

# Neighbourhood Watch



## ***March 2020 Bulletin***



## Neighbourhood Watch and COVID-19

COVID-19 may be everyone's focus right now, but that does not make Neighbourhood Watch any less important at the moment!

Neighbourhood Watch will still be up and running, however, no community meetings will be scheduled until further notice. Any local social events your Neighbourhood Watch may be hosting should also be put on hold for the time being. Any additional in-person interactions for Neighbourhood Watch purposes are also not required or recommended at this time.

Things we can do for Neighbourhood Watch amidst COVID-19:

- Continue to look after each other and each other's properties. This is especially true for any of your residents that might be overseas at the moment.
- Keep in touch with any seniors or vulnerable persons, offering any support you can while upholding social distance as much as possible.
- Continue to be vigilant of your CPTED and day-to-day practices. COVID-19 is no reason to get complacent!
- Continue to keep in touch and keep reporting what you see! Electronic communications are going to be very handy at this time!
- Be kind! This is an anxious time for everyone, and people will be reacting in different ways. Be patient and supportive with each other.

Please continue to be safe out there. You already know all the best practices for COVID-19 (wash your hands, practice social distancing, etc), so let's also do our parts as individuals and as Neighbourhood Watch communities to flatten the curve.







# Fraud Prevention Month



March is Fraud Prevention Month. Fraud can be defined as theft through deceitful means. They have most recently taken the form of email and phone frauds, and are becoming more and more common. We hope to arm you with the information you need to protect yourself from falling victim! Have a look at the tips below:

- Who is this organization or entity calling you? Do you have any reason to expect a phone call or email from them?
- What are they requesting from you? Government and CRA will never request payment or personal information over phone or email.
- How are you being addressed? If you are addressed with a generic title (ex. Dear Customer"), chances are the contact is not legitimate (government, banks, CRA would know who you are!)
- Is someone offering you money for almost no work on your end? If it seems too good to be true, it's because it is!



Ask yourself these questions if you receive a phone call or email that seems suspicious. These will help you determine if the communication is legitimate or fraudulent. When in doubt, you should also call the agency contacting you at their verified contact information. Any fraud calls or emails may also be reported to Peel Regional Police!

PS - There ARE fraud schemes looking to capitalize on COVID-19. Don't fall for them!



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