



FUNDS RECOVERED SCAMS

If you have been a victim of a scam, you may also be targeted by a scammer claiming to be a legitimate company to help you recover the funds you lost. They may even claim to be working with the local police service.

Protect Yourself

- If they promise to recover the money, it is a scam as there is never a guarantee.
- If they are asking for any fees upfront, it is a scam.
- Verify the company, website, and email address.
- Never give your banking or credit card information for a request you were not expecting.
- Police do not inform individuals of investigations over email.

REPORT FRAUD

If you have been a victim, call the Edmonton Police Service immediately at 780-423-4567 or #377 from your mobile phone. If you are a victim of fraud do not be afraid to come forward. You are not alone. We are here to help you.

If you did send money or share financial information, report it to the financial institution used e.g., your bank, Western Union, MoneyGram, Equifax, and TransUnion.

- **Equifax** – 1-800-465-7166 or www.consumer.equifax.ca
- **TransUnion** – 1-800-663-9980 or www.transunion.ca

Gather all information pertaining to the situation, including the scammer's profile name, how you made contact, social media screenshots, emails, etc.

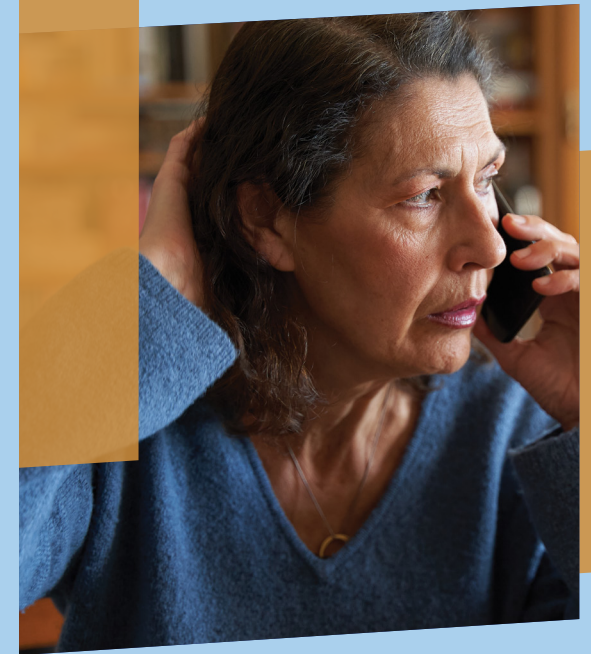
File a report with the **Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre** – 1-888-495-8501 or www.antifraudcentre.ca.

Be proactive. Tell family, friends, coworkers, and neighbours about your experience to warn them of online scams.

Visit
edmontonpolice.ca/fraud
for more information on other types
of fraud and other resources.



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FRAUD PREVENTION

**PROTECT YOURSELF AND
DO NOT BECOME A VICTIM!**

edmontonpolice.ca/fraud

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FRAUD PREVENTION TIPS

MASS MARKET SCAM

This is a scam where telephones, internet, and mass mailings are used to contact, solicit, and obtain money, or other items of value from multiple jurisdictions. These can include money by promising cash, prizes, services, and high returns on investments.

Protect Yourself

- If they are using pressure tactics such as threatening you with deportation or an arrest, it is a scam.
- If they are asking you to send money in the form of bitcoin, gift cards, pre-paid credit cards, e-transfers or a wire transfer, it is a scam.
- If they tell you to keep the conversation a secret, it is a scam.
- Beware of fake identification.
- Hang up, look up the company phone number yourself, and call back the company they are claiming to be from.
- Do not click on any links you are not expecting.

GRANDPARENT SCAM

These scams involve a phone call from someone who pretends to be your grandchild or another close family member. The scammer claims to be in trouble and in need of immediate money for bail or hospital expenses.

Protect Yourself

- Do not send money.
- Call your grandchild or another family member to verify the claims or requests.
- Using high-pressure tactics usually means it is a scam.
- Set a safe word or phrase with family members that includes details only you would know.

ROMANCE SCAMS

The scammer adopts a fake identity and will send out mass emails in which they pretend to be a man or woman interested in a romantic relationship and will seem caring and genuine to gain trust. These scams usually start on social media and then will transition to WhatsApp. They will come up with excuses as to why they cannot meet the victim in person but will persuade them to send substantial amounts of money.

Protect Yourself

- Do not share personal or financial information.
- Do not share images if you do not feel comfortable with them being public.
- Do not feel pressured to meet in person.
- Never send money and do not accept money.

INVESTMENT SCAM

Beware of anyone who claims you can "get rich quick."

Protect Yourself

- If they are using pressure tactics such as threatening you with deportation or an arrest, it is a scam.
- Verify the email is coming from a legitimate source.
- Check registration of individuals or firms, are they registered with Alberta Securities Commission?
- Be cautious of unrealistic returns.
- Only invest with certified investors who work for reputable companies.
- Do not give them your money or personal information until you have researched the company.