

Weyburn Police Service
Media Release December 17th, 2015

Fraud Awareness

The Weyburn Police Service is advising the public to be aware of internet and telephone frauds, after what appears to be a recent increase in reported fraud incidents in Weyburn.

In the most recent incident a local resident had a cheque delivered from a person who lives outside of Saskatchewan with directions to deposit the cheque in their local account. Shortly after receiving the cheque they received a phone call from an individual who wished to know if the cheque had been cashed. In this case the victim became suspicious and advised the police so no money was sent to this individual.

How this fraud appears to work is an individual or group will contact a living person advising them they have won a lottery but to collect the money they will need to send funds usually in the form of a cheque to another person. It appears this other person is to deposit the cheque in their account and it is then they would have been told they would benefit financially if they forward the money to another account. This would then result in the local person being defrauded out the money.

The Weyburn Police Service has also seen a number of internet related frauds, where after the initial contact a relationship is formed between the person and the internet contact. Over time the victim is convinced to help their friend deal with an emergency or some other issue by sending money. This fraud too is often conducted through a local third party who has been convinced to help, usually through a fraudulent pretence.

What is common in these frauds is that they are using local individual's bank accounts to try to transfer the money, which may give the victim the reassurance that this transaction is in fact real. What needs to be remembered is if the deal appears too good to be true it probably is, and if you are contacted in any manner and then asked for money and you are not sure of the identity of the individual please contact your local police service.