Below is a list of things you can do in your business to help prevent commercial break and enters:

Exterior

- The best protection against burglary is visibility. Keep the building, especially the rear, well-lit at night. Perhaps consider increasing exterior lighting at this time.
- Install CCTV and appropriate signage. Having good surveillance video and signage indicating a premise is under surveillance will provide a deterrent as well as provide police with evidence should a crime be committed.
- Use deadbolts with a minimum 1-inch bolt with a saw-resistant insert on all exterior doors.
- Make sure that exterior doors are solid core, and protect any glass with polycarbonate sheets, bars or roll-down covers.
- Pin the hinges of exterior doors that swing out, so that the door cannot be lifted off the hinges.

Interior

- Install an alarm system, preferably a monitored alarm that alerts enforcement when activated.
- Empty out your cash drawer and leave it open.
- Consider removing some or all merchandise from your store during this time or at the very least remove from sight.
- Keep a complete and up-to-date inventory of your merchandise and store equipment, and keep a copy in a location away from your business.

In the event that your business does get burglarized:

- Call law enforcement immediately (911).
- Do not enter the premises, as the burglar might still be there.

Do not enter the business, or allow anyone inside until the police arrive, as evidence may be accidentally destroyed.

- *Sourced from Vancouver Police Department*