



Tuesday Coffee Chat – February 27, 2024

Resources

Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre: The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre collects information on fraud and identity theft. We provide information on past and current scams affecting Canadians. If you think you're a victim of fraud, report it! <https://antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/index-eng.htm>

Alberta Fraud Prevention: Information on identity theft, text scams, mortgage fraud and odometer fraud. <https://www.alberta.ca/fraud-prevention>

AMA Current Scams in Alberta: Looking out for one another is what Albertans do. At one time, that may have meant letting your neighbour know not to trust the latest door-to-door salesman. Today, that means helping share information about scams and frauds that happen online and on the phone.

<https://ama.ab.ca/community/build/crime-prevention/identity-theft/current-scams>

Edmonton Police Service: If you have been the victim of fraud, call the Edmonton Police Service immediately at 780-423-4567 or #377 from your mobile phone.

Fraud affects **everyone**. The Edmonton Police Service receives reports from victims of all demographics each year because fraudsters can be quite smart. It is their full-time job to trick citizens for their financial gain, so they develop elaborate stories and scenarios and use strong emotions like fear, panic, and love in an effort to make you believe they are legitimate.

<https://www.edmontonpolice.ca/CrimePrevention/PersonalFamilySafety/Frauds#:~:text=If%20you%20have%20been%20the,fraudsters%20can%20be%20quite%20smart.>

Stay Secure Online –video: https://www.edmontonpolice.ca/StaySecure/story_html5.html

Identity Theft and Fraud Victim Assistance Guide

Service Canada

Personal Documents
1-800-622-6232 or 1-800-OCanada

Canada Post

1-800-267-1177
canadapost.ca/postalsecurity

Social Insurance Number

1-800-206-7218
servicecanada.gc.ca/eng/sc/sin

Bills

Contact your bank, credit card, utility, telephone or other service provider directly.

Service Alberta

780-427-7013
servicealberta.ca

Equifax Canada

1-800-465-7166
consumer.equifax.ca

Passport Canada

1-800-567-6868
travel.gc.ca

TransUnion Canada

1-800-663-9980
transunion.ca

From Edmonton Police Service

When a scammer calls you and is:

- Threatening you with deportation, arrest, fines, etc.
- Requesting payment in unusual forms, like gift cards, Bitcoin, money orders, or commercial wire service transfer.
- Telling you to lie to your family, store clerks, bank employees, and police about what you're doing.
- Telling you not to talk to anyone about what you're doing.
- Telling you to pay them in order to get a job, receive a prize, get your money back, etc.
- Asking for personal information, your SIN number, and/or financial information.
- Leaving an alarming message, requesting you to dial a number to proceed or to call another number provided. These calls are being made to hundreds of thousands of people with hopes a few will comply with the request.
- Sending you money (e-cheque, e-transfer, or money transfer) with instructions to send back all or a portion in Bitcoin, gift cards, or any form of currency back.
- Pretending to be your grandchild or other family member and claims to be in trouble and asks for help. The scammer may try to convince you that your family member was in a car accident or had been arrested. You may be asked to wire money right away, without telling anyone.

**If someone calls you claiming to be from a certain organization, you can hang up, find the phone number yourself and call the organization. You can then verify if the phone call you just received was legitimate or a scammer.*

***Beware of call spoofing** Scammers commonly fake their caller ID names and numbers making them appear to be calling from a company or government agency.*

****If someone is claiming to be your grandchild or another family member with claims they are in trouble and need money, ask them questions only they would know and hang up and call them back if you can or call another family member to verify the claim. Scammers can not only find out personal information online through social media, but they can also disguise their voice to sound like the person they are impersonating and often make excuses for not sounding like the family member they claim to be. They may even claim there is a bad phone connection or they have an injury that makes them sound different.*