

RENFREW OPP WARN OF FRAUD - AUGUST 11, 2016

OPP WARN OF FRAUD

(RENFREW, ON) – The Renfrew Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) investigated a fraud in Renfrew with a new twist. Here is one of the latest scam attempts using the name of a legitimate company and attempting to lure in young drivers and car owners. This case involved Clearly Canadian, a flavoured water company headquartered in Richmond Hill Ont.

Using websites or by just sending random emails and text messages, scammers are offering people a weekly “salary” of up to \$300 to have their personal car “wrapped” in Clearly Canadian advertising. How this scam works is for someone to apply online to whom they think is the marketing division of a company, and they will then send a cheque for the first week’s salary plus the money to get your vehicle wrapped. They then send you the \$300 plus another amount up to \$2,600 in a cheque which is issued in your name. The cheque sent to the intended victim is a fraudulent document drawn on a non-existent bank account. They instruct you to cash the cheque, keep your \$300 weekly payment, and send the rest to the “Wrapping Company” in Michigan via Western Union or another money transfer company. They will then come to your house within a week and wrap your car.

Of course, the scam is the fact that you are using your own money from cashing the fraudulent cheque and sending over \$2,000 to the scammer, who of course is not connected to Clearly Canadian or any legitimate company. No one ever shows up at your house, and by the time you figure out you were taken, your money is long gone. It is quite an elaborate scheme with a lot of details. With all of these detailed directions they send, and the fact they spend a lot of money using an overnight company it seems very believable.

If you receive random text messages or emails about this advertising scam report it to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501 or online at www.antifraudcentre.ca

If you have been defrauded report it to the OPP at 1-888-310-1122.