

Subject: Online Scams

Now, more than ever, we all need to be vigilant for online scams.

The attached article covers a couple of situations where Canadians were scammed out of money, usually by watching online videos that use Artificial Intelligence that make it look like public officials and/or prominent people promoting crypto currency.

In two examples in the articles, they show videos, again created by Artificial Intelligence, showing the former Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland and Prime Minister Mark Carney promoting the benefits of investing in crypto currency. Several people lost tens of thousands of dollars in these scams and in total it is estimated that Canadians have lost over 100 million dollars due to these scams this year.

We have always needed to be vigilant on what we hear, see and read and now with Artificial Intelligence we all need to be even more watchful. **If you hear, see or read something, involving crypto currency or any other financial matter that seems too good to be true or is outside of current mainstream financial investments, reach out to someone that you trust (like me) to run it past them.** With these types of things, there is usually a very strong call to action (i.e. limited time only, investment opportunity will close soon, only a limited number of investment spots available, etc., etc.) that will try to encourage you to make a quick decision and investment. Often, waiting and asking for a second set of eyes to review the matter is better than one person's thoughts/opinions. Artificial intelligence is an incredible tool but there will be bad actors which will use it for their own personal gain.

If you have any questions or concerns, on the above or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you

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