NEWS

Police launch zombie video

By David Lea

METROLAND WEST MEDIA GROUP

Halton police hope the undead will catch public attention to spread the message of crime prevention.

The Halton Regional Police Service announced last Thursday it's using the popular fictional, flesh-eaters in a new campaign to encourage people to lock their vehicles, homes and report suspicious people or activity in their neighbourhood.

A two-minute video launched as part of the campaign shows a pair of the walking dead advancing on an unsuspecting gardener, but instead of devouring her, they enter her unlocked home, steal a purse, laptop and, ultimately, her vehicle (yes, these zombies can drive).

One of numerous campaign posters shows desperate residents trying to keep a horde of zombies out of their home with the caption, 'Honey, we really gotta start locking our doors..."

The posters and video feature the tagline 'Don't be a zombie to crime prevention.'

"We wanted to capitalize on the current popularity of zombies in television series and movies, and tie it into a seasonal Halloween launch to catch the attention of a new generation of young people, and zombie fans of all ages, to drive home a strong crime prevention message," said Halton Police Chief Steve Tanner.

The video is being shown prior to most movies in the Cineplex Odeon and Galaxy cinemas in Milton, Oakville and Burlington until November 7, and has been posted on YouTube and shared via the police service's website at www.haltonpolice.ca and its Twitter account @HaltonPolice.

A series of eight zombie-themed posters are displayed in local businesses and distributed to various community partners around the region. The video and posters were made by members of the Halton Regional Police Service and their families and shot in Burlington.

View the video at www.youtube. com/watch?v=KFJi2LYncik.



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MONTHS.

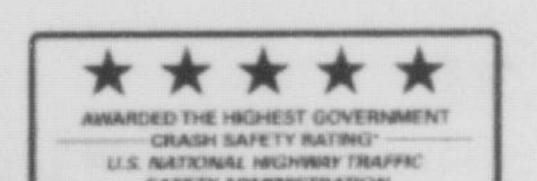
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