



CYBER THREATS - TIPS AND CONSIDERATIONS

The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) wants you to protect yourself from cyber threats that may be occurring during the COVID-19 pandemic. Highly publicized events such as this can make individuals and organizations the target of email, telephone and cyber scams. During these times of increased vulnerability, learn how to best protect yourself with the information and resources provided below.

What does a scam look like?

Be aware of unexpected emails, texts, and phone calls, especially when they are trying to gather personal, financial, and/or password information. Some examples include:

- Requests for money to raise funds for those affected by COVID-19
- Emails and phone calls that sound urgent or suggest you may owe money
- Attachments from email addresses that you do not recognize or were not expecting
- Spelling errors in the subject line and body of the email
- If you receive a suspicious phone call, voice message or text, do not respond and disengage immediately (hang up or delete the message).

How can I protect myself?

- Be wary of 'official' emails that are sent from non-official governmental or organizational websites
- If an email contains links or attachments, do not click but hover your mouse over the text of the attachment to see where the link might direct you - if the link seems suspicious, close the email and delete it
- If something seems suspicious, trust your instincts and do not engage with the potential scam
- Most importantly, only trust emails from senders you trust

What can I do if I have been scammed?

- Report the incident to the **Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501** or directly to their Fraud Reporting Center at the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre
- Contact your bank and credit card company and inform them of the fraudulent encounter
- Reset your email, social media and online banking account passwords

Resources:

Stay up to date on current and active scams at:

- <https://antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/index-eng.htm>
- <https://www.cyber.gc.ca/en/alerts-advisories>

Protect yourself:

- <https://antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/protect-protegez-eng.htm>
- <https://www.getcybersafe.gc.ca/index-en.aspx>

