

# DSN

DOWNTOWN SECURITY NETWORK



## What is the Downtown Security Network (DSN)?

The Downtown Security Network (DSN) is a Downtown BIZ-led, Winnipeg Police Service-endorsed safety initiative connecting downtown business owners, property owners, and security teams with each other and with the police and BIZ. The DSN allows members to share resources and communicate immediately about safety issues in order to reduce crime and improve downtown safety.

By joining the DSN, you will know immediately when incidents occur, allowing you to take added precautions to protect your customers, staff and property. Issues will also be communicated immediately to police and the broader network, encouraging everyone to be alert.

The DSN is a proactive, local solution modeled on successful networks in Minneapolis and Portland, Oregon. We will also catalogue all downtown cameras to help the WPS solve crimes. Since our December 2008 launch, over 50 community leaders have signed on.

## DSN Town Hall Meetings

Town Hall meetings are held bimonthly with DSN members, with a chance to get an update about the DSN, share ideas, hear from WPS representatives, and ask police your questions directly. The next meeting is **Friday, February 20, at Place Louis Riel, 8am to 10am.**

## E-Alert Network

DSN members communicate issues immediately to the entire group via e-mail or text message so everyone can keep a lookout. Serious criminal activity is reported first to police, then to the DSN. Minor offences such as thefts from offices, hotels, and vehicles, shoplifting, and smash and grabs (car or property) are sent out to the network, especially if there is a photo of a suspect to watch for.

## Membership Benefits

- Training programs and workshops for your staff hosted by the WPS, Manitoba Public Insurance and the BIZ on topics like car vandalism prevention and dealing with panhandlers
- Stay in the loop of our lobbying efforts to improve downtown safety and join us in our efforts
- Ask questions to the police first hand at bimonthly town hall meetings
- Access the DSN members-only website
- Join our DSN Message Board to openly discuss safety issues with other members
- Receive posters and decals for your staff and clients about the services we provide

## Public Relations Campaign

A public awareness campaign will promote an easy-to-remember phone number for the public to call to report suspicious behaviour, for a SafeWalk, or if they are being bothered by a panhandler. Not only will this create more feelings of safety, but it will also create ownership of safety in our downtown by showing the public how they can help make a difference.

## Who can join the DSN?

DSN membership is **free** for Downtown BIZ and Crown Corporation members, with a small annual fee for others. Anyone downtown with a vested interest in public safety can become a member, including small business and property owners, building and residential property managers, and security personnel.

## Join the DSN!

Contact **Michelle Golebiowski** at the Downtown BIZ at 958-4634 or [michelle@downtownwinnipegbiz.com](mailto:michelle@downtownwinnipegbiz.com) for an application form.

