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Fraud Prevention Month!

March is here, and it's not just about the start of spring – it's also Fraud Prevention Month!

Western Canada Lottery Corporation (WCLC) would like to remind players that you can only win a prize on our games if you've purchased a ticket. If you've received an email, a letter or phone call saying you've won a prize WITHOUT buying a ticket, or if someone asks for money to receive a prize, **IT IS A SCAM**.

WCLC is aware of attempted lottery scams in the region and would like to remind players of some key tips to protect themselves against scammers – whether through email, phone calls, social media, or even text messages.

Fraud Prevention Tips:

Unsolicited Communication: If you receive an unexpected email, phone call, or text claiming you've won a prize, be cautious.

Unless you bought a ticket through an official channel, you haven't won a prize. In the Prairie Provinces, you may be contacted if you win through SubscriptionSpot.ca, PlayNow (in Manitoba), and Play Alberta (in Alberta). If you did purchase through these channels, you can easily verify the message by double-checking the winning numbers online, logging in to your account, or contacting the platform directly.

If you purchased a ticket at a Lotto Spot retailer or on the Lotto Spot app, you will not be contacted about a prize.

Always Verify: If in doubt, contact WCLC directly by calling **Player Care at 1-800-665-3313.** Never use contact information provided in unsolicited messages.

Do Not Transfer Money: If you are asked to pay taxes or fees to claim a prize, it is not legitimate. Don't send money, and don't respond.

Be Skeptical of Urgency: Scammers often create a sense of urgency. If something feels rushed, take a moment to think it through.

Keep Personal Information Secure: Never share your account information, passwords, or PINs with anyone – including over the phone.

Report Suspicious Activity: You can report suspicious activity to your local authorities or the <u>Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre</u>, <u>particularly if you've already provided money or information to scammers</u>.

For more information or help identifying lottery scams, please visit https://www.wclc.com/for-players/identifying-lottery-scams-2.htm