

## **FRAUD ALERT – Fraud attempt using Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) indicators**

An email has recently been circulating to members, and it falsely claims to be from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). The email will ask the user to send along their social insurance, credit card, bank account and passport numbers to assist in an online identity theft investigation. They are told that until they provide their sensitive personal information, the refund or benefit payment to which they are entitled will not be dispensed. These emails are scams, and should be dismissed immediately.

According to the CRA website, the CRA will **never** do the following:

- request personal information of any kind by email;
- divulge taxpayer information to another person unless formal authorization is provided by the taxpayer;
- leave any personal information on an answering machine; or
- ask a taxpayer to call back to a long distance number.

CRA contact numbers will always be local or toll-free. Additional information and examples are available on the [website](#).

*If you have any questions on these, or any other fraud-related matters, or want to report a potential scheme, do not hesitate to contact Cynthia Nield at [cnield@lians.ca](mailto:cnield@lians.ca) or call 423-1300, ext. 346*