



## The Investigator Newsletter

### Gift Card Scams



Gift cards are an easy and convenient gift option for holidays and celebrations! But scammers have found ways to steal your money.

#### **About Us**

Since 2000, BCSI Investigations Inc. has performed thousands of successful investigations. Our integrated team of investigators and support services ensure that the investigations are conducted promptly with leading-edge techniques.

With over 40 years of combined experience, BCSI Investigations Inc. is the platinum standard for private investigations.

Scammers have been conducting a lot of creative ways to steal your gift card balance. There have been instances where scammers would steal gift cards, laser cut their gift card bar codes onto the stolen gift card, and then put them back in the stores. They can also take many forms, from winning fake sweepstakes to phishing emails to impersonating legitimate businesses.

#### **Signs of Gift Card Scams:**

- Tampered gift card packaging.
- Raised bar code stickers.
- Scratched-off PIN numbers.

#### **Protect Yourself:**

- Only buy from reputable sources or major retailers.
- Inspect the packaging to make sure no one has tampered with it.
- Keep the receipt as proof of purchase if the gift card gets lost or stolen.

Contact us at 604-922-6572 or visit our website at [www.picanada.ca](http://www.picanada.ca) to learn more.

Visit our Website

- Do not engage with unsolicited fraud callers.
- Do not provide personal information to unknown emails or phone numbers.
- Confirm with the cashier to check the balance once you have purchased the gift card.

Stay safe and vigilant! Be cautious when buying gift cards.

BCSI is equipped with state-of-the-art digital intelligence forensic software, and our in-house IT specialists are here to help. Contact BCSI Investigations Inc. to inquire more about mobile forensics and other services we provide.



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