



News release

Minister Keith Ashfield cautions Canadians to keep their tax information safe

Ottawa, Ontario, March 2, 2010... The Honourable Keith Ashfield, Minister of National Revenue, Minister of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, and Minister for the Atlantic Gateway, encourages all Canadians to visit the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) Web site to learn about ways to protect their tax information and avoid being a victim of fraud.

“Unfortunately, difficult economic times can lead to an increase in the number of fraudulent activities that affect law-abiding Canadians,” said Minister Ashfield. “Our Government, through the Economic Action Plan, has established initiatives to help Canadians educate themselves in identifying fraud and safeguarding their personal information in order to protect themselves and their families. Initiatives like Canada’s Task Force on Financial Literacy will help create a cohesive national strategy to support the improvement of financial education.”

The CRA regularly issues warnings and tax alerts to advise taxpayers of fraudulent schemes and provides information to help Canadians keep their tax information secure and up to date. This information and advice is offered on the CRA Web site at www.cra.gc.ca for the easy reference of taxpayers. It includes advice on how Canadians can protect themselves from fraud by:

- keeping personal information safe;
- being wary of unsolicited phone calls or email;
- registering for the My Account service;
- being cautious when selecting a tax preparer, or tax advisor; and
- seeking information and advice from trusted sources when something sounds too good to be true.

March is Fraud Prevention Month in Canada and around the world. Visit www.cra-arc.gc.ca to learn more about the dangers of fraud, and how you can recognize, report, and stop it.

For media information, contact:

Noël Carisse
Media Relations
Canada Revenue Agency
613-952-9184

Erin Filliter
Director of Communications
Office of the Minister of National Revenue
613-996-9301



Canada Revenue
Agency

Agence du revenu
du Canada

Canada