

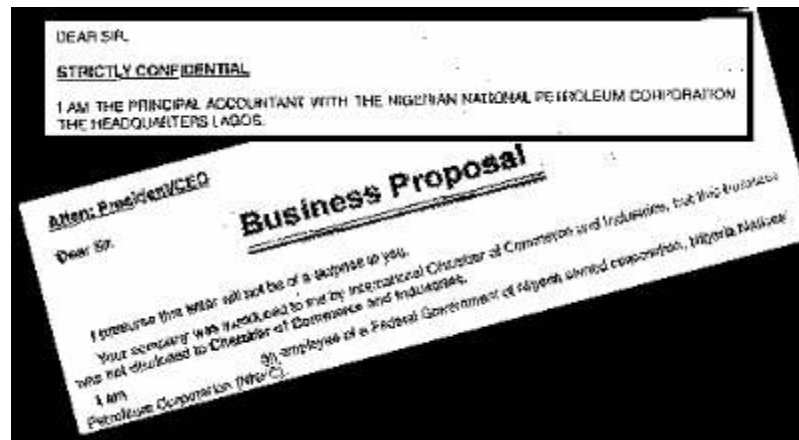


NIGERIAN LETTER SCAMS

The RCMP Web Site at
<http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/scams/nigerian.htm>
offers the following information:

Watch out for the Nigerian Business letter scam!

For years now, businesses, learning institutions, and government departments have been receiving e-mails from senders posing as Nigerian government or business officials offering to share large sums of money.



The Royal Canadian Mounted Police estimates Canadians have lost about \$30 million to the scam over the last ten years and reports that about 10,000-15,000 letters pushing variations of this fraud from Nigeria have circulated in Canada.

TIPS

Most letters are variations of the following:

- You receive an "urgent" business proposal "in strictest confidence" from a Nigerian civil servant /businessman.

- The sender, often a member of the "contract review panel", obtained your name and profile through the Chamber of Commerce or the International Trade Commission.
- The sender recently intercepted or has been named beneficiary of the proceeds from real estate, oil products, over-invoiced contracts, cargo shipments, or other commodities, and needs a foreign partner to assist with laundering the money.
- Since their government/business position prohibits them from opening foreign bank accounts, senders ask you to deposit the sum, usually somewhere between \$25-50 million, into your personal account.
- For your assistance, you will receive between 15-30% of the total, which sits in the Central Bank of Nigeria awaiting transfer.
- To complete the transaction, they ask you to provide your bank name and address, your telephone and fax numbers, the name of your beneficiary, and, of course, your bank account numbers.
- The sender promises to forward your share within ten to fourteen working days!
- Do not become a victim. If you have received an unsolicited letter containing any of these characteristics, you should carefully research available information before conducting a transaction.

The Commercial Crime Sections of the RCMP within Canada and your local Better Business Bureau are available for obtaining further information on this topic.

REMEMBER: BE WARY OF LETTERS WHERE "URGENCY AND SECRECY" ARE KEY ELEMENTS.

Name

Address

Section 2.4 Quiz

1. Email has taken this fraud into residences, have you received an email similar to the ones described?

2. Give examples of the 4Ds that could prevent this fraud

3. How is your behaviour going to change now that you have this new information?
