



NV Mounties target longboards

BY JAMES WELDON, NORTH SHORE NEWS MAY 18, 2011

NORTH Vancouver RCMP want longboarders off the road.

The detachment issued the warning this week after receiving what it said was a growing number of complaints from drivers who have been worried by riders zipping past them on the community's steep thoroughfares. More and more skaters are hitting the streets as the weather warms, say police, and the result may ultimately be tragic.

"We are seeing a growth in the number of youths who are participating in this sport," said Sgt. Peter DeVries, a spokesman for the North Vancouver RCMP, in a statement.

"Longboarding offers a positive outlet . . . but only if doesn't cost them their health or their lives."

In July last year, a 27-year-old longboarder died on Mount Seymour Road when she failed to negotiate a turn at the intersection with Anne MacDonald Way and slammed into a van. Police say they are launching a ticketing blitz in the summer in an effort to prevent a similar tragedy.

The District of North Vancouver imposes a fine of \$35 on anyone caught skating on the street in a dangerous way or at speeds more than 50 kilometres per hour.

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