



CANADIAN ANTI-FRAUD CENTRE BULLETIN

Alert: Ukraine Charity Scams

2022-03-30

FRAUD: RECOGNIZE, REJECT, REPORT

This bulletin was prepared to provide awareness regarding charity and donation scams currently targeting Canadians and tips on how to avoid becoming a victim. The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC) has received reports of charity scams related to the situation in Ukraine. Fraudsters are contacting victims by telephone, email, online and on social media. They will impersonate reputable charities and can sound very convincing. Unfortunately, fraudsters will attempt to use the situation like the one in Ukraine to steal your money.

As a result, the CAFC would like to remind Canadians to be wary of charity scams. Charity/donation scams involve any false, deceptive, misleading or fraudulent solicitation for a donation to a charity, association, federation or religious cause. Scam artists hope to profit from people's generosity and compassion for others in need.

Warning signs - How to protect yourself

- Refuse high-pressure requests for donations. Legitimate charities will not push you to donate with urgency.
- Ask for written information about the charity, including name, address and telephone number. A legitimate charity or fundraiser will give you information about the charity's mission, how your donation will be used and proof that your contribution is tax deductible.
- Ask the solicitor for the registered charitable tax number of the charity. Question any discrepancies and confirm the charity's registration information with the [Canada Revenue Agency](#) or by phone at 1-800-267-2384.
- Charities don't accept cryptocurrency as a payment method.
- Learn [more tips and tricks for protecting yourself](#).

Anyone who suspects they have been the victim of cybercrime or fraud should report it to their local police and to the CAFC's [online reporting system](#) or by phone at 1-888-495-8501. If not a victim, report it to the CAFC anyway.



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