

Suspicious man offers child ride

By Sarah Sobanski

Bancroft OPP wants you to remind your children not to talk to strangers.

The detachment reports a stranger offered a Cardiff child a ride March 5. The man is described as middle-aged with a dark complexion. His car was 'black, old and dirty' and he was wearing 'a black ball cap and black sweater.'

Bancroft OPP Const. Philippe Regamey says following the incident parents should talk to their kids. In its report, the OPP encouraged parents to have a conversation with their children about personal safety and to establish family safety practices and rules. 'Every family is different. With a call about a stranger asking a child if they need a ride occurring, we just want families to have a serious conversation with their children about some safety factors they can put in place. Knowing where your child is, the route they take home and having safe places to go to could make a difference in a dangerous situation,' said Regamey.

He encouraged parents to walk with their children to and from school or to their friend's houses.

'There are many different safety factors that could be in place, and if there aren't any, then families should sit down and have that conversation.'

Anyone with information about this suspicious person, and or other suspicious activity, are asked to please contact the Bancroft OPP at 1-888-310-1122, report it to the OPP online at www.opp.ca, by cellphone (*677 (*OPP)) or through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) at www.tipsubmit.com if you wish to remain anonymous.