

Unsuspecting resident gives scammer thousands of dollars



Halton Regional Police is currently investigating a grandparent/parent style fraud where a victim allegedly receives an emergency phone call from a person claiming that a family member is in need of financial assistance immediately.

Last Thursday, March 17, a senior citizen from Milton received a telephone call advising that their son was in a motor vehicle collision in Quebec and had been charged with impaired driving.

The caller said that funds were required in an attempt to resolve the issue. During the scam, which police say lasted two days, the victim wired a total of \$5,000 via Western Union to Quebec.

The senior was advised not to notify any family of the incident in order to protect the son. This enabled the scam to continue. The victim only became aware of the scam when contacted by their son on Saturday (March 19).

Police remind citizens to be vigilant and skeptical when receiving any phone calls of this nature and never wire trans-

fer money to anyone they aren't familiar with.

This type of scam is listed among the top 10 scams of 2015, according to the Better Business Bureau serving Central Ontario.

The Halton police's Regional Fraud Unit encourages residents to contact them at (905) 825-4747 ext. 739 with information about any scam. Alternatively, residents can call Crime Stoppers at 1 800 222-8477 (TIPS) or report a scam online at www.haltoncrimestoppers.com or by texting Tip201 with your message to 274637 (crimes).

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