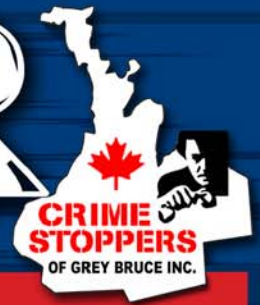


# TIPSTER



Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce

WINTER 2024

## THE PUPPY MILL EXPLOSION

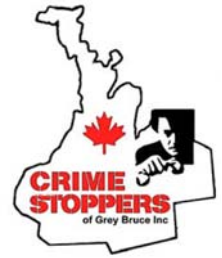


January is Crime Stoppers Month  
DONATE - VOLUNTEER - CALL



# WINTER 2024 EDITION

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**Keep your community safe**  
 January is Crime Stoppers Month and here is how it started and how it works today.

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**MAJOR THEFT OF CONSTRUCTION AND FARM EQUIPMENT**  
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**SUSPICIOUS FIRES IN THRONBURY RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION SITE**  
**(BLUE MOUNTAINS)** On November 30, 2023 Police and Fire attended a residential construction site fire in the Town of the Blue Mountains (Craig Leith). The following day a second fire was started by unknown person(s).

**FIVE MOTOR VEHICLES STOLEN**  
*Police are Seeking the Public's Assistance*  
**(CHATSWORTH, ON)** - Police are investigating theft of five motor vehicles from a property on the Grey Bruce Line in Chatsworth Township within a period of two days.

**MAJOR THEFT OF ALCOHOL IN DUNDALK**  
**(DUNDALK, ON)** Three individuals filled two shopping baskets with alcohol and exited the store with no attempt to pay. The value of the stolen goods is in excess of \$1000.

**THEFT OF TRAILER AND TOOLS**  
**(GREY HIGHLANDS, ON)** - On December 1, 2023, at 10:02 a.m., Police investigated the theft of a trailer and other various tools from a property on Grey Road 14 in Grey Highlands. (Southwest of Flesherton). The value of stolen goods is around \$40,000.



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 President - Peter Reid  
 Editor - Morley Lymburner  
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P.O. Box 1119  
 Owen Sound, ON N4K 6K6  
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The foundation of Crime Stoppers is the partnership between the community, law enforcement and media. Creating awareness and mobilizing Canadians in reporting suspicious or criminal activity anonymously requires a network of partners working together for a common end.

Crime Stoppers provides citizens with a vehicle to anonymously supply the police with information about a crime or potential crime they are aware of. Cash Rewards are offered to people who contact the program to report any type of criminal activity and their information assists law enforcement in their investigation.

### Who administers the Crime Stoppers Program?

A local Board of Directors, drawn from a volunteer base across Grey and Bruce Counties, actively administers and is responsible for the program.

The Crime Stoppers program is a non-profit organization and is responsible for raising funds and the disbursement of rewards.

Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce is also a registered charity.

The Board of Directors works in close cooperation with law enforcement and all areas of the media. The Board works in concert with a Program Coordinator who handles the tips and other duties, depending on the needs of the local program. Depending on the size of the program, there may be additional staff to support the program and the Board of Directors.

### How is the Crime Stoppers program funded?

Crime Stoppers is a Community Project supported by donations of money, goods or services. Contributions from individuals, corporations, clubs, professional associations, retailers, civic and social groups keep the Crime Stoppers program functional. Donations to a Crime Stoppers Program may be tax deductible.

### How did Crime Stoppers begin?

In July 1976, in Albuquerque New Mexico, a university student was killed during a gas station robbery. After 6 weeks of investigation, the police had few leads. Police investigators believed that if the public was able to observe a re-enactment of the crime on television, this might lead to a citizen providing information that would lead to an arrest. An anonymous phone line was set up, and a cash reward of \$300 was offered for information that led to an arrest.

They were right. A caller contacted the anonymous phone number the next day after seeing the re-enactment. The tip information was enough to lead the police to the two men who were responsible. Within 72 hours of the re-enactment being aired, the police had solved the murder. This was the beginning of Crime Stoppers.

