



Langley RCMP Crime Bulletin - Counterfeit Currency

Over the last few weeks, there has been an increase in instances of counterfeit currency being passed at local retailers and businesses in the Langleys.

Please take a moment to read the following information to help protect your business and yourself from accepting counterfeit currency.

Even with new technology, no counterfeiter is able to produce an exact duplicate of a genuine bank note – a counterfeit is always an inferior copy of the original. At first glance, a good counterfeit looks like the real deal. But if you know what to look for – and feel for – it only takes a few seconds to detect a fake. Bank of Canada's website provides an in depth and interactive guide for familiarizing yourself with the security features of all currency in circulation: <http://www.bankofcanada.ca/banknotes/counterfeit-prevention/>

What to do if you think you have a counterfeit banknote

When dealing with someone who is attempting to pass counterfeit bank notes, cash handlers must ensure their own safety first.

- ✓ Be especially careful during busy periods, as this is when counterfeit notes are more likely to be passed.
- ✓ Pay particular attention to customers who pay with banknotes of a much higher denomination than is needed.
- ✓ If possible, keep the suspicious banknote and record all relevant information. (denomination, serial number, etc.)
- ✓ Contact your local police.
- ✓ Record the details about the circumstances and the person(s) who gave the suspect note. (e.g. time, physical descriptions, licence plate, vehicles, etc.)
- ✓ Give the suspicious banknote to the police and request a receipt. If the note is genuine, it will be returned to you.
- ✓ Remember, someone passing a counterfeit banknote may not be aware of it. He or she could be the innocent victim of a crime.

Report it

Preventing currency counterfeiting requires a cooperative approach. You can help safeguard Canada's national currency by becoming more familiar with banknote security features. You can help protect your business, yourself and your community by reporting instances of counterfeit currency to the Langley RCMP at 604-532-3200. We must all work together to deter this crime.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this bulletin, or the Business Link Program, please contact the **Business Link Coordinator, Katrina Liebermann at 604.532.3212.**