CANADIAN ANTI-FRAUD CENTRE BULLETIN

How to Stay Vigilant 2024-11-04

FRAUD: RECOGNIZE, REJECT, REPORT

As part of Financial Literacy Month, it's important to talk about one of the biggest threats to your financial health: **fraud**. Fraud can have devastating consequences for individuals and families across the country. The best way to protect yourself and others is to stay informed, be vigilant and share knowledge about the tactics fraudsters use.

Being proactive is key to avoiding fraud. Fraudsters often prey on individuals who are unaware of the latest tactics or who might let their guard down. By staying vigilant, you can protect yourself from becoming a target.

How to stay vigilant:

1. Monitor your Financial Accounts: Check your bank, credit card and investment statements regularly to identify any unusual transactions. Promptly report any suspicious activities.

2. Be cautious online: Avoid clicking on links or downloading attachments from unknown sources and be skeptical of unsolicited emails, text messages or phone calls that ask for personal or financial information.

3. Keep software and passwords updated: Ensure that your computer's security software is up to date and use strong passwords for your accounts. Enable two-factor authentication for an added layer of protection.

4. Visit Get Cyber Safe and Protect yourself from scams and fraud (antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca) for more tips on how to protect yourself online and how to protect yourself from fraud.

Education is the strongest defense against fraud. By sharing knowledge with family, friends and colleagues, we can reduce the number of people who fall victim to scams. Many fraudsters prey on individuals who may not be as familiar with technology or financial systems, including seniors and newcomers to Canada. Together, we can reduce the impact of fraud by staying vigilant, educating each other and creating a culture of information-sharing.

Remember, **the more we know, the stronger we become in the fight against fraud**. Let's stay proactive, stay informed and protect our financial well-being!

Anyone who suspects they have been the victim of cybercrime or fraud should report it to their local police and to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre's online reporting system or by phone at 1-888-495-8501. If you were targeted, but did not fall victim, report it to the CAFC.