



# Kingston Police

*Serving Our Community Since 1841*

## Security Tips – Businesses Closed for COVID-19 Pandemic

Kingston Police offer the following tips for business owners shutting down for extended periods:

- Remove all valuables from storefront displays.
- Remove all cash from tills and leave open with the cash tray out and visibly empty.
- Keep some lighting on inside the building to help with video surveillance quality and consider placing lights on timers if possible to simulate activity.
- Clean all windows and floors before leaving and note when you've done so (maintain a log) as this will help investigators should there be a break-in.
- Post on doors/windows the premises are monitored by an alarm company and no money is kept on the premises. Include the (613) 549-4660 number to call Kingston Police should anyone notice a break-in or damage.
- Consider putting a protective film/laminate on all windows/glass to discourage and help prevent easy entry via "smash-and-grab."
- Ensure all doors and windows are properly locked and secure.
- Ensure security alarm systems work properly and contact lists are current.
- Consider a CCTV surveillance system which can both be monitored remotely by phone/online and record images to review for an investigation.
- Ensure all exterior lighting is functioning and on. Consider motion sensor lights as another option to detect and deter unlawful activity.
- Remove anything on the exterior which could be used to gain entry to your premises (bricks, ladders, poles, construction materials, etc.).
- Regularly check the building and keep track of when you check (maintain a log), but go at different times so as not to be predictable to criminals.

**NOTE:** Kingston Police remind property owners that like residential theft, if a business looks neglected it can become a target. "If it looks cared for and looks like someone is home or around regularly, thieves will move on to other locations."