There are now Crime Stoppers programs around the globe. Hundreds of thousands of crimes have been solved as a result and billions of dollars in stolen property and narcotics have been seized.

### How does Crime Stoppers work?

The Crime Stoppers tip line is staffed by trained personnel who receive, process, and relay tip information to investigating officers. Callers are given a code which is used in all subsequent calls, and callers do not have to identify themselves.

A reward of up to \$2,000 is offered to anyone providing information which leads to an arrest for a crime. Rewards may also be offered for information leading to the recovery of stolen property, the seizure of illegal drugs or an arrest on an outstanding warrant.

Media is a very important component of Crime Stoppers. An unsolved crime may be re-enacted and shown on television, may be publicized in a newspaper, aired on the radio or shared through digital media. The media also brings the program to the attention of the public.

# The Puppy Mill Explosion

*Grey and Bruce Counties bursting with puppy mills and abandoned animals*



*by Morley Lymburner*

Puppy Mills have been a major concern for many years but the quantity leaped dramatically through the COVID years. Even before COVID Grey and Bruce Counties were pointed out by media as having the largest concentration of puppy mills in Ontario. Today the problem is staggering.

During the COVID years many people were isolated and/or stressed for money and saw the lucrative opportunities in breeding and selling puppies too tempting to resist. More so when they discovered the lack of appropriate laws and a lack-lustre enforcement program from the Province.

Many puppy mill breeders place profit over animal welfare. They churn out puppies of various breeds or mixes at a rapid rate. Some puppy mills are run out of farms but during COVID their occurrence in towns, villages and cities became increasingly dominant.

## ***The Profit Motivation***

“The temptation of making a lot of money easily was too much for some people”, says West Grey Animal Control Officer Cheryl Roberts. “Before COVID, a pure-bred puppy might sell for \$500 to \$800. Today the same puppy could be sold for up to \$2,000.”

Roberts points out that quite often people find animals that are delivered in a sick condition and the breeder will lower the price and the customer thinks it is a deal. When taken to a veterinarian the owner finds

they are paying several thousands for treatment. Complaints to the breeder go nowhere and in many cases the animal is euthanized.

Because profit is the goal, the living conditions of the dogs and puppies are unsanitary and cramped. Dogs are often kept in small cages or pens. It’s all about volume rather than quality of life.

“Most people do not understand the importance of socializing a dog,” says Roberts. “Once deprived of socialization they can ‘act-out’ and become vicious. They will bite and fight with other dogs. In many cases this behaviour is not reversible.”

Puppies from puppy mills are often sold through pet stores but increasing number of municipalities are banning sales of puppies at pet stores to stem the tide of commercial breeding. In response to this crackdown, many puppy mills have moved online, advertising their puppies for sale on web sites and social media.

## ***Uncontrolled Breeding***

Puppy mills are not only bad for the breeding dogs and puppies born and raised there, but they also damage the entire dog population. Inadequate healthcare, lack of attention to genetic problems, poor nutrition, and living conditions will severely affect long-term health and behaviour. Sick or injured dogs are often left to endlessly suffer or die.

Puppy mills do not perform genetic or health testing on dogs they breed, which can result in genetically-based conditions such as hip dysplasia, heart and eye defects, which can be passed down from genera-





tion to generation.

The breeding females are bred repeatedly with each heat cycle and without time between litters to fully recover. This is very stressful on their bodies. In some cases the puppies are prematurely weaned from the mother, which causes emotional trauma to both the mother dog and puppies. When the females are no longer able to produce puppies they are usually auctioned off, abandoned, or euthanized.

### ***Behavioural Concerns***

For puppies, early life experiences and learning is integral to lifelong behaviour. Once born in a puppy mill environment, they lack regular human socialization. Studies have shown that for the puppies coming out of these environments, there is a significantly higher rate of compulsive behaviours, extreme fear, phobias, and decreased trainability.

Adult dogs rescued from a puppy mill are often so psychologically damaged that training, and behaviour modification, requires an intensive and lifelong commitment. They have never learned how to live in a “normal” home.

