

PROTECT YOURSELF

Warning Signs of a Scam

- Be cautious if someone:
- Pressures you to act immediately
- Requests gift card payments
- Asks for passwords or banking details
- Wants secrecy
- Promises easy money or prizes
- Claims a loved one urgently needs money

Simple Safety Tips

- Protect your SIN, passwords, and banking information
- Slow down and think before acting
- Verify requests using official contact information
- Speak to a trusted friend or family member
- Never pay government agencies with gift cards
- Keep records of suspicious emails, calls, and messages



REPORT FRAUD & GET HELP

Before Sending Money, Ask Yourself

- Do I know this person?
- Have I verified the request?
- Am I being pressured?
- Have I spoken to someone I trust?

If the answer is NO, stop and verify first.

Report Fraud Immediately

- Contact your bank or financial institution
- Contact your local police service
- Inform trusted family members or emergency

CONTACTS

Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre: 1-888-495-8501

Equifax: 1-800-465-7166

TransUnion: 1-800-663-9980

Remember:

STOP. VERIFY. REPORT.

Information is power.

Together, we can build a safer community.

For more information, connect with us online:

☎ (825) 333 3900

✉ operations@thefei.ca

📘 The financial literacy initiative

📷 [thefei](https://www.instagram.com/thefei)

🌐 www.thefei.ca



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What Is Fraud?

Fraud happens when someone tricks you into giving away money or personal information. Scammers often create fear, urgency, excitement, or trust to get what they want. If something feels wrong:

- Stop
- Think
- Verify
- Talk to someone you trust

Scams are becoming more common across Canada, and older adults are often targeted. Learning how scams work is one of the best ways to protect yourself, your family, and your finances. If you have been scammed, do not feel embarrassed. Fraud can happen to anyone. Report it as soon as possible.

This guide helps you:

- Recognize the common scams to watch out for
- Equip you with useful knowledge on how to protect yourself from scammers
- Know who you can report to in case of a potential scam.



Common scams to know

Phone Scams

Someone pretends to be your bank, the government, police, or technical support. Remember: No legitimate organization will demand payment through gift cards, wire transfers, or cryptocurrency.

Email & Text Scams

Fake messages asking you to click a link or confirm account details.

Prize & Lottery Scams

"You've won a prize!"—but first you must pay a fee. If you didn't enter, you didn't win.

Grandparent Scams

Someone pretends to be a grandchild in trouble and urgently needs money.

Social Media Scams

Fake profiles impersonate friends or relatives asking for money or personal information.



Romance Scams

A stranger builds trust online and eventually asks for money. Never send money to someone you have not met in person.

Investment Scams

Promises of guaranteed returns, crypto profits, or "once-in-a-lifetime" opportunities.

Online Shopping Scams

Fake websites take your payment and never deliver the product.

Charity Scams

Fraudsters exploit disasters and emergencies by requesting donations.

Tech Support Scams

A pop-up or caller claims your computer has a virus and asks for remote access or payment.