



# CANADIAN ANTI-FRAUD CENTRE BULLETIN

Fake COVID-19 Vaccine Text Message Alert

2021-09-24

FRAUD: RECOGNIZE, REJECT, REPORT

The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre has received reports of a text message scam tied to COVID-19 vaccines. The text message claims to be from the BC Ministry of Health and will say that your third COVID-19 vaccine has been scheduled. The fraudulent text message then asks you to click on a malicious link. After clicking on the link, you are asked to download software that contains malware.

Malware can infect your device and can put you at risk for identity fraud by exposing your personal information, banking details and online account credentials. Do not click on the link!

## Warning Signs and How to Protect Yourself

- Beware of unsolicited text messages and emails from individuals or organizations asking you to click on a link or attachment
- Watch for spelling mistakes in unsolicited messages
- Verify the hyperlink behind the link's text or button by hovering over the text with your mouse
- Do not click on links or attachments in unsolicited messages; they can contain viruses or spyware
- Contact the agency directly to verify the legitimacy
- Learn [more tips and tricks for protecting yourself from fraud.](#)

Anyone who suspects they have been the victim of cybercrime or fraud should report it to their local police and to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre's [online reporting system](#) or by phone at 1-888-495-8501. If not a victim, you should still report the incident to the CAFC.



Royal Canadian Mounted Police  
Gendarmerie royale du Canada



Competition Bureau  
Canada  
Bureau de la concurrence  
Canada



Ontario Provincial Police

Canada