

FRAUD ALERT!

Enbridge Gas has discovered a suspected scam where fraudsters have created fake Enbridge Gas websites with false contact numbers. The scammers impersonate Enbridge Gas contact centre agents and trick callers into providing them with personal information such as credit card, account balance and other payment information over the phone claiming to pay their gas bill (sometimes at a discounted rate) but instead use the information for their own malicious purposes.

Enbridge Gas does not offer discounts on natural gas bills, take credit card payments over the phone, and we would not require verification of customer banking information to access your gas account. Make sure you call 1-877-362-7434 for questions about your bill.

Toronto police are out with a warning about a bank card scam making the rounds.

They say the fraudsters have been targeting the elderly. The suspects pretend to be bank staff or with phone or utility companies and then phone the victims.

The victims are convinced to either upgrade their current services or are simply told their cards are expired and they will need new ones.

The scammers get the victim's banking information and tell them they will be sent new cards.

The victims are told to put all of their cards in an envelope in their mailbox and someone will pick up the old cards and leave new ones.

Police say the fraudsters end up emptying the victim's accounts or make purchases with their cards.

Officers are out with the following tips to help you avoid becoming a victim of the scam:

be wary of any cold calls and/or unsolicited persons claiming to upgrade services banks will never ask you to place any bank cards or credit cards into envelopes and leave them unattended in your mailbox. - do not be rushed into making a decision. If possible, consult with a known financial planner and/or financial institution such as your home bank. - contact your bank or utility provider to ensure they are the ones calling, using the number you have for them, not the number provided by the caller conduct a Google search for any scams or complaints associated with the company. contact police if you suspect you have been the victim of a fraud.

Oshawa Power Utilities Corporation is also on alert after reports of customers reports of someone demanding a payment or else face disconnection.

The OPUC does not disconnect and or make such forward demands.

The OPUC in most cases will enter into an agreement with customer to facilitate payment schedules that are favorable to both parties.

If it feels like a scam. It probably is.

Consumer be ware.

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ONTARIO MARKS SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION MONTH

TORONTO — Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, and Charmaine Williams, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, released the following statement:

"May is Sexual Assault Prevention Month and an important opportunity for us to join together in support of survivors, community service providers and advocates across the province to raise awareness about the horrific crime of sexual assault and all forms of gender-based violence.

Everyone deserves to live free from the fear of threats, violence and exploitation. Sadly, one in three women and one in eight men in Canada will experience sexual violence in their lifetime — and the rates of violence against Indigenous women are even higher. It is critical that people affected by this violence and exploitation receive the supports they need to recover and heal, while offenders are held accountable for their actions through the justice system. Our government has zero tolerance for sexual assault and other sexual offences, and we are taking action to prevent and address violence against women and gender-based violence in all forms. We are investing \$1.4 billion over four years in a broad range of supports for victims and survivors such as emergency shelters, counselling, 24-hour crisis lines, safety planning, and transitional housing supports. This also includes helping more women build skills and get jobs to gain financial security and independence.