



Warning Notice

Issue No. 78 – November 2007

The name(s) listed below is/are not authorized federally regulated financial institution(s).

<i>Name and Address of Entity</i>	<i>Web Address / Related Entity(ies)</i>	<i>Agency to contact with any further information</i>
Seacoast Trust Bank P.O. Box 28725 Scarborough Station D Scarborough, ON M1R 5S4		Phonebusters

OSFI continues to receive information regarding entities posing as financial institutions. It is believed that some of these entities are 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 what label is attached to it) for the purposes of opening 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.

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 *Pension Benefits Standards Act, 1985*, the *Income Tax Act*, other federal 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.

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

Advance fee fraud (“Nigerian”) letters: waf1@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
121 King Street West
Toronto, ON
M5H 3T9**

**Tel. +1 (416) 973-6117
Fax. No. +1 (416) 954-3169
Email: scaminfo@osfi-bsif.gc.ca**