



Information Sheet

How can I donate wisely?

To protect yourself from fraud, the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) recommends that you follow the tips below—before you donate.

Learn and confirm

- Confirm that a charity that claims to be registered with the CRA is in fact registered. Consult the CRA Charities Listings at www.cra.gc.ca/donors or call 1-800-267-2384.
- Confirm that you will receive an official donation receipt if you want to claim a tax credit. Tax receipts must meet specific requirements: For more information, see: www.cra.gc.ca/donors
- Ask the charity what activities your donations will support.
- Make sure you know who you are donating to. Sometimes fraudulent charities use names that are similar to well-known and respected charities.
- Beware of schemes that promise you tax savings greater than your cost, thus allowing you to “profit” from donating to a registered charity. For complete details, see the donor alert section of www.cra.gc.ca/donors.
- Ask yourself: Am I satisfied that my donation will support the work of a legitimate charity?

Take action

- Write cheques payable to the charity, not an individual, or make sure that your online payments are secure.
- Refuse to donate if there are signs of fraud, such as inappropriate pressure to give immediately or being offered a receipt for more than you actually donate.
- Report fraud to PhoneBusters, the Canadian Anti-Fraud Call Centre, at: 1-888-495-8501.

Learn, confirm, and take action. Be an informed donor.

www.cra.gc.ca/donors