

## What is the Downtown Surrey BIA Doing About Graffiti?

The BIA has a contract with Surrey's Goodbye Graffiti to remove tags from the walls of BIA commercial properties up to 10 feet high. The contractor does weekly patrols throughout the BIA area. BIA staff also note tags and report them to the Contractor.

## What is the City of Surrey doing?

City Council has placed top priority on cleaning up hate, obscene or other offensive graffiti on City property. City Engineering and Parks clean up graffiti on a daily basis as a part of their regular maintenance programs.

The City of Surrey is improving the area by putting up murals and green living plants on walls, and wrapping traffic boxes with photographs.

## Do Your Part to Keep Our Downtown Clean!

TELEPHONE NUMBERS



Businesses in the BIA area can contact 604-580-2321 to report graffiti.

<b>SURREY CRIME PREVENTION</b> Residential Property	604-502-8555
<b>BY-LAWS</b> Private Property	604-591-4370
<b>ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS</b> Road Water Sanitary Drainage	604-591-4152
<b>TRAFFIC OPERATIONS</b>	604-591-4338
<b>FACILITIES</b> Civic Buildings	604-590-7201
<b>PARKS</b>	604-501-5050
<b>BC HYDRO</b>	1-800-224-9376
<b>TRANSLINK/SKYTRAIN</b>	604-515-8300
<b>CANADA POST</b>	1-800-267-1177
<b>NEWSPAPER BOXES</b>	604-708-8015
<b>SURREY SCHOOL BOARD</b>	604-572-0500

# Help Get Rid of Graffiti



Downtown Surrey Business Improvement Association  
Phone: 604-580-2321 | Web: [www.downtownsurreybia.com](http://www.downtownsurreybia.com)  
#300 - 10524 King George Blvd., Surrey, BC, V3T2X2

# What is Graffiti?

Graffiti is writing or drawings scribbled, scratched, or sprayed illicitly or illegally on a wall or other surfaces in a public place.

You may have noticed graffiti on walls, mailboxes, hydro boxes, bus shelters, sidewalks and windows.

Graffiti is illegal according to Property Maintenance and Unsightly Premises By-Law, 2007, No. 16393, Section 2.2: No person shall place graffiti or cause graffiti to be placed on any sidewalk, wall, building, fence, sign or any other structure or surface.

Graffiti is punishable with a fine of \$250.00.

# Why Should You Care?

Graffiti detracts from the appearance of the area and value of your property.

Graffiti is not art - it ruins shopping districts, neighbourhoods and our public property.

Graffiti left in place tells the vandals that a property owner does not care about their property, making them more vulnerable to other criminal behaviour.

# What Can You Do?

Have graffiti removed as soon as it appears. Why? Fresher paint is easier to remove. This also stops the challenge to other graffiti vandals who notice the "tagged" surface and will be tempted to add their own "tag".

If you see vandals in the act, report it to the police.

Report graffiti to the Downtown Surrey BIA at 604-580-2321, or other organizations listed on the back of the brochure.

# Graffiti Prevention

Graffiti can often be prevented through the use of lighting, landscaping, resurfacing, education, and mitigation.

## LIGHTING

Well-lit areas discourage graffiti vandals, as they prefer unlit locations where they are less likely to be caught tagging.

## LANDSCAPING

If your fence, garden, or yard areas are targets of graffiti vandals, putting dumpsters in a locked area and planting vines, bushes or trees make them less accessible.

## RESURFACING

Large exterior walls or other surfaces can be protected with coating products that repel graffiti and make cleanup easier. These products are sold commercially.

## EDUCATION

Particularly for children and youth, education is the most important tool to prevent graffiti. Offenders are usually in their teens and may be demonstrating rebellion rather than criminal intent.

## MITIGATION

Other ways to prevent graffiti include wrapping or displaying art work or photographs as seen below, and painting murals on walls. Small trees and shrubs can also be planted to create a green living wall to deter tagging.

