



SCAN

SAFER COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS

2018 Annual Report



General information

Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods

Government of Yukon

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The Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN) unit plays an important role in building safer communities by responding to the concerns of Yukoners and disrupting certain illegal activities – bootlegging, drug trafficking and prostitution.

The SCAN unit of the Department of Justice supports community safety by investigating and, if necessary, shutting down residential and commercial buildings regularly used for illegal activities.

Yukoners can seek relief from recurring crime that is undermining community safety by reporting a complaint safely and confidentially to SCAN, without raising threats of violence, retaliation or intimidation from those involved in the criminal activity.

The SCAN unit is a law enforcement agency within the Department of Justice, and SCAN investigators are peace officers when carrying out their duties.

The complaint process

Working to address illegal activity starts when one or more residents of a community file a confidential complaint with the SCAN unit. The complainant's identity is confidential and will not be revealed at any time nor will they be required to be involved in any investigative or court proceedings that may result from the complaint.

Prior to proceeding with any action under the *Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*, the investigators carry out a comprehensive investigation into the property and the activities associated with it. Depending on the complexity, this extensive work can span many weeks.

SCAN investigators may attempt to resolve the problem by working with the tenant(s) and property owner informally. A warning letter

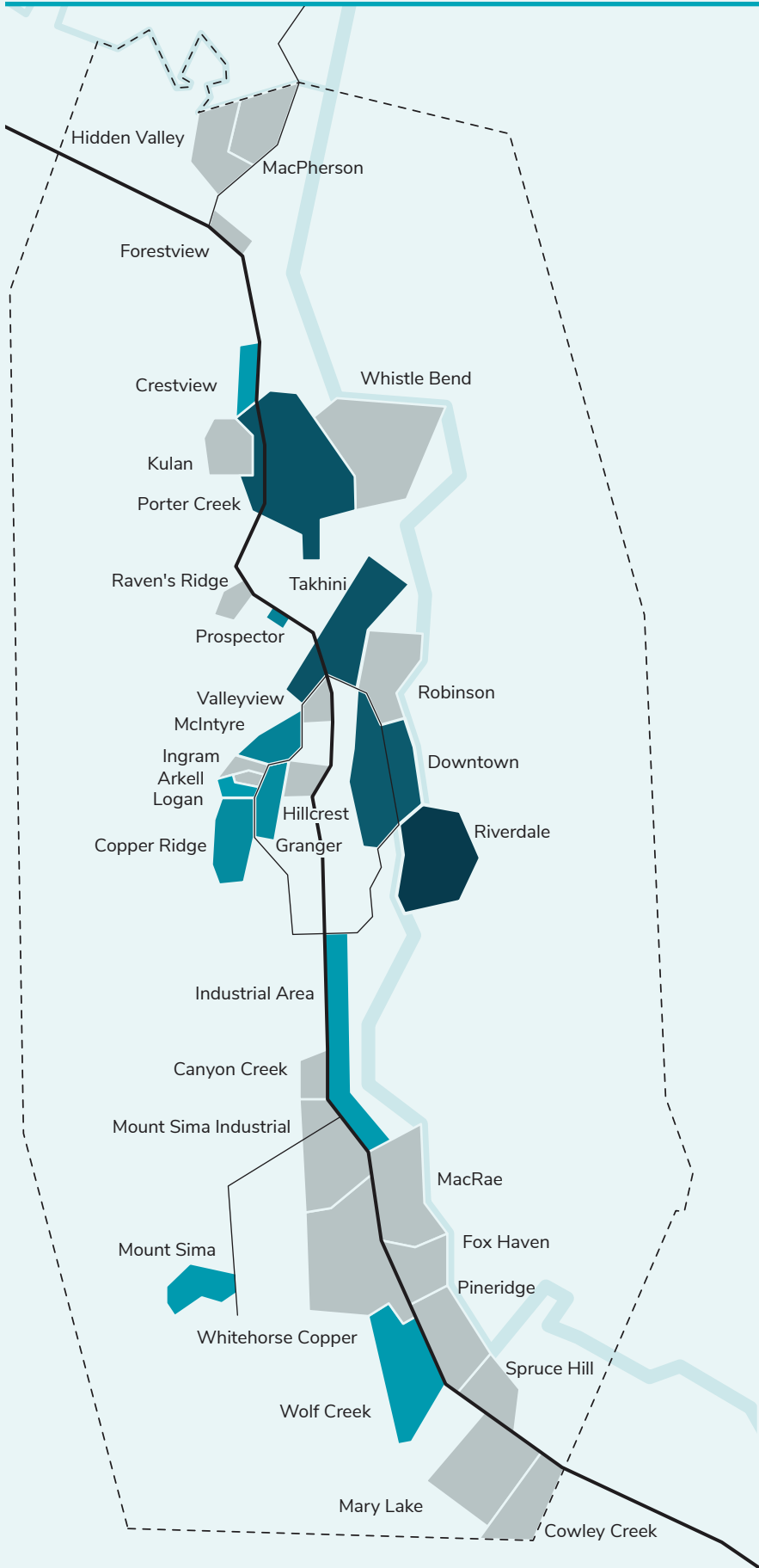
may be sent or an agreement signed to ensure the cessation of illegal activities. If the activity threatens the safety of the community, a five-day eviction notice, signed by the landlord, may be served to the tenant.

