



CANADIAN ANTI-FRAUD CENTRE BULLETIN

Threatening Mail Scam

2021-02-04

FRAUD: RECOGNIZE, REJECT, REPORT

The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre is receiving reports of an ongoing fraud in British Columbia where citizens are receiving threatening letters that claim the letter contained a controlled substance and if payment is not made they face death.

The letters are received from unknown senders and are trying to extort a payment from the recipients. The letters ask for recipients to make payment via Bitcoin and provide a Bitcoin address and associated QR code to use to make payment.

In some instances, a white powder has been found loose in the letter when the receiver has opened the letter. None of the letters have resulted in anyone being harmed from the white powder inside the letter, however the public can continue to keep themselves safe by doing the following:

- Immediately put the letter, envelope and contents in a sealable bag, either a sandwich bag or freezer bag;
- Sanitize the area where you opened the letter;
- Wash your hands; and
- Call the police about the letter.

A copy of the letter can be found here: <https://coquitlam.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=2115&languageId=1&contentId=67208>

How to protect yourself

- If you receive a letter, contact your police service immediately.
- Do not send money.
- Learn [more tips and tricks for protecting yourself from fraud](#).

If you think you or someone you know has been a victim of fraud, please contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501 or report online at www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca.



Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Gendarmerie royale du Canada



Competition Bureau
Canada

Bureau de la concurrence
Canada



Ontario Provincial Police

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