

FRAUD ALERT FOR NOVA SCOTIA

Amherst Police have received several complaints on a help wanted ad in the local newspaper. The ad states "**Help Wanted. Experienced caregiver needed to start work immediately for mother in law suffering dementia. I am offering 4-5 hours per day on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at a rate of \$20.00 per hour. ALL APPLICANTS SHOULD EMAIL DIRECTLY TO ...**"

The investigation has determined that this is a fraudulent job posting. What appears to happen is that the fraudsters are stating that they are currently living in Australia but that the husband has recently gotten a job in corporate affairs and is moving into the town. The victims send their résumés to the scammers and they are instantly hired without any references being contacted.

The scammer communicates multiple times through emails and eventually sends a FedEx package to the victims with a cheque totalling over \$3,000. The victim is asked to immediately deposit the cheque and then asked to wire some of the money to a third party to pay for house furnishings for the family when they arrive from overseas. The cheques are counterfeit (usually takes 7-10 business days before the banks detect that the cheque is counterfeit). The fraudsters are hoping that the person wires the money via a money transfer system before the cheque is found out to be counterfeit. This is known as a cheque overpayment scam. The complaints are currently being seen here but the fraudsters are likely using stolen credit cards and placing the ads in multiple areas throughout the country.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL POLICE FORCE FOR MORE INFORMATION