

The purpose of this research is to evaluate the status of street activity, perceptions of safety in Saskatoon & gather feedback on the Community Support Program.

Who was surveyed?

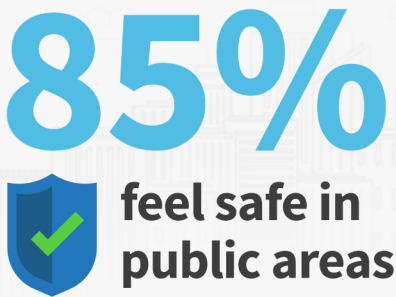
- General Population
- Businesses
- Service Providers
- Vulnerable Population

What is the Community Support Program?

In July 2012, the City of Saskatoon established a Community Support Program (CSP) aimed at addressing street activity in the Broadway, Downtown and the Riversdale Business Improvement Districts (BID). This program includes and engages:

- The Public** through a highly visible presence that reassures and responds to the public in the Downtown, Broadway and Riversdale BID.
- Vulnerable Persons** by connecting community members in need to the appropriate service providers or other supports.
- Business Owners** through foot patrols that liaise with local businesses to identify issues and collaborate to generate solutions.

Public Safety Perceptions Remain Consistent



	BROADWAY		DOWNTOWN		RIVERSDALE	
	DAY	NIGHT	DAY	NIGHT	DAY	NIGHT
2018	93%	60%	86%	37%	74%	23%
2015	93%	56%	89%	37%	69%	19%
2013	93%	60%	88%	44%	61%	20%

Street Activity in Saskatoon

Positive Activities

Impacts of positive street activity are: attracts people to the area, makes area feel safer, increases participation in activities.



EVENTS & FESTIVALS



FOOT TRAFFIC



STREET VENDORS



BUSKING

" I feel safer when I see more police or community events. "

" Great music and arts scene in the city. "

Negative Activities

Most common negative street activities noted across all populations surveyed.



HOMELESSNESS



PANHANDLING



VIOLENT/AGGRESSIVE PEOPLE



INTOXICATED PEOPLE



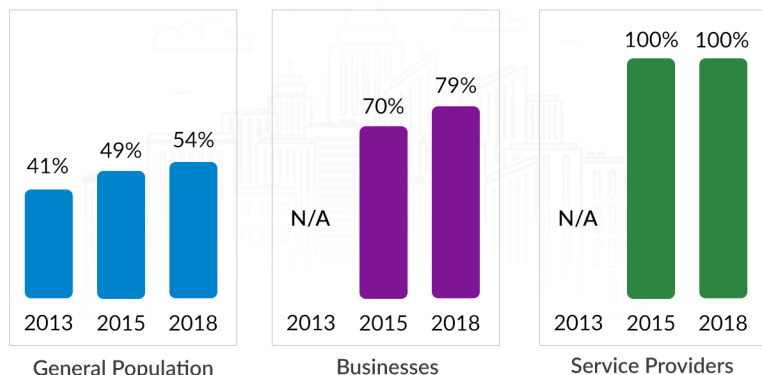
DRUG TRAFFICKING

" [There are] a lot of drunks, a lot of drunk people stumbling all over the place and people talking to themselves - real problems. "

" The Downtown area is horrible for panhandling - this can be very frustrating. Every day, they are there. Even at 7:00 AM, Downtown or Midtown, they are always there. "

Awareness of Community Support Program Continues to Increase

TRENDED AWARENESS



Community Support Program Interaction

21%

of General Population have interacted with Community Support Officers

41%

of Businesses surveyed have interacted with Community Support Officers

83%

of Service Providers surveyed have interacted with Community Support Officers

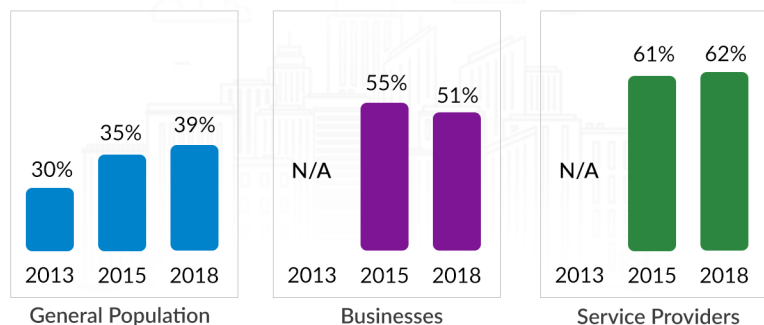
"I feel comfortable talking to them [CSP]."

"I was panhandling when I first came back to the city, and they came up to me and asked me my name, if I needed anything."

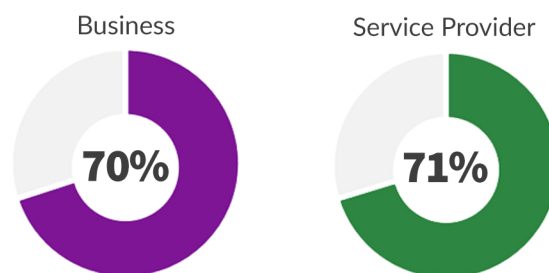
"[I] see them around, but am not sure what they do."

Community Support Program Impact

Perceived Overall Program Effectiveness



Perceived Effectiveness in Addressing Specific Concerns



"They are good people. They know how to help people in need."

"Community Support Officers have helped make people feel safer."

"People like them because you can approach them - talk to them without feeling like you did something wrong."

Strong Support for Program Continuation and Expansion

Continue Community Support Program

88%
of **Businesses** surveyed strongly support the continuation of the CSP

90%
of **Service Providers** surveyed strongly support the continuation of the CSP



Extend the Hours of Operations



Extend Operations to Mondays



Increase Presence of CSOs



Expand Awareness & Outreach Activities

"By the time they get there, quite often the disturbance has moved on - which indicates there are not enough of them."

"They are a blessing in the city - need more."

"There is limited availability and presence."

"Would like to see more of them at night."

"They are great. Hire more - six days a week, till nine at night and weekends."

"Have more of them around, and more often."

"I really hope they do not take this program away."

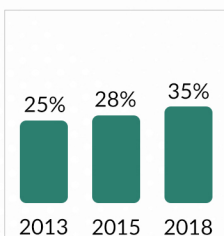
"It is a very good program and need to be expanded to more than it is right now."

"Increase the CSP. They need to be here basically seven days a week - and longer hours. That would definitely increase their ability to help the vulnerable, and their presence helps reduce some of the unwanted activity."

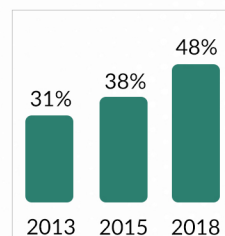
CSP has Improved Public Safety Perceptions

General Public
% who feel safer or much safer due to presence of CSP

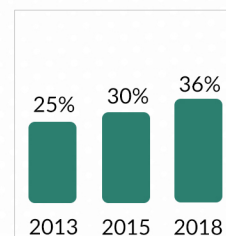
BROADWAY



DOWNTOWN



RIVERSDALE



Who was surveyed?

General Population
Businesses
Service Providers
Vulnerable Population