For more serious complaints, for private or commercial property, or where the owner of the property is responsible for the activity, the Director of SCAN may apply to the territorial court for a Community Safety Order (CSO). If a CSO is granted, the resident will be required to vacate the premises within a timeframe set out by the Court and the property may be closed for up to 90 days.



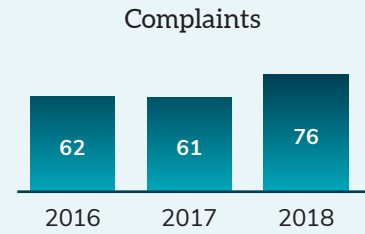
Common signs of illegal activities taking place at a property include:

- Frequent visitors – at all times of the day and night
- Numerous short visits to the property that may be suspicious in nature
- Visiting vehicles may have multiple occupants yet only one person goes into residence
- Occupants frequently leaving from the property at all times of the day and night
- Residence may have blackened windows or curtains always drawn

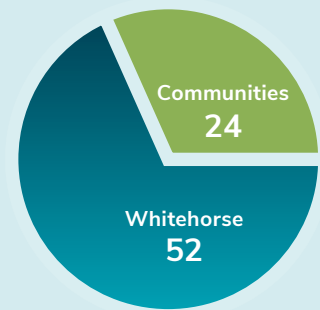


Number of Complaints

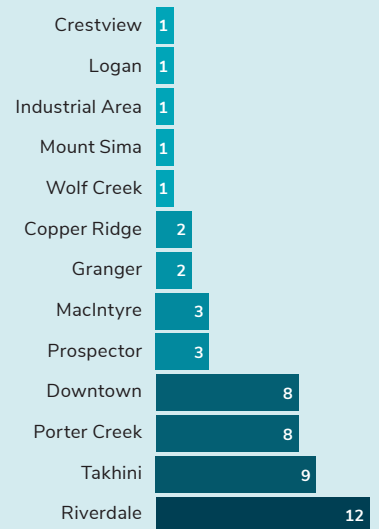
SCAN received the following number of complaints from the public in the last three calendar years.



Complaints in Yukon in 2018



Total 76 complaints



Cases vs Complaints

In 2018, SCAN had 76 complaints that resulted in 59 cases being investigated. Within a case there can be more than one complaint. Case files are property based and are cleared or concluded by three categories:



Operational Closures:

Investigations that are cleared or concluded by Evictions, Warnings, or Community Safety Orders.

File Closures:

Investigations that are cleared or concluded by other investigative outcomes that lack evidence for an operational closure.

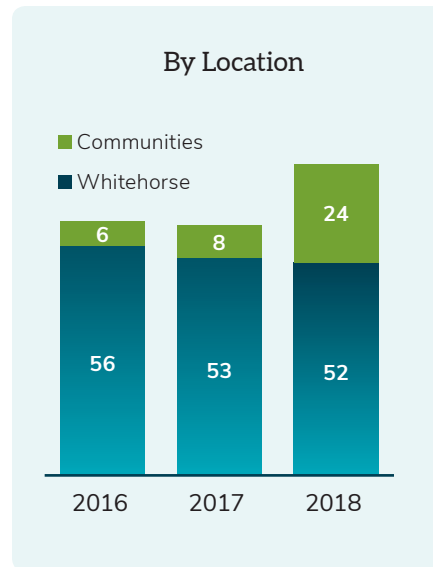
Open Investigations:

Investigations that are ongoing and are moved to 2019 calendar year.

In 2018, the SCAN unit had 15 Operational Closures, 17 File Closures and 27 Open Investigations.

Complaints in Whitehorse vs Communities

While the majority of complaints emanate from Whitehorse, there is an increasing number of community-based complaints. This may be connected with ongoing engagement by the SCAN unit with First Nations governments and communities outside of Whitehorse. There are a higher incidence of complaints related to the illegal sale of alcohol “bootlegging” in the communities.



