

For Immediate Release

**MORE THAN 100,000 FRAUD CASES REPORTED IN CANADA IN 2025;
\$704 MILLION LOST BY FRAUD VICTIMS**

March is Fraud Prevention Month - Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers urges anyone with information on who's behind fraudulent crime to submit a tip safely and ANONYMOUSLY

Vancouver, B.C. (March 5, 2026): Canadians reported losing \$704 million to fraud in 2025 according to the [Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre](#) (CAFC). The actual extent is most likely even greater, as the CAFC estimates that only a small minority of fraud victims actually file a report.

“Fraud is as much a crime as any other, yet less than five per cent of the tips Crime Stoppers receives relate to fraudulent crime, and criminals shouldn’t get away with it,” says Linda Annis, Executive Director of Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers. “Those who commit these kinds of crimes are rarely amateurs and know how to prey on people’s fears.

“March is Fraud Prevention Month in Canada, a good time to remind everyone that no one can identify who you are when you call Crime Stoppers ANONYMOUSLY with information that could lead to these criminals being found and arrested. Crime Stoppers has operators who accept tips around the clock in 115 languages including Punjabi, Hindi, Mandarin and Cantonese and you could be eligible for a reward of up to \$5000.”

Among the CAFC’s 112,000 fraudulent crimes reported in 2025 were:

Identity theft – with 8403 reports, a total that doesn’t include victims who didn’t file a report

- Be wary of unsolicited e-mails, text messages and telephone calls asking you for personal or financial information
- Check your credit reports, bank and credit card statements often, report any irregularities, and shred personal and financial documents before disposing of them

Investment scams (3867 victims in Canada reported losing \$351 million)

- CAFC says always be suspicious of unsolicited investment opportunities and pressure tactics (even from friends and family) or higher-than-normal returns being offered

Relationship and romance scams (1093 victims lost \$63 million).

- Fraudsters try to convince you to enter an online relationship to gain your trust and money; often not amateurs

Spear phishing (813 victims lost \$67 million).

- A fraudster sends an email from a compromised and/or spoofed email account that appears to come from a known contact, such as a family member or friend, to try and convince businesses or individuals to send them money

From [CAFC's list](#) of ways to protect yourself from fraud:

- **Don't be afraid to say no to high-pressure sales tactics** – watch out for urgent pleas that play on your emotions; don't hesitate to hang up
- **Do your research** – always verify that the organization you're dealing with is legitimate
- **Don't give out personal information to anyone asking, or on social media** – including your birthdate, Social Insurance Number, or credit card/banking information
- **Beware of upfront fees** – in advance of receiving goods, services, or a prize
- **Protect your computer** – don't click on urgent-looking pop up messages while online
- **Protect your online accounts** - with strong passwords and multi-factor authentication
- **Get cryptocurrency only from well-known, reputable exchanges** - cryptocurrencies operate independently of a central bank, so they are unregulated in Canada and there's no protection from fraud when using them

About Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers

Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers is a non-profit society and registered charity that receives anonymous tip information about criminal activity and provides it to investigators. Anonymous tips may be provided through Crime Stoppers' downloadable **"P3" app for Apple and Android phones**, calling Crime Stoppers at **1-800-222-8477**, online at solvecrime.ca, or by following the link on the Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers [Facebook page](#).

Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers accepts tips in 115 different languages and will pay a reward of up to \$5,000 for information leading to an arrest, a charge, recovery of stolen property, seizure of illegal drugs or guns, or denial of a fraudulent insurance claim. Find MVCS on (Twitter): [@solvecrime](#), Instagram: [metrovancovercrimestoppers](#) and You Tube: [@metrovancovercrimestoppers](#).

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