## New Westminster Police Department

## CRIME ALERT

DATE OF RELEASE: February 4, 2015

There is an increase in theft in the downtown area. In particular, there is an increase in theft from vehicles. Thieves are searching for anything left behind in vehicles. Underground parkades and parking lots are targeted because thieves can break into multiple vehicles. In underground parkades, thieves steal from vehicles and then move on to the building's storage lockers. Many of these thefts are the result of thieves following residents in through the parking garage gates. These thefts are preventable.

The New Westminster Police request vehicle owners to take steps in preventing these thefts.

- Remove all items and leave nothing behind in your vehicle (this includes GPS, gym or work bags, clothing and spare change etc).
- Do not allow other vehicles or people to follow you in through gates or doors. Wait for the gate.
- Use immobilizers, steering wheel locks, alarms or vehicle tracking systems. Using more than one of these devices significantly decreases risk of victimization.
- Secure all doors and windows.
- Report all suspicious and criminal activity immediately whether it is emergency or non-emergency.

If we work together we can make a difference. For more information visit our website at <a href="https://www.nwpolice.org">www.nwpolice.org</a> or contact our Crime Prevention Team at 604-529-2446.

Thank you,

Crime Prevention Team New Westminster Police