

# — AVOID FRAUD —

## AND THEFT IN THE DIGITAL AGE

WITH 10 TIPS FROM CPA CANADA

### STRENGTHEN YOUR PASSWORDS

Avoid simple, commonly used passwords and create unique passwords for each of your accounts.



### SHRED PERSONAL DOCUMENTS

BEFORE DISPOSING

19% of Canadians admit to disposing of sensitive documents without shredding them. A single document can give fraudsters all they need to access and manipulate your personal information.



### SCREEN YOUR CALLS & TEXTS

37% of Canadians don't screen calls from unknown numbers. Whether it's a call from a fraudulent telemarketer, a questionable text message or an automated response asking for your information, avoid taking the bait and being lured into sharing your personal information with anyone except your trusted contacts.



### REVIEW YOUR CREDIT CARD AND BANKING TRANSACTIONS

AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH



Check on your accounts and spending regularly to catch suspicious activity early.

### KNOW YOUR APPROXIMATE CREDIT SCORE

(CREDIT RATING)

More than one third (36%) of Canadians surveyed admitted they do not know their credit score.

### RECEIVE E-MAIL & TEXT ALERTS FOR TRANSACTIONS

(BANK & CREDIT CARDS)

10% of Canadians do not check their bank or credit card account statements monthly. Make it easier to stay on top of spending by subscribing to receive alerts for every transaction on your bank or credit cards.



### INVEST IN IDENTITY THEFT INSURANCE



Identity theft insurance reimburses victims for many of the costly services required to restore their identity following a theft, yet 67% of Canadians are not insured.

### USE A VPN WHEN USING PUBLIC WIFI

(VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORK)



Only 22% of Canadians use a VPN on public networks. VPNs provide digital privacy and anonymity by creating a private, encrypted network even when used with public wi-fi.

### DO NOT USE SOCIAL MEDIA QUIZZES & GAMES THAT REQUIRE PERSONAL INFORMATION



24% of Canadians admit to providing their personal information to social media quizzes and games but, in many cases, the security of your information cannot be guaranteed by third-party developers.

### TEACH YOUR FAMILY ABOUT FRAUD RISKS

AND HOW TO AVOID FALLING VICTIM

Only 68% of Canadians with children are teaching them about fraud risks, yet children and the elderly are often targeted by fraudsters.

