

Elderly woman has iPhone swiped out of her hand



Written By SCOTT TAYLOR

On Wednesday, June 13 at approximately 10:42 a.m. an elderly female was walking in the area of Meadowcreek Road and Dougall Avenue when she was robbed of her iPhone.

At this time, the victim was walking when she observed the suspect "rounding" her with his bicycle. The male suspect approached the victim and grabbed onto her arm and stole the iPhone from her hand. The suspect, who ditched his bicycle, was last seen heading southeast towards the path that connects to the Etobicoke Creek Trail.

If you have any information in relation to this crime, please contact Provincial Const. Alvin Paliuanan of the Caledon OPP detachment at (905) 584-2241 or toll free at 1-888-310-1122.

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at: 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers you stay anonymous, you never have to testify, and you could receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000 upon an arrest.

Vehicle vandalized

On Sunday, June 17 at approximately 11:25 p.m., Caledon OPP responded to a report of a vehicle that was vandalized on Snellview Boulevard in the Anthem subdivision.

Shortly before this time, approximately three or four suspects vandalized a white 2014 Land Rover that was parked in the driveway of a home.

If you have any information or video surveillance footage in relation to this crime, please contact Provincial Constable Archie Dias of the Caledon OPP detachment at (905) 584-2241 or toll free at 1-888-310-1122.

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CRA scam alert

Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) warn the ever popular Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and other agency-related extortion threats have continued to sustain significant financial losses by unsuspecting victims in recent weeks. In 2017, the Extortion and Phishing Scam claimed 1,544 victims in Ontario losing approximately \$3 million from more than 8,576 complaints. Police admit only 5 percent of the crimes are actually reported.

In the typical CRA scam, the criminals extort money from their victims by telephone, mail, text message or email, a fraudulent communication that claims to be from the Canada Revenue Agency requesting personal information such as a social insurance number, credit card number, bank account number, or passport number. A new twist is that Fraudsters will leave a pre-recorded, clear message on your voicemail impersonating the real CRA. Fraudsters are either phishing for your identification or asking that outstanding taxes be paid by a money service business or by pre-paid debit/credit cards. They may insist that this personal information is needed so that the taxpayer can receive a refund or a benefit payment.

Cases of fraudulent communication could also involve threatening or coercive language to scare individuals into paying fictitious debt to the CRA. Other communications such as texting, urge taxpayers to visit a fake CRA website where the taxpayer is then asked to verify their identity by entering personal information. Before you respond to any type of communication, think first that this is a scam. Individuals should never respond to these fraudulent communications nor click on any of the links provided.

Here are some warning signs:

Urgency-- The scammer always makes the request sound very urgent, which may cause the victim to not verify the story. For example, they may say "the police are on their way to arrest you."

Request for Money Transfer-- Money is usually requested to be sent by a money transfer company such as Money Gram, Western Union or even through your own bank institution.

The CRA will never request by email, text or phone, any personal information such as passport, credit card or bank account information.

To avoid becoming a victim, police advise you to hang up, check and verify the information with CRA by calling a trusted phone number in which you have found and not the number provided by the caller.

If you or someone you know suspect they've been a victim of the CRA scam, check with a Canada Revenue Agency official, and contact your local police service and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), or online at <https://www.tipsubmit.com/start.htm>