

BLOCK WATCH



Fraud Alert

There has been an increase in fraudulent activity involving **Gift Cards**.

You may be asked to pay outstanding bills or debts by buying gift cards and mailing them to an address.

The caller may say they are from **Canada Revenue Agency**

You may be asked to pay hundreds or even thousands of dollars.

The caller may yell at you or tell you that you will be arrested if you do not pay.

This is a Fraud

Remember

The CRA or any government agency, legitimate business, financial institution will never:

- Ask you to send payment in the form of gift cards or pre-paid credit cards.
- Ask you to pay fees or taxes for prizes, lottery or sweepstake winnings.
- Ask for your personal information (They already have it).
- Ask you to go on line and enter personal information (They already have it).

What Should I do?

- Check with the Agency before you do anything
- Look up the Contact information yourself, do not use the information provided by the caller
- Call or visit the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre:
 - Online: www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca
 - Toll Free: 1-888-495-8501
 - Report this to the **Surrey RCMP Non-Emergency at 604-599-0502**

Notice to Merchant: If the customer still seems unwilling to believe this is a fraud after you have explained the situation – offer to call police to check it out for them. Reassure the customer that they are not in trouble and the police are there to help.

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