

BEN LOBBMP

HURON-BRUCE



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Dear Constituents,

Every year, Canadians lose millions of dollars to the activities of scammers who bombard us with online, mail, door-to-door and telephone scams.

My hope is that by sending information out to my constituents, you will be able to stay on top of scams, inform yourself on how to recognize the various types of scams and protect your personal information by visiting the links I provide for you on the back.

Scammers target people of all backgrounds, ages and income levels. Scammers are imaginative and manipulative. They know how to push your buttons to produce the response they want. Below you will find some 'Golden Rules' to remember to help you beat the scammers.

Remember, if you spot a scam, or have been scammed, don't be embarrassed to get help. Please contact my for assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Lobb".

Ben Lobb
Member of Parliament,
Huron-Bruce

The Golden Rules

- Do not rely on glowing testimonials: find solid evidence of a company's success.
- Do not hand over money or personal information, or sign anything until you have done your homework and checked the credentials of the company that you are dealing with.
- Always get independent advice if an offer involves money, personal information, time or commitment.
- There are no guaranteed get-rich-quick schemes—sometimes the only people that make money are the scammers.
- Log directly on to a website that you are interested in rather than clicking on the link provided in an email.

Information on Health & Medical Scams

Medical scams prey on human suffering. They offer solutions where none exist or promise to simplify complex health treatments.

Miracle cure scams offer a range of products and services that can appear to be legitimate alternative medicines, usually promising quick and effective remedies for serious medical conditions. The treatments claim to be effective against a very wide range of ailments and are often promoted using testimonials from people who have used the product or service and have been “cured”.

Fake online pharmacies use the internet and spam emails to offer drugs and medicine at very cheap prices and/or without the need for a prescription from a doctor. If you use such a service and you actually do receive the products in response to your order, there is no guarantee that they are the real thing.

Weight loss scams promise dramatic weight loss with little or no effort. This type of scam may involve an unusual or restrictive diet. It might also include products such as pills, patches or creams. They will claim to help you “lose weight in your sleep”.

PROTECT YOURSELF: Never commit to anything under pressure.

ASK YOURSELF: If there really a miracle cure, wouldn't my healthcare professional have told me?

HELPFUL LINKS

Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre

www.antifraudcentre.ca

The Competition Bureau's Information Centre
www.competitionbureau.gc.ca

Canadian Consumer Handbook on the Office of Consumer Affairs

www.consumerhandbook.ca

Canadian Council of Better Business Bureaus

www.ccbbb.ca

Canadian Revenue Agency

www.cra-arc.gc.ca

If you do not have access to a computer please contact my office for assistance

Were you a Victim of Fraud?

If you believe you may be the victim of fraud or have given personal or financial information unwittingly, contact your local police service.

Produced using excerpts from “THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK OF SCAMS—THE CANADIAN EDITION” by the Competition Bureau of Canada

www.benlobb.com