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CRIME

BEWARE OF GRANDPARENT SCAM: POLICE

MANSOOR TANWEER

The scam is simple.

An unsuspecting older adult receives a frantic phone call. The person on the other line says they are their grandchild and they are in trouble and need money. The caller asks leading questions which they hope will convince the older victim to give personal information.

Victims often don't verify the caller's story.

Halton police are warning that there's been a recent increase in this kind of grift, called the grandparent scam, and are offering the following tips to avoid falling victim to it.

- If you are in a bank, don't lie. Tell the employee why you are retrieving the cash. Bank staff are trained to detect a scam.
- · Remember that scammers will take advantage of a victim's need to act quickly to help their loved ones.
- · Never give money to anyone you do not know. Make sure to verify the identity of the person who is asking for help.
- Don't give out personal details to the caller.
- Question the caller. Investigate who they are. Scammers can gather infor-

mation about their victims using social media. Call someone you both know to verify who is calling.

- · Ask yourself if the caller's story makes sense.
- · Police, lawyers and the courts will never ask you to give money to someone at your door. Residents who think they may have been contacted by a scammer can call Halton police at 905-825-9777, or 911 if it is an emer-



SCAN THIS CODE for more local crime

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- A wide range of group discounts
- Informative talks
- **Community events**



For more information e-mail: carphaltonchapter@gmail.com Or visit: www.haltonseniorsadvocacygroup.ca