

ROMANCE SCAMS

BREAKING UP WITH FRAUD

Are you worried about a loved one? Do you think they are being manipulated by a fraudster? There are resources available.



DO YOU KNOW A VICTIM OF A ROMANCE SCAM?



ASK THEM ABOUT IT

*What do they like about the relationship?
Do they have concerns?*



OFFER TO ACCOMPANY THEM IN THEIR PROCESS

*Direct them toward help resources, a banking institution, etc.
Recommend that they contact their police department.*



BE ATTENTIVE AND AVOID CONFRONTATION

*Bear in mind that the victim is being manipulated.
Feeling judged may hurt them and make them unwilling to accept help.*

Recognizing the problem and taking action takes time.

Keep the door open.

WHAT ARE ROMANCE SCAMS?

The scam begins with fraudsters creating fake profiles on social networking or online dating websites. They then show interest in developing a “serious” relationship with you. They may claim to be from Québec and traveling or working as consultants abroad.

They toy with your feelings by canceling in-person meetings under various pretexts: failure to obtain a visa, illness or loss of employment. Next, they try to extract money from you by getting you to make transfers, share prepaid card codes, send cheques by mail, etc.

They are quite crafty and, if they end up disappointing you, will do anything to regain your trust and extract money from you again.

Why doesn't the victim file a complaint?



Shame and guilt

The victim may feel ashamed of having “**fallen**” into the trap and, if applicable, having transferred money to the fraudster.



Genuine feelings for the fraudster

A victim of a romance scam develops genuine feelings for the other party, making it very difficult to report them.



The relationship reduces isolation

The fraudster makes the victim believe that the relationship is important to them. They communicate regularly, making the victim feel comforting closeness.



It only happens to others

Some people believe they are safe from this type of fraud. However, anyone can be the victim of a romance scam.

TO OBTAIN SUPPORT

CONTACT THE FOLLOWING CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCES



VIOLENCE CONJUGALE

1 800 363-9010
24/7



La ligne **Aide Abus Aînés** 1-888-489-2287

1 888 489-2287
8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week



Info-Social at **811** 24/7



1 866 LE CAVAC (532-2822)

It is important to remain in contact with the victim.

TO REPORT FRAUD



**YOUR LOCAL
POLICE
DEPARTMENT**



**THE CANADIAN
ANTI-FRAUD
CENTRE
1888 495-8501**

SÛRETÉ DU QUÉBEC
310-4141 or ***4141** (cell phone)

