

SCAM SENSE

Helping you to spot the fakes and stay safe - October 2025



THE CON JOB PODCAST

Go inside the murky work of con artists and criminals. From cryptocurrency to online scams, host Adam Cook, and members of the Edmonton Police Service Financial Crimes Section discuss real-life investigations and give you the tools you need to protect yourself. Available on Spotify and YouTube

PROTECT YOUR PIN

Criminals need two pieces of information to commit debit card fraud - the PIN and the magnetic stripe information on the card. If cardholders always shield their PIN, they make it more difficult for criminals to capture this key security feature. Never hand over your card to someone posing as a bank employee who has initiated contact over the phone.



The Edmonton Police Service (EPS) is warning the public that fraudulent calls are being reported in the Edmonton area coming from EPS front counter phone numbers. The fraudster is spoofing this phone number, impersonating a police officer, telling victims they are involved in a fraud investigation, and requesting personal information. If people receive this call, they are advised to hang up. Police officers will never call you from a general inquiries line.

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

GRANDPARENT SCAM ALERT



WHAT IS THE SCAM?

Scammers are calling seniors claiming to be family members in need of immediate money for bail or hospital expenses.

The scammer will often send someone to the door to pick up payment.

BAIL FACTS:

- Police, lawyers, judges or jails do not call people to get money.
- Bail/fines are typically paid at a courthouse, police station or jail.
- Bail in Alberta is typically \$10-\$500.
- Bail can't be paid using gift cards.



"Court appointed" couriers don't exist. If someone asks to come to your home to pick up payment, it's a scam.



If it has to be now, it has to be no. Using fear or high-pressure tactics are usually a red flag.



Always ask for proof of identification and call-back numbers. Talk to family, friends or other people you trust to help verify claims or requests.

If you have lost money or the scam is in progress, contact the Edmonton Police Service at **780-423-4567** or **#377** from your mobile phone.

To report a scam in general, contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at **1-888-495-8501**



CALGARY
POLICE
SERVICE

EDMONTON
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SERVICE

edmontonpolice.ca/fraud



*Spot the scam - Quick Quiz
Can you tell which call is real?*

1. "This is the CRA. You owe taxes and must pay at once by e-transfer"
2. "Your bank noticed suspicious activity. Please log in through our secure link to confirm"
3. "Hi, this is your pharmacy, your prescription is ready for pickup"

#3 is the legitimate call. If someone demands money, personal information, or quick action - hang up and verify through an official source. Never be afraid to hang up. Real organizations will understand - scammers won't.

How to recognize an investment scam

- A claim you can make a lot of money with little or no risk.
- Someone claims they have insider information.
- You feel pressured into making a quick decision.
- The seller isn't registered with the provincial securities regulator.

Emergency Call 911

Non-Emergency

780-423-4567

Mobile Access

#377

Deaf or Hard of Hearing

780-425-1231

Crime Stoppers

1-800-222-8477

Connect on Social Media