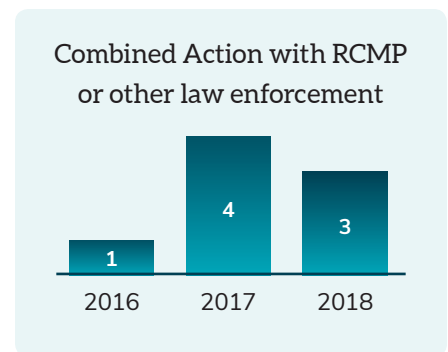
SCAN actions

Below are the type of closures SCAN took over the last 3 years.



Combined actions are cases where the SCAN unit is conducting an investigation and where the RCMP are investigating, in parallel, complaints related to the same persons/tenants or occupants. Where lawful and appropriate, the SCAN unit and RCMP will share information and evidence and take separate but coordinated actions on properties connected with illegal and criminal activity.

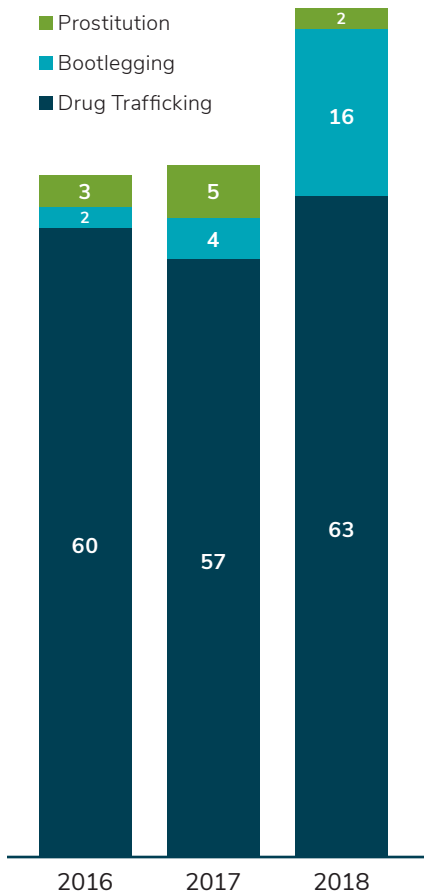
It is important to note the separation between the SCAN unit’s civil investigation under territorial legislation and the RCMP’s criminal investigation.



Types of Complaints

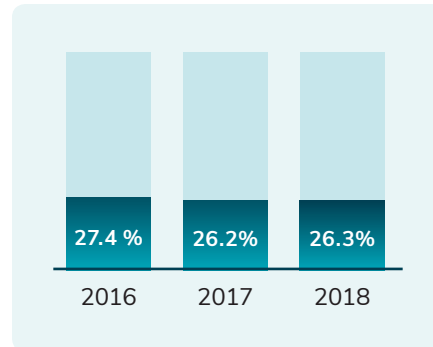
The majority of SCAN complaints relate to trafficking in controlled substances from property. The illegal sale of liquor is the second most prominent illegal activity investigated by SCAN and complaints have increased in number over the last three years.

Specified Use



Complaints related to suspected organized crime

Of increasing concern to the Department of Justice and partners is the involvement of organized crime groups, whether from southern-based gangs or the formation



of standalone criminal groups in the territory. The above bar chart depicts the percentage of files where information or intelligence is known with respect to occupants or tenants of a property, which connects them directly or indirectly to organized crime.*

*Organized Crime is defined as a collection of three or more persons involved in the facilitation or commission of one or more serious offences that results in the receipt of a material benefit by the persons. The benefit can include, but is not limited to, power, reputation, profit, economies of scale, and control and influence over territory for licit or illicit purposes.

Protocols with Yukon First Nations

The Director of SCAN has entered into agreements with seven Yukon First Nations¹ to support communication and decision-making related to investigation on settlement land. The agreements establish the lead contact person and authority who represents the First Nations in a partnership with the SCAN unit. The agreements also support First Nations community safety through methods like restorative community conferencing.

¹ Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Selkirk First Nation, Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Kluane First Nation, First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun.

Contact

If there's a suspicious property in your neighbourhood, do not investigate it yourself or approach the occupants.

Call SCAN

456-SCAN (7226)

Toll free:

1-866-530-SCAN (7226)

Or use the online SCAN form to report the property.

A member of the SCAN unit will confidentially contact you about your concerns.

Yukon

Yukon.ca