

# Social Insurance Number Fraud

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Redcliff RCMP are warning of an increase of telephone frauds involving your social insurance number. Under no circumstances should you divulge your SIN number. These occurrences can be reported to the AntiFraud Unit at 1888-495-8501. For more information please visit <http://www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/index-eng.htm>

The Government of Canada will never call you via an automated dialing system. Nor will they tell you that a warrant is being sought for your arrest, or that you owe extra money in taxes, or even ask you for personal information, including your Social Insurance Number, or for credit card information. A legitimate employee of the government will identify themselves to someone they are calling, and the recipient of the call will likely be aware of the situation beforehand.

If someone wants to test if a call is real, they can ask to speak to someone in the official language of their choice. If they will not offer to find someone to speak to you in French, then they are scamming you and you should hang up. Do not give out information, do not make payments of any kind, including gift cards ever and do not take deals of any kind.

## Are you a victim?

*What to do if you're a victim*

**Step 1:** Gather all information about the fraud. This includes documents, receipts, copies of emails and/or text messages.

**Step 2:** Report the incident to your local law enforcement. This ensures that your police of jurisdiction is aware of what scams are targeting their residents and businesses. Keep a log of all your calls and record all file or occurrence numbers.

**Step 3:** Contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre toll free at 1-888-495-8501 or through the [Fraud Reporting System \(FRS\)](#).

**Step 4:** Report the incident to the financial institution where the money was sent (e.g., money service business such as Western Union or MoneyGram, bank or credit union, credit card company or internet payment service provider).

**Step 5:** If the fraud took place online through Facebook, eBay, a classified ad such as Kijiji or a dating website, be sure to report the incident directly to the website. These details can be found under "report abuse" or "report an ad."

**Step 6:** Victims of identity fraud should place flags on all their accounts and report to both credit bureaus, [Equifax](#) and [TransUnion](#).

## **How to protect yourself ... and others**

- Beware of Recovery Scams. Victims of fraud are often targeted a second or third time with the promise of recovering money previously lost. Always do your due diligence and never send money to recover money.
- Stay current. Advise the CAFC, financial institutions and law enforcement of any updates.
- Be pro-active. Educate family, friends, neighbours and co-workers on mass marketing frauds. You may prevent someone else from becoming a victim.