

NAPSA Scam Advice Forum: June 2024

Topic: Canadian Law Enforcement Share insights into the recent Project Sharp grandparent/family emergency fraud and subsequent impacts

- **Lisa Cruz**, Crime Prevention Officer, Detective Constable, Serious Fraud Office, Ontario Provincial Police
- **Stephanie Senecal**, Senior Support Unit Coordinator, Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Ontario Provincial Police
- **Jenna Coates & Courtney Guiste**, Victim Liaisons (Civilian), Serious Fraud Office, Ontario Provincial Police

Co-Hosts: Steve Baker and Debbie Deem

Sign up for Steve's weekly 'Bakerfraudreport.com' for stories/trends/prosecutions and arrests worldwide on transnational frauds/scams.

National Elder Fraud Hotline (US DOJ) 1-833-372-8311

National federal hotline for adults 60 and over in reporting fraud and providing support and resources/safety tips. Help with filing IC3 and FTC reports. Many languages.

- <https://ovc.ojp.gov/program/stop-elder-fraud/providing-help-restoring-hope>

Report Fraud to Local Police/APS as Well as One or More of These Federal Govt. Databases/Agencies

- www.ic3.gov FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center
- www.reportfraud.ftc.gov Federal Trade Commission
- www.identitytheft.gov Report Identity Theft to the FTC
- <https://www.uspis.gov/report> U.S Postal Inspection Service
Or report 1-877-876-2455
- If Crypto Investment Confidence Fraud/Crypto-Romance Investment - contact your local U.S. Secret Service office, in addition to filing an IC3 report.
<https://www.secretservice.gov/contact/field-offices>

IC3.gov related warnings

- FBI Warns of Scammers Targeting Senior Citizens in Grandparent Scams and Demanding Funds by Wire, Mail or Couriers
<https://www.ic3.gov/Media/Y2023/PSA231117>
- FBI warns of a Grandparent Fraud Scheme Using Couriers
<https://www.ic3.gov/Media/Y2021/PSA210729>

Project Sharp and Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre

Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre Fraud (Reporting and Resources)

- <https://antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/index-eng.htm>
- Press release from Hamilton Ontario police
<https://hamiltonpolice.on.ca/news/project-sharp---14-arrested-for-using-emergency-grandparent-scam-across-canada/>
- Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre response to this crime:
 - <https://antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/news-nouvelles/2024/2024-04-18-eng.htm>
- Link to Italian Organized Crime? <https://www.cp24.com/news/suspects-involved-in-grandparent-scam-had-ties-to-italian-organized-crime-police-allege-1.6852392>
- <https://www.chch.com/14-charged-after-126-canadians-lose-money-in-grandparent-scam/>

Other Interesting Canadian Sites

- Get Cyber Safe: A national public awareness campaign to inform Canadians about cyber security and steps they can take to protect themselves online
 - <https://www.getcybersafe.gc.ca/en>
- Get Smarter About Crypto (Ontario Securities Commission)
 - <https://getsmarteraboutcrypto.ca/>
- Interesting Article on What Six Big Canadian Banks Say They Do in Responding To These Frauds
 - <https://www.cp24.com/news/here-s-how-canada-s-big-six-banks-are-responding-to-the-grandparent-scam-1.6603674>

Free National Online Support Programs (for all ages)

- **AARP ReST Program** Support for victims and family members of these frauds: To register or for more information (you don't have to be AARP member)
 - <https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/voa-rest-program/>
- **Cybercrime Support Network** Free romance imposter fraud 10 week online peer support program
 - <https://fightcybercrime.org/programs/romance-scam-recovery-group/>
- **GiveAnHour** Monthly free support programs for fraud victims as well as family members.
 - <https://giveanhour.org/financial-fraud/>