### ***How To Spot A Puppy Mill***

There are a few red flags to watch out for that can mean a puppy is coming from a puppy mill:

- You are not permitted to see the “home” or kennel where the puppy was raised.
- You are not permitted to meet the parents of the puppy.
- The breeder seems to have multiple breed mixes available from their kennel, especially “exotic” or

“in-demand” breed mixes.

- Cheaper than usual pricing for that breed or extremely expensive pricing.
- The breeder seems to always have puppies available.
- There is no puppy contract or paperwork required to purchase the puppy.
- They offer puppies at ages younger than eight weeks old.
- There are no records or veterinary exams, and the vaccines are not given by a veterinarian. Puppy mills say they will vaccinate the puppies themselves.
- The puppy is posted for sale online or on social media.

### ***How To Avoid Puppy Mills***

You want your new puppy set up for success, and where they come from sets the foundation. Do a lot of research and ask a lot of questions.

- Do not purchase a puppy from a pet store.
- If you know the dog breed you want, connect with the local and national breed clubs for a list of breeders they may recommend.
- Go to local dog shows and events to connect with dog breeders and see their dogs in action. Talk to spectators or participants for recommendations for a reputable local breeder.
- Ask for referrals of previous purchasers.
- Ask the breeder what health and genetic testing they have done on the breeding pair.
- Ask about vaccinations and veterinary care and make sure you get paperwork that backs this up.
- Ask to see where the puppies are raised and to meet the puppies’ mother.
- Be ready to wait. Responsible breeders will likely have a waiting list so they can space out their litters to ensure the mother’s health and early life-learning of each litter.

“Animal shelters are extremely full and actually overflowing,” says Roberts. “A lot of people want to turn in the animals they got during COVID and when they call a shelter they are put on a waiting list to turn them in. There is just no space.”

Roberts suggests you talk with your local animal shelter about the breed you’re interested in. You may be surprised to find the right fit.

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**Anyone wanting to report abuses of animals are encouraged to contact Ontario’s Provincial Animal Welfare Services (PAWS) call centre at 1-833-926-4625 (1-833-9-ANIMAL), or if people want to remain anonymous they can call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS. Your identity will be completely concealed. You can also use the P3 App available for your Android device.**

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# Crime Stopper's Donor Membership program

by Drew Kalte

Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce has launched a new program that allows the community to offer support by purchasing a Donor Membership. Donor Members receive a tax receipt for the amount of their membership as well as a decal to help promote the Crime Stoppers program in their community and recognize the



donor's contribution.

In addition donors will receive a continuing subscription to *Tipster Magazine*, Crime Stoppers electronic publication featuring a compilation of crimes and wanted persons in the region. Corporate donors will receive recognition in the publication and a certificate of support suitable for display in their facility.

Donators are assured that 100 per cent of donations go toward the operation of Crime Stoppers within Grey and Bruce counties and making their communities safer. In Grey and Bruce alone Crime Stoppers tips have resulted in over fifty million dollars of drugs being seized; over four million dollars of stolen property recovered; and thousands of arrests from over eighteen thousand tips.

Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce is a registered charity governed by a volunteer Board of Directors that relies on fundraising activities, and the generosity of the community, to keep this valuable program in operation.



# Mid-Life Crisis Dance Well Attended



In celebration of the end of season fundraising efforts Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce hosted a party and dance at the Owen Sound Legion on October 14. The event was well attended with entertainment supplied by the Mid-Life Crisis Band.

In addition to the normal 'sock-hop' music from the 50's, 60's and 70's the Owen Sound area band provided a full, clean mix of originals and covers of songs from bands like Tom Petty, The Rolling Stones, Steppenwolf, Johnny Cash, the Doobie Brothers and Steve Miller Band. The entertainment kept everyone dancing all night long.



Band Leader Ed Stengel asking folks to bail him out..

Highlights of the evening included a silent auction of goods and services along with an opportunity to put someone in jail and take bids from the audience to "Post Bail" for the "prisoners". The Bail-a-Thon was quite popular with the band frontman Ed Stengel, and a few of the guests, spending time in the jail for a fun time.

