

Boarders, take responsibility

Vancouver Sun Friday April 18/2014

Re: Clash between police officer and longboarders caught on camera, April 15

Let's give our heads a shake and watch that video again. The police officer has approximately six seconds to make the decision to either stop the longboarders or let them ride into oncoming traffic (note the vehicle behind the police car).

It was helpful (if unintentional) that the longboarders provided video evidence of their offence and distributed it widely through social media. The footage shows why the police can't perform other (and perhaps more important) duties because they have to spend their time protecting legal road users from illegal boarders.

The fact that the boarders had to "swerve and tumble" shows how ill-equipped they were to avoid other vehicles using the road. They, and other road users, got off lightly. If they'd hit someone else's car a ticket would have been the least of their worries (not everyone is as restrained as a police officer).

Maybe it's time for people to take responsibility for their own illegal actions and stop whining when they get caught. Maybe it's time to stop playing the victim card and actually have enough maturity to respect people who have a responsibility to uphold the law.

I'd love to see the police department be more vocal in support of its officers.

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