

Protect yourself from common scams

Some of the most convincing scams start with a knock at the door or a call out of the blue.



Door-to-door scams

Someone shows up at your door claiming to be from a charity, a contractor offering urgent repairs, or a salesperson with a prize or free offer.

Example: A “contractor” says your roof is damaged and offers a quick fix for cash on the spot.

- Stop. Think. Don’t feel pressured to agree.
- Don’t be afraid to say no.
- Be cautious of anything “free.”
- Always get a second opinion or quote, especially if you can’t see the damage.
- Donate only through verified websites or by contacting the charity directly.



Phone scams

You get a call claiming to be from the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), Amazon, your bank, or even the police. The message sounds urgent—maybe you owe money, a large purchase was made on your account, or law enforcement is on the way.

Example: A caller claims you owe back taxes and threatens arrest unless you pay immediately with gift cards.

- Hang up immediately.
- Never share personal or financial information.
- Do your own research—many scams are flagged online.
- Log in through official apps or websites, not links in messages.
- Set up alerts on your bank and credit cards.

If you think you’ve been targeted

Act fast, even if you’re unsure

Contact the police

Report any suspicious activity immediately to Manulife and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre

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