The evening finale included the seasonal 50/50 draw. During the summer season Crime Stoppers attended Car Tours and shows in the Grey and Bruce region and sold seasonal 50/50 tickets with the final winner revealed at the Mid-Life Crisis Dance. The final winner was Peggy of Bruce County who went home \$1,917.50 richer.

The Crime Stoppers Fund Raising event produced just under \$4,000 toward the work of reducing crime in Grey and Bruce Counties.



# CRIME STOPPERS WATCH BOARD

Major theft of farm and construction equipment  
*Local Markdale business suffers \$200,000 loss*



VIN# 1D9BG5326N1609302



VIN# 1T0323EAJEG262450



VIN# HFJ015631



VIN# GHL04840A00410653



VIN# B117318 – Tag # 1004



Tag # 1058



(GREY HIGHLANDS, ON) - The Grey Bruce Ontario Provincial Police responded to a report that a trailer and farm tractors were stolen from a business on Highway 10 in the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

Police report the theft involved a trailer and a number of farm vehicles. Video surveillance shows that this occurred on November 10, 2023, at 3:01 a.m. It appears that a transport truck with sleeper unit hooked up to and stole a large flat bed trailer which was loaded with farm equipment to be shipped out.

The value of the stolen goods is in region of \$200,000.

It is believed that these items drove through the village of Flesherton shortly after the incident occurred and anyone with a dash or door camera are requested to check them.

- Trailer – Michigan Plate: E400436. 2002 Doonan, Silver. Owner: Ralph Ulrich Trucking.
- Massey Ferguson 66 3 Furrow Plow. Tag # 256 – Serial Number: 002360.
- Befco 13-9BL-060 5 FT Land Pulveriser – Tag# 1605.

- Ford 3000 Tractor – VIN# Number B117318 – Tag # 1004.
  - Vicon Fertilizer Spreader - \$300.00 – Tag # 308.
  - Agco Allis 6670 Tractor.
  - John Deere 323E Track Loader
  - Case IH JX55 Tractor
  - Horst 6FT Manure Bucket Quick Attach for Skid Steer VIN# 14LA28899.
  - GEHL 4840 E Series Skid Steer
- Suspect vehicles were caught on video cameras on November 10, 2023 at 2:46 AM.

Check the  
 VIN's at  
 CSTIP.CA



1-800-222-TIPS (8477)

CSTIP.CA

## THEFT OF SEMI-TRUCK



**(TOWN OF MINTO, ON)** -Wellington County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating the theft of a semi-truck from an address on Highway 23, Minto. It was reported that between 1:00 a.m., and 7:00 a.m., on December 8, 2023, a white 2017 Volvo semi-truck was stolen.

## CAMSafe Program Launches in Grey Bruce

**(Grey Bruce, ON)** The Grey Bruce Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) has implemented the CAMSafe program. This is a program aimed at creating a database of residential and commercial security cameras within a community that may act as a resource for police when investigating offences/crime.

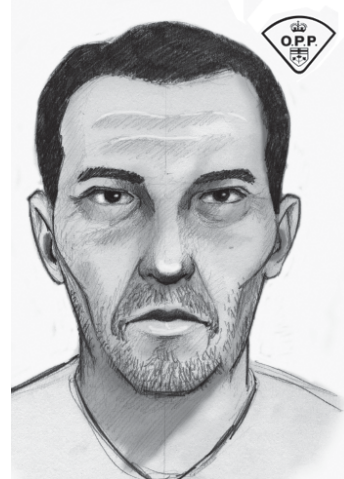
A number of other policing agencies and communities have come on board over the past several months, including Peterborough, Hanover, Saugeen Shores and Kawartha Lakes police services.

When a police officer uses the CAMSafe database they will see a map of the local area. Officers can click on registered addresses to view further details, such as property owner contact information. Officers cannot access your security cameras or cloud-based accounts. If police would like to examine camera footage, they can make a request to the property owner using contact information from the database.

Interested community members are only required to provide basic contact information and camera location. Registrants can delete their account or change their information at any time.

