



Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions Canada  
Bureau du surintendant des institutions financières Canada

## ***Monthly Warning Advisory*** ***Issue No. 9 – October/November, 2000***

Monthly Warning Advisories contain the names of entities recently brought to OSFI's attention through some form of 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* or other federal financial institution legislation.

A cumulative list of entities on previous Warning Circulars is available on OSFI's Internet site at [http://www.osfi-bsif.gc.ca/osfi/index\\_e.aspx?ArticleID=166](http://www.osfi-bsif.gc.ca/osfi/index_e.aspx?ArticleID=166)

### **Special Alert**

OSFI has recently become aware of two incidents where individuals have telephoned financial companies and passed themselves off as OSFI employees. The first incident involved a person by the name of "John MacDonald", who requested and obtained information about personnel at these companies. Subsequently, several employees received head-hunting calls from employment agencies. The second incident involved persons identifying themselves as "Rachel Maher" and "Sam Stubben" asking specific questions relating to operational risk at another financial institution.

Please take note of the following:

1. None of the persons named above is employed by OSFI.
2. OSFI does not, and would not expect anyone else to, give out personnel information or any confidential information over the telephone.
3. Employees of OSFI are federal Government employees. Section 130 of the *Criminal Code* makes it an offence to impersonate a public officer.
4. Anyone who receives a telephone call from an individual purporting to be an OSFI employee, and who would like to verify the *bona fides* of said employee, may call toll free at 1-800-385-8647 for an identity check.

The financial community is encouraged to be alert and report further instances of this kind to the Office at the same toll-free number. Information made available to OSFI may be turned over to law enforcement authorities as appropriate, in view of item 3 above.

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