



Warning Notice

Issue No. 56 – November 2004

Warning Notices contain the names of entities recently brought to OSFI’s attention through some form of notice, inquiry or complaint. If these entities, or persons purporting to represent them, are operating in Canada, they may be violating provisions of the *Bank Act*, other federal financial institution legislation, other federal legislation, or provincial legislation.

A cumulative list of entities on previous Warning Circulars, Notices or Advisories is available on OSFI’s Web site at http://www.osfi-bsif.gc.ca/osfi/index_e.aspx?ArticleID=166

Name	Related Entity(ies) / Web sites	Agency to contact with any further information
Centennial Insurance Company	May be operating under the name CIC Insurance	OSFI. This company may be an unauthorized Costa Rican entity that may be writing insurance in Canada

OSFI continues to receive information about entities posing as financial institutions. It is believed that these names are used as part of various advance fee or “Nigerian letter” scams. The public is advised to use caution in dealing with anyone claiming association with a financial entity not known to them. **In particular, members of the public should not make any advance payment (no matter how described) for the purposes of opening or accessing an account, paying a government fee, or similar.** In almost all cases, fraudsters request payment to be sent via money remittance to an individual, not the named financial entity. Legitimate money transfers cannot be wired or otherwise remitted directly to entities that do not exist.

The name(s) listed below are not authorized federally regulated financial institutions and may be part of such advance fee scams (see also OSFI’s Warning Notice No. 23, dated February 2002).

Name	Related Entity(ies) / Web sites	Agency to contact with any further information
Allcanadian Financial Co. Yorkdale Shopping Centre 3401 Dufferin Street	www.allcanadianfinancial.com	Phonebusters See also ALERT 2004-22

Toronto, ON M6A 2T9		issued by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Washington DC, USA
FairBank Group, Offshore Banking 95, du Bras St-Raphael, QC G0R 4C0	www.fairbankgroup.com	Phonebusters; See also ALERT 2004-22 issued by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Washington DC, USA
Development & Holding Bank of Belize 12 Barrack Road, Suite 201A-206A Belize	www.dholdingbank.com FairBank Group, Offshore Banking Allcanadian Financial Co.	Central Bank of Belize Mail: PO Box 852 Belize City, Belize Telephone: 501-223-6194 Fax: 501-223-6226 E-mail: cbbfssd@btl.net
Hermes Bancorp 6875 Decarie Boulevard Montreal QC H3W 3E4	George Haligua Foundation	Phonebusters

Scam letters should be forwarded to the Phonebusters National Call Centre (PNCC) as follows:

Mail: Box 686
North Bay ON
P1B 8J8

Web site: www.phonebusters.com

Telephone: +1 (888) 495-8501 (toll-free in Canada and the USA)

Fax: +1 (888) 654-9426 (toll-free in Canada and the USA)

Telephone: +1 (705) 495-8501 (overseas and local)

Fax: +1 (705) 494-4008 (overseas and local)

Regular e-mail: info@phonebusters.com

Phonebusters is a joint partnership between the Ontario Provincial Police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. They are interested in receiving copies of any new versions of the scam letters, particularly those involving Canadian mailing addresses or telephone numbers. Records relating to the payment of advance fees should also be forwarded to Phonebusters. This intelligence information is used to assist in the strategic targeting of would-be fraudsters.

Compliance Division
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Toronto, Ontario
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Email: scaminfo@osfi-bsif.gc.ca