To learn more about the CAMSafe program and to register security cameras please visit [camsafe.ca](http://camsafe.ca)

## INDECENT ACT UNDER INVESTIGATION



**(SOUTH HURON, ON)** - Huron County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating an indecent act that took place during the early evening of Thursday July 27th.

An adult female was walking a dog around 7:15 PM on South Road when a light-coloured sedan or sport utility vehicle (SUV) drove up to and stopped near the female. The male suspect was alone in their vehicle and honked the horn to get the female's attention. The suspect made inappropriate requests to the female while exposing himself. The victim was not injured during the interaction. The suspect then drove away and was last seen travelling southbound on Goshen Line, toward North Middlesex County.

A composite sketch was later completed, and the Huron OPP is requesting assistance from the public to identify this individual.

### SHOW 'N GO

#### CLASSIC CAR TOURS

CRIME STOPPERS OF GREY BRUCE

1-800-222TIPS - CSTIP.CA

<b>Bruce County</b> Classic Car Tour & Show <b>June 23, 2024</b> 1:00 PM Start	<b>Bruce Peninsula</b> Classic Car Tour & Show <b>August 11, 2024</b> 1:00 PM Start	<b>Fall Colour</b> Classic Car Tour & Show <b>September 29, 2024</b> 1:00 PM Start
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MORE DETAILS AND ROUTE MAPS AT [www.CSTIP.CA](http://www.CSTIP.CA)



## THEFT OF TRAILER



**Ontario Licence X7755C**

(GREY HIGHLANDS, ON) - On the afternoon of November 13, 2023, the Grey Bruce Ontario Provincial Police responded to a report that a trailer was stolen from a business on Highway 10 in the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

Upon investigating police believe the theft of a trailer occurred between November 11, 2023, at 5:00 p.m., and November 13, 2023, at 8:00 a.m.

The trailer described as 2009 black JDJ APD 2 axle 18ft flat deck trailer with Ontario marker #X7755C.

## ROBBERY

### Police are Seeking the Public's Assistance *Attempted Robbery in Shallow Lake*

(GEORGIAN BLUFFS, ON) - On October 15, 2023, at approximately 8:53 p.m. Police responded to a robbery at a business on Princess Street in Georgian Bluffs. It was reported that one individual, armed with a firearm, entered the business, and attempted to get the cashier to hand over cash.



The suspect is described as male, 5'10"- 6' tall, wearing full covered camouflage from head to toe and a full-face mask.

The investigation is ongoing. If anyone has surveillance footage, including video doorbell systems, or dashcam video from the surrounding area in the time leading up to and following the incident, please contact Police at 1-888-310-1122

**HATE IS NOT ANONYMOUS...  
YOUR CALL IS**

**1-800-222-TIPS (8477)  
www.cstip.ca**

**RACISM & HATE**

**CRIME STOPPERS**  
of Grey Bruce Inc.  
1-800-222-TIPS (8477)  
www.cstip.ca

## GREEN ARCTIC CAT ATV STOLEN



VIN# 4uF1A4GB2NT201560

(GREY HIGHLANDS, ON) - On October 1, 2023, at 10:34 a.m., the Grey Bruce Ontario Provincial Police responded to a report of a theft of an ATV. It was determined that between September 30, 2023, at 10:00 p.m., and October 1, 2023, at 10:20 a.m. that the ATV was taken from a property on Grey Road 4 in the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

The ATV is described as a 2022 Green Arctic Cat Alterra.

## THEFT OF TOOLS

(ELDERSLIE TWP, ON) - On November 27, 2023, at 9:49 a.m., Police received a theft report from an address along Concession 6 in Elderslie Township.

Some time between 1:00 a.m. on November 27, 2023, and 5:00 a.m. on November 27, 2023, a large quantity of tools were taken.

The list of stolen property includes:

- Topcon laser level
- Benchmark generator

- Metabo power nailer
  - Stihl quick saw
  - Quantity of Milwaukee tools
  - Large quantity of Dewalt tools
- The value of theft is estimated to be \$15,000.

