



NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

Frauds and Scams

WINTER 2009

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The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) has issued a warning for all Canadians to disregard any fraudulent emails they may receive stating that they are entitled to a tax rebate from last years tax return. The email requests your personal information and provides you with a web link that takes you to a convincing looking government website where you are to input all your personal data. The CRA does not need to gather your personal information as they already have it on file from your previous returns. Always ensure your personal information remains confidential and be aware of these "phishing emails."



March has been declared international "Fraud Prevention Month." The purpose of Fraud Prevention Month is to get members of the public to "Recognize it, Report it and Stop it." To find more fraud information and initiatives go to www.competitionbureau.gc.ca/fraud. If you feel you are being targeted for any type of fraud or scam you are encouraged to report it to PhoneBusters. PhoneBusters is Canada's Anti-Fraud Call Centre and can be reached at 1-888-495-8501 or online at www.phonebusters.com. You can also report fraud on-line through Reporting Economic Crime Online (RECOL) at www.recol.ca. RECOL is an RCMP initiative that involves an integrated partnership between international, federal and provincial law enforcement agencies and the private sector. In addition, citizens are encouraged to contact their local police division to file a report. The Canadian Council of Better Business Bureaus recently released the "Top 10 Canadian Frauds/Scams for 2008". The following is a ranked list of their findings to be aware of and report when encountered: counterfeit cheques, contractor scams, work at home schemes, phishing/identity theft, employment related scams, online fraud, investment/loan fraud, lottery scams, economic downturn scams and phony invoice scams. **Would your group or organization like a presentation on various types of fraud?** CPAT's ABC's of Fraud program is delivered by trained volunteer presenters who provide information and tips on identifying and preventing fraud victimization. If you are interested in booking a free workshop please contact our office.

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CPAT Membership Drive

Thank you to everyone who participated in the CPAT membership drive! Your membership and support is greatly appreciated and we have successfully increased our members in the community. CPAT membership is open to anyone who is interested in reducing crime and who is willing to assist us in making Toronto a safer city for everyone. CPAT continues to extend official membership status, beyond our Board of Directors, to the community, other non-profit groups and corporations. This new initiative will increase the numbers of recognized members and assist us in offering all of our programs. Your support is greatly appreciated. Members will receive a membership card and will receive this newsletter, in addition to an invitation to our Annual General Meeting. Get involved and support your local charitable organization—your membership is important to CPAT. **Please join us by filling out the convenient form enclosed in this newsletter.** Membership is \$10 for an individual/household; \$5 for a senior citizen; \$50 for a non-profit organization; and \$100 for a corporation. **If you are part of a Resident's Association, Rate Payers Group, Business Improvement Area or other group or corporation, please encourage them to become a member of CPAT.** Remember, your membership helps CPAT provide our programs in your community. If you are not already a member, please join. If you would like to make a donation, in addition to your membership fee, please feel free to do so and you will receive a charitable tax receipt of any contribution of \$10 or more.



New Project: Safety EVOLVES

CPAT is pleased to announce the approval of a Government of Canada grant, through the New Horizons for Seniors Program, for a new project "Safety EVOLVES." Safety Engaging Volunteers, Organizing Leaders, Valuing Every Senior is a new project which uses trained, multi-lingual volunteer seniors, aided by community leaders, who will conduct surveys of at-risk individuals aged 64+ to clarify and assess safety and security issues in Toronto. Safety EVOLVES will draw from CPAT's member and volunteer base, including the ABC's of Fraud volunteers who will participate in the planning and implementation of the project. CPAT is excited about this program and needs your help. **If you would like to volunteer with this project or if you are a community member who works with seniors and wishes to participate in the project please contact the office.** CPAT will offer free Senior Safety presentations, along with ABC's of Fraud presentations to seniors, along with the distribution of the survey. This will educate seniors on crime prevention and safety, while valuing their input on these issues.

Neighbours' Night Out



The Neighbours' Night Out program, is a fun and easy way to get to know your neighbours and help create a safe community. Neighbours' Night Out is officially **June 16th, 2009**, however you can still participate on a different day. It is time to start planning your local event. Neighbours are encouraged to hold small parties or gatherings with people in their area, on their street or in their building. CPAT would like to encourage you and your community to participate. By registering your residential event with us, CPAT can submit a request for your local Police, Fire, and City Councillors to attend. CPAT staff will also attend some events. Since the program began over a quarter of a million residents around the GTA have participated. Neighbours Night Out provides an opportunity for neighbours, families, friends, and community groups to have a fun night and get to know each other, while building community spirit. This type of program is crime prevention through social development. **Please fill out the convenient registration form enclosed in this newsletter and send it back to CPAT before May 25th, 2009.**

Join the CPAT Board of Directors



Like most non-profit organizations, CPAT is governed by a Volunteer Board of Directors. CPAT is looking for new volunteers to join the CPAT Board of Directors. We are looking for committed and dedicated individuals with an interest in crime prevention and community safety. We would like to diversify and increase our board members and are looking for individuals who represent the communities we serve. We are looking for individuals with varying skills and experience to assist us with advising and working on the organizational mandate and goals. Responsibilities include attending monthly board meetings, participating in CPAT events and actively becoming involved in committee and board functions, including fundraising. By joining the board you will be making a difference in your community. **If you are interested in joining the Board please send a cover letter and resume for consideration** to: Gemma Broderick: Executive Director by email gemma@cpatoronto.org, by mail 17 Fairmeadow Avenue, Suite 206, Toronto, ON M2P 1W6 or by fax 416-225-2340.

Bowling Fundraising Event

CPAT hosted it's first successful bowling fundraising event. This was a great opportunity for participants to have a fun family afternoon bowling while supporting CPAT, which is a registered charity and non-profit organization. The event took place at O'Connor Bowl, 1401 O'Connor Drive in Toronto, on Saturday December 13 from 4-6pm. There was bowling, a silent auction and a raffle. It was a fun afternoon with CPAT staff, Board of Directors, volunteers and community members. The Toronto Police Service also attended, so it was a great way to connect with local officers. Thank you to everyone who attended and participated! CPAT raised approximately \$1000 and this money will support local crime prevention initiatives and programs that CPAT provides. To see pictures from this event please visit SNAP at <http://snapnorthyork.com/display/67745/2042/> **CPAT is planning another bowling event this year and details will be provided closer to the date.** CPAT is looking forward to your participation in this fundraising event!



EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY SITUATIONS Call 9-1-1

- Homicide
- Serious injury
- Assaults
- Serious accident
- Robbery
- Officer needs help
- Shots fired
- Suspicious person
- Burglary
- Fire or explosion
- Weapons
- Drug Dealing
- Theft (In Progress)
- Crime in progress

NON-EMERGENCY SITUATIONS Call (416) 808-2222

- Noise Complaint
- Dog running loose
- Lost or recovered property
- Theft (after the fact)



(formerly known as Crime Concern)

THE CRIME PREVENTION ASSOCIATION OF TORONTO (416) 225-1102



CRIME STOPPERS 416-222-tips (8477)

Call to give anonymous information about a crime.



DISTRESS CENTRE (416) 408-4938



PHONEBUSTERS 1-888-495-8501