

Online Dating & Romance Scams

Tips for Seniors

(Infographic)



Romance fraudsters use dating and social networking sites to contact their victims. They create accounts using stolen photos and back stories that often suggest they work in the military, overseas or in business. They profess their love to gain victims' trust and, eventually their money.

What are the signs?

Beware of:

- 01 Profiles that seem too perfect.**
- 02 Someone you haven't met in person professes their love to you.**
- 03 People who claim to be wealthy, but need to borrow money.**
- 04 Any attempts to meet in person get cancelled.**
- 05 A person who discourages you from talking about them to friends & family.**



What to do:

- **Slow down.** Don't send money or invest with someone you just met online and have never seen before in-person.
- **Talk to a trusted friend or family member for their opinion.** A friend or family member can give you valuable, objective feedback.
- **Ask them for a recent photo or do a video call.** If the person is real, they should be open to sharing their real photo with you or by video call.
- **Don't share any compromising material** that can be used to blackmail you.
- **Be very careful** about how much personal information you share on social nets and dating sites.

STATISTICS:



Losses:

\$50.3 million

Lost to romance scams in 2023



Reports:

1,135



Victims:

945

Source: Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre Bulletin (CAFC) - 2024-01-17

For more information

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Sources:

Getsmarteraboutmoney.ca
<https://www.getsmarteraboutmoney.ca>
Government of Canada
www.cyber.gc.ca



Elder Abuse
Prevention
Ontario

