

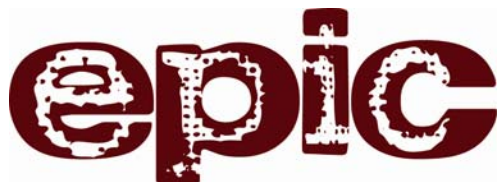
## Safe Schools

The Safe Schools pillar includes all of the programs that are designed to assist in maintaining a safe school environment. These programs include:

- **Dogs For Drug Free Schools**

The Medicine Hat Police Service has two Chocolate Labs (Lilo and Fiddler) that are attached to full time School Resource Officers, who are each assigned to local high schools.

The main function of the dogs is to enhance the relationship building process with the students and staff as well as provide drug education.



- **Encouraging Positive Informed Choices**

EPIC is a new program that builds on the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program that had been delivered in the schools. EPIC will be deliv-

ered by members of the Medicine Hat Police Service with specific lessons created for Grades 4, 6 and 8.

Grade 4 – Tobacco, Friendship

Grade 6 – Alcohol, Drugs, Cyber Safety, and Refusal Strategies

Grade 8 – Drugs, Cyber Safety

The EPIC program will also include presentations created for high schools grades that will be delivered on a request basis.

- **Adopt-a-School**

The Adopt-a-School program is a program where a member of the Medicine Hat Police Service will adopt or takes ownership of one of the participating schools within the public or separate school divisions in Medicine Hat. The officer will be an additional resource to that school by stopping by the school to interact with the students and assisting with any additional needs that the school requires.

- **Ask-a-Cop**

The Ask-a-Cop program will open the lines of communication between students, staff and parents by providing a venue for students at the schools to approach the School Resource Officer to informally ask questions or present concerns.

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### Medicine Hat Safe Community Association

884 2nd Street SE

Medicine Hat, AB T1A 8H2

Ph: 403-581-1088

[www.mhsca.ca](http://www.mhsca.ca)

Medicine Hat  
Safe Community



Association

*Promoting programs and services aimed at ensuring the safety of the citizens of Medicine Hat*

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# Medicine Hat Safe Community Association



The MHSCA is a non profit organization whose purpose is to provide advice and recommendations on matters relating to the programs

and services that the Community Safety Unit of the Medicine Hat Police Service deliver to the community.

The function of this ten person association is to solicit input from the community to develop recommendations for programs and services.

In consultation with the Medicine Hat Police Service, the MHSCA will evaluate and support existing programs for delivery by the CSU as well as develop new programs to support the three program pillars:

- Safety by Design
- Safe Communities
- Safe Schools



## Safety by Design

Safety by Design is based on the theory that when an area is properly designed and effectively used it can lead to a reduction in both the incidence and fear of crime as well as improve the quality of life.

Safety by Design utilizes the concepts of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). The main CPTED concepts are:

- **Natural Surveillance**

The placement of physical features, activities, and people that maximize visibility and observation.

- **Natural Access Control**

Deters access to a target area to create a perception of risk to the offender.

- **Territorial Reinforcement**

Defines clear borders of controlled space from public to semi-private to private, so that users of an area develop a sense of ownership.

- **Maintenance**

Allows for the continued use of a space for its intended purpose.



## Safe Communities

The Safe Communities pillar contains programs that focus on the needs of the community to promote awareness and prevent victimization by crime.

The Community Safety Unit has a number of presentations deliverable to community groups and organizations with information on a variety of different safety topics. These topics include:

- Financial Security
- Identity Theft
- Debit and Credit Card Scams
- Intruder Awareness Safety
- Social Networking Security  
(eg) Facebook
- Personal Safety

The Community Safety Unit also participates in local trade shows and other events where they provide safety information to the citizens of Medicine Hat.