

April 14, 2016



Getting a call from the CRA can be intimidating, even frightening, to many people. Fraudsters know this, and many take advantage of it, making contact by phone, email or mail. Some are clever enough that call display indicates a real CRA telephone number. CRA details many of these scams at <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/scrty/frdprvntn/menu-eng.html>, however many victims are not active online. Older people and recent immigrants are common targets as they may be seen as being more susceptible to intimidation.

CRA agents do not request information such as your social insurance number, credit card number, bank account information, or passport number. They don't take personal information online. They don't send out the RCMP or seize your house when you don't pay a debt on the day of their phone call.

KRP's attempts to follow up on these calls on behalf of our clients have largely been in vain. Even when we reach the individuals making these calls (they are not hesitant to leave a name and phone number), once they know that we are aware of what they're doing, they simply hang up. Passing along the phone numbers and details to RCMP has not helped stop these scams. The perpetrators simply change location and start again. From their public comments, CRA shares these frustrations.

Unfortunately, their attempts to defraud unsuspecting taxpayers must be paying off, as the scams continue! Please take a moment to look at the CRA website noted above. Being aware of these scams could save you, or someone you know, from a disturbing experience. The best hope of ending these scams is educating their potential victims – when the scams stop working, the scammers will stop calling.

While accounting, assurance and tax remain core KRP services, we have a full range of professional expertise and experience to provide our clients a wide spectrum of financial and business support services, including:

- Financial and strategic planning
- Business management
- Business case/plan development
- Business process/internal control reviews
- Internal audit
- Management consulting
- Business valuations
- Financial litigation support
- Forensic accounting
- Mergers and acquisition

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