

Mail Scam Circulating in Western Canada

November 25, 2009 - Interac Association

A promotional letter wrongfully associated with Interac has been circulating in Western Canada. Please be advised that this letter is not from Interac. Consumers are advised to disregard this letter as it is mail fraud. Interac security experts are investigating the matter.

Mail fraud is a type of scam perpetrated when fraudsters masquerade as a legitimate person or business. They send out letters for the purpose of taking advantage of people either financially, or for the purpose of acquiring personal and/or financial information that is later used to commit fraud.

The promotional letter in question notifies the debit cardholder that they have won a cash prize as part of a computer rewards program. A seemingly legitimate cheque is enclosed along with instructions to use the cheque to pay 'clearance fees' on the prize. Unfortunately, the cheque does not clear, and the recipient is then out of pocket for the money they sent to process their "prize".

Consumers who have been victimized by this scam should report their losses to RECOL (Reporting Economic Crimes Online) at <http://www.recol.ca/>.