



STOP IDENTITY THEFT

Recognize The Signs

Credit card companies or creditors calling you about cards you didn't apply for or don't possess. Receiving credit card statements for cards you don't possess.

Being denied credit you never applied for.

Finding out about accounts (credit cards, bank accounts etc.) you never authorized or opened.

A company telling you data they possess may have been compromised.

Tips

DO have your mail picked up by a friend or neighbour when away for a period of time. OR have your mail held by Canada Post if you'll be away for an extended period. Also, consider having any "cheques" you receive directly deposited to your bank account.

DO update your address when you move.

DO have your credit rating checked yearly or more often if you've already been a victim of identity theft.

DO inform police or Phone busters (number and address in "Contacts" section) of suspicious activity and calls. Save yourself and others from becoming a victim.

DO monitor your bank account balance and activity. Match credit card statements to your receipts.

DO keep the number of credit cards you use to a minimum.

DON'T keep your Social Insurance card in your purse or wallet.

DON'T just throw out old receipts, bills and documents....SHRED THEM.

DON'T give out personal information such as banking information, S.I.N. or birth date freely.

DON'T be afraid to ask for additional information in the mail.

DON'T respond to e-mails requesting personal information. Delete them.

DON'T be afraid to hang up the phone if someone won't take no for an answer. Be firm.

If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Beware of winning contests and draws you don't recall entering and being asked to claim your prize by providing your Social Insurance Number, credit card information, a cheque or money etc.