, prostitution and gang-related crime.

A resource for communities across Alberta, the unit initiates investigations based on citizen tips and works in partnership with residents to increase community safety.

How does SCAN work?

When a community member reports a problem property to SCAN, the unit will begin an investigation. Once the investigation confirms the activity investigators will contact the property owner to try and solve the problem informally.

If informal efforts are unsuccessful, SCAN can apply to the courts for a Community Safety Order (CSO) to impose a number of restrictions and conditions on the property and its owner, which could include closing the property for up to 90 days.

Any criminal activity uncovered when dealing with these properties is turned over to the police to investigate.



Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN)



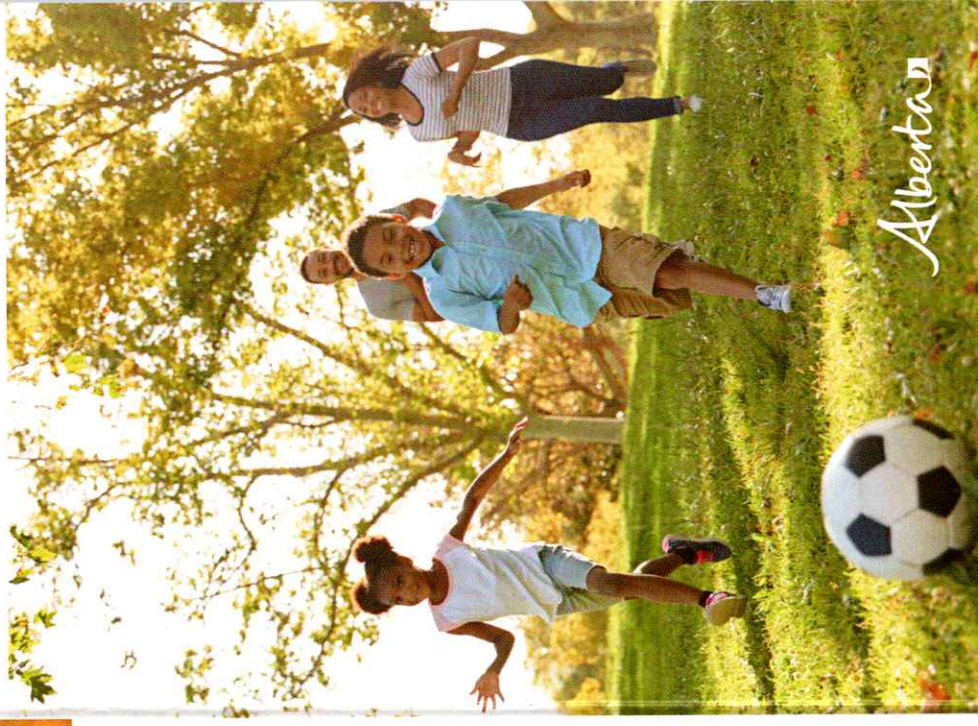
Contact us

Phone:

1-866-960-SCAN

Online:

alberta.ca/report-suspicious-property



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Published: July 2024

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Is there a property in your community where illegal activities may be occurring?

Take action to improve the safety of your community by contacting SCAN.

How do I file a complaint?

Call SCAN toll-free at 1-866-960-SCAN (7226). You can also file a complaint online at alberta.ca/report-suspicious-property

If enough evidence exists to support the complaint, SCAN will investigate.

What are the signs I can look for in my neighbourhood?

The following are common signs of suspicious or illegal activity. Observing one of the following doesn't always signal illegal activity but if they occur frequently or together, a problem may exist.

Signs to look for include:

- residents that are rarely seen, distant or secretive
- frequent visitors and unusual traffic at any time of the day or night
- people repeatedly visiting the property who only go to the door for short durations
- increased vehicle or foot traffic
- frequent late-night activity
- windows blackened or curtains always drawn
- extensive investment in home security
- neglected property and yard
- presence of drug paraphernalia or strange odours coming from the property
- residents who regularly meet vehicles near the property for short periods of time

If you are suspicious of a property, do not investigate it yourself or approach the occupants. Contact local police or SCAN.



Your information is confidential and safe

No person, including the director, shall, without written consent of the complainant disclose the identity of the complainant to another person, court, public body or law enforcement agency.



Accountable and transparent

- speak directly to an analyst
- direct access to an investigator



Benefits of SCAN

- improves community safety
- empowers citizens; complaint-driven process
- targets property, not individuals
- holds property owners accountable for activities on their properties