## TRAILER AND TOOLS STOLEN



Ontario Licence Plate M9918H

(GREY HIGHLANDS, ON) - On December 1, 2023, at 10:02 a.m., Police investigated the theft of a trailer and other various tools from a property on Grey Road 14 in Grey Highlands. (Southwest of Flesherton).

It was determined that sometime between 7:00 p.m. on November 30, 2023, and 7:00 a.m. on December 1, 2023, unknown individual(s) attended the address and removed the trailer and tools.

The trailer is described as a 2015 white streamline trailer, 8 x 20' dual axle trailer. The trailer was filled with various tools including cordless drills, power saws, rib saws, nailers, screws, and handheld tools. Other items taken were two welders, welding shields, a steel saw and an impact drill. The value of stolen items is approximately \$40,000.



## DROP US A CLUE

Use the P3 Mobile Tips App  
on your Android Device  
or call

# 1-800-222-TIPS



REWARDS  
UP TO  
\$2,000



## Suspicious Fires in Blue Mountains Residential Construction Site



**(BLUE MOUNTAINS, ON)** - Members of Collingwood and Blue Mountains detachments of the Ontario Provincial Police along with the Crime Unit and the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office are investigating suspicious fires in the Town of the Blue Mountains.

On November 30, 2023 at approximately 5:40 am Police attended the area of 190 Crosswinds Boulevard in the Town of the Blue Mountains (Craig Leith) for a structure fire. Upon arrival officers discovered homes

currently under construction were engulfed in flames.

On December 1, 2023 at approximately 10:45 p.m a second call sent the Blue Mountains Fire Department and Collingwood Fire Department to a structure fire in the area of Crosswinds Boulevard and Springside Crescent. Several houses, currently under construction, were found to be fully engulfed in flames. Although the fire is believed to be suspicious there were no injuries.

### FIVE MOTOR VEHICLES STOLEN

*Police are Seeking the Public's Assistance*



**(CHATSWORTH, ON)** - The Grey Bruce Ontario Provincial Police are investigating theft of five motor vehicles from a property on the Grey Bruce Line in Chatsworth Township within a period of two days.

On December 12, 2023, at 6:46 p.m., Police received a report three motor vehicles were stolen from a property on the Grey Bruce Line in Chatsworth Township. There was no video surveillance.

On December 13, 2023, at 8:05 a.m., police received a second report that two more motor vehicles were stolen from the same property. Through investigation, police located two of the vehicles at a near by property. The police obtained surveillance footage of the suspects and are seeking the public's assistance in identifying the individuals in these photos.

### TRAILER THIEF CAUGHT ON CAMERA



**Ontario Trailer Plate # A7253V**

**(MEAFORD, ON)** - The Grey Bruce Ontario Provincial Police responded to a report that a trailer was stolen from a property on Sykes Street North in the Municipality of Meaford.

On November 21, 2023, at 12:16 p.m., the police began investigating a theft of a trailer which occurred on November 20, 2023, at 6:33 p.m. The trailer is described as homemade black/wood utility trailer bearing Ontario Marker A7253V. Spare tire on right front. It is believed that an individual attached the trailer to a newer model white Ford Flex. The vehicle was observed heading west bound on Sykes Street North.

## Major theft of alcohol in Dundalk



(SOUTHGATE, ON) - The Grey Bruce Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to a call on November 6, 2023, at 6:35 p.m., regarding a theft of a quantity of alcohol from a business on Highway 10 in Dundalk.

It is reported that three individuals filled two shopping baskets with alcohol and exited the store with no attempt to pay. The value of the stolen goods is in excess of \$1000.

The individuals are described as male, in their 20's-30's, and departed in a newer model white Toyota Camry.

These same suspects committed a similar theft 30 minutes prior in the Town of Shelburne.

## YAMAHA ATV STOLEN

**VIN# JY43JMN09NA135133**

(DURHAM, ON) - The West Grey Police Service is reporting the theft of an ATV from an address along Park Street in Durham.

The vehicle was taken sometime overnight on December 9, 2023. It is described as a gray and blue 1992 Yamaha FSC ATV.

