

## Media Release

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### **Killam / Forestburg RCMP offers tips for snowbirds and holiday travelers to prevent mail theft while away**

Killam, Alta. – Whether you're escaping to sunnier locations or you're visiting family and friends, the RCMP is urging snowbirds and holiday travelers to take extra precautions to protect their mail and deliveries while they are away, keeping their property secure and preventing opportunistic theft.

Killam / Forestburg RCMP recommends the following measures to ensure your mail and packages remain secure during your absence:

- Canada Post offers a *Mail Hold* service, which temporarily stops mail delivery while you're away. Alternatively, you can use a *Mail Forwarding* service to have your mail sent to a trusted friend or family member's address for safekeeping.
- If you're planning a shorter trip, enlist the help of a trusted neighbour or friend to collect your mail and packages daily.
- If you're expecting deliveries while away, consider using a secure parcel locker or selecting a pick-up location with the delivery service.
- For long-term travelers, installing a secure mail slot or drop box can be an effective way to receive letters and small packages without worrying about them being stolen.
- A comprehensive home security system, including cameras, doorbell cameras, and motion-activated lighting, can deter thieves and alert you to any unusual activity at your property. Be sure to install visible signage indicating that your home is under surveillance, which can discourage potential mail thieves.
- Before leaving, be sure to pause any subscription services that deliver to your home, such as newspapers or magazines.

For more tips on how you can protect yourself from mail theft, follow us on Facebook @RCMPinAlberta and on X @RCMPAlberta.

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