## Person of Interest to identify



(GREY HIGHLANDS, ON) - The Grey Bruce Ontario Provincial Police are looking for the public's assistance in identifying a person of interest.

On October 31, 2023, at 10:34 a.m., police began investigating a break and enter that occurred at a seasonal residence in Eugenia.

Police are asking for assistance in identifying the person of interest. They are described as:

- Female
- Caucasian
- Late 30's
- Dark brown or black hair
- Medium build
- Black hoodie and blue jeans

The suspect was driving a black Chevrolet Spark.

## STOLEN TENT TRAILER

**VIN# 1SAAS0AE2G2245060**

(KINCARDINE, ON) - On December 12, 2023, at 7:08 p.m., the South Bruce Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) received a theft report from an address along MacKendrick Drive in Kincardine.



**Likeness image**

Some time between 7:00 p.m. on December 11, 2023, and 12:00 p.m. on December 12, 2023, a White StarCraft pop-up Tent Trailer with licence # R8725M was taken. There is a "Thin Blue Line" sticker on the door and a "Wounded Warriors" sticker on the rear.



# The Twelve Scams of the HOLIDAY SEASON



*The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre wants to raise awareness*

*by David Hobson*

(MIDLAND, ON) - The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC) are continuing to raise the awareness of the various scams that they may encounter on the telephone or online.



The spirit of the holidays is a time of giving for most but, for scammers, it is a time of taking. The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC) highlights the most popular holiday scams so that you can recognize, reject, report and be merry.

The 12 scams of the holidays:

1. **Counterfeit Merchandise** - Look out for huge and flashy discount ads that direct you to websites that look like legitimate manufacturers. If you do receive any inferior/counterfeit products, they could pose significant health risks.
2. **Selling Goods & Services Online** - Be suspicious of customers offering to pay more than the asking price. When selling goods and services online, al-

ways confirm that you have received a legitimate payment before you send the product. Fraudsters will also target anyone selling a vehicle online; make sure to use reputable websites if a vehicle history report is required.

3. **Crypto Investments** - Fraudsters are using social media and fraudulent websites to promote fraudulent crypto investment opportunities. Prior to investing, always ask for information on the investment. Research the team behind the offering and analyze the feasibility of the project. Verify if the company is registered by using the National Registration Tool ([www.aretheyregistered.ca](http://www.aretheyregistered.ca)).
4. **Romance Scams** - An attractive fake identity lures you into a web of lies spun with loving messages and sweet promises. The fraudsters play on your emotions to get you to send them money for various, convincing reasons. Never send money to someone you have never met!
5. **Online Shopping** - Fraudsters pose as genuine sellers and post fake ads for items that do not exist. The listing price for almost any item (e.g. event ticket, rental, vehicle, puppy) is usually too good to be true. Research before you buy. Whenever possible, exchange goods in person or use your credit card for payment.

6. **Cellphone and Internet Service Provider Scam** - If you are looking to purchase a new cellphone this holiday season, don't fall for an incoming call claiming to be from your service provider. Always find the official phone number for your service provider and make the outgoing call.
7. **Secret Santa** - You may have noticed multiple gift exchange posts on your social media feeds. This may seem like a fun activity where you only have to send one gift and receive multiples in return. Unfortunately, this exchange collects some of your personal information and also hides a pyramid scheme where only those on the top profit. Pyramid schemes are illegal in Canada. To keep it safe, keep the exchanges to close friends and family and conduct them in person.
8. **Prize Notifications** - You may receive a letter or a call with the good news: "You've won millions and a car too! First, you just need to confirm your personal information and then cover a few fees before your winnings can be delivered." Remember: If you didn't enter a contest or raffle, you can't win. You also can't enter another country's lottery without purchasing a ticket from within that country. In Canada, if there are fees associated to a prize, they are removed from the total winnings; you would never be required to pay fees in advance.
9. **Emergency** - Is a supposed loved one reaching out to you because they need money now and you're the only one they trust to keep it a secret? Resist the urge to act immediately and verify the person's identity by making the outgoing call you have listed for them in your contact list.
10. **Gift Cards** - They are a popular and convenient way to give a gift. They should also be considered like cash; once they are exchanged, it is unlikely that you are getting your money back. Gift cards are not meant for payments and no legitimate business or organization will request these as payments; especially under pressure.
11. **Charity Scams** - During the season of giving, make

sure your donations are going to the right places. Charity/donation scams involve any false, deceptive, misleading or fraudulent solicitation for a donation to a charity, association, federation or religious cause. Refuse high pressure requests for donations, ask for written information about the charity and do your own research. Remember to always ask the solicitor for the charitable tax number and confirm their registration with the Canada Revenue Agency or by phone at 1-800-267-2384.

12. **Identity Theft and Identity Fraud** - In all the hustle and bustle of the season,

**DO:** keep your wallet on your person and always cover your PIN;

**DON'T:** share passwords or provide your personal information on impulse.

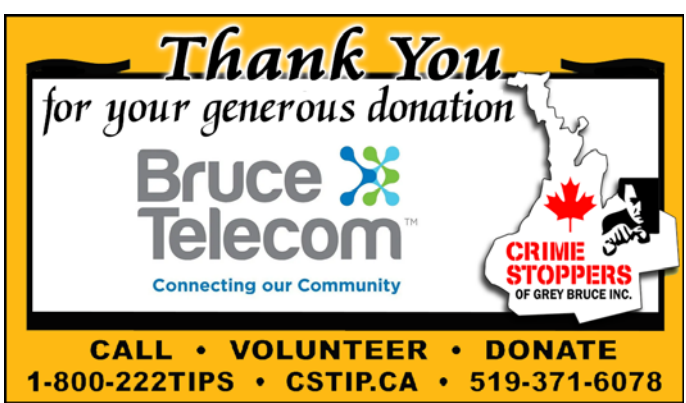
Fraudsters love a good shopping spree; especially when they're using someone else's name and money. Contact your financial institutions and credit bureaus, Equifax Canada and TransUnion Canada, as soon as you notice:

- a. Suspicious activity on your financial statement/s.
- b. Unauthorized activity on your credit report.
- c. Letters approving or declining credit applications you did not authorize.
- d. Re-routed mail.
- e. Bills from service providers you do not use.
- f. Your information was compromised as part of a database breach.
- g. What to do if you're a victim.
- h. Learn more tips and tricks for protecting yourself.

If you suspect you have been the victim of cybercrime or fraud report it to your local police and to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre's online reporting system or by phone at **1-888-495-8501**. If you are not the victim, report it to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre anyway.

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Constable David Hobson is the Media Officer from the Southern Georgian Bay Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police.







**CRIME STOPPERS**  
of Grey Bruce Inc  
**VOLUNTEER**

**HATE IS NOT ANONYMOUS...**  
**YOUR CALL IS**  
**CRIME STOPPERS**  
of Grey Bruce Inc



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**Grey and Bruce County Classic Car Tours**  
**June 23 - August 11 - Sept. 29**

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## Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce Inc.

P.O. Box 1119, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 6K6

**1-800-222-TIPS (8477)**  
Submit a Secure Web-Tip at [cstip.ca](http://cstip.ca) or get the P3 Tips Mobile App

Phone: 519 371-6078  
eMail: [crimestopgb@bmts.com](mailto:crimestopgb@bmts.com)

Fax: 519 371-1275  
Web: [crimestop-gb.org](http://crimestop-gb.org)







## *Friends of the Annual CSGB Golf Classic*

*On behalf of the Organizing Committee, good day to all.  
Please note the date has been set for the  
32nd Annual Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce Golf Tournament.  
As you make plans for 2024, we would ask that you consider your  
support of the 32nd Annual CSGB Golf Classic set to go:*

*Thursday, June 6, 2024*

*@ Saugeen Golf Club*

## *Celebrating 32 Years of Fundraising*

*Please save the date and note,  
official Entry Forms and Sponsorship Forms will follow in  
the New Year, as we prepare for the 32nd Annual CSGB Golf Classic.*

*Please Save the Date ... & Help Us Celebrate  
Thursday, June 6th, 2024*