

Media Release

June 17, 2011



FRAUDULENT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

The Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit has been made aware that there is someone fraudulently impersonating a "Health Inspector" by contacting local food premises by telephone to schedule an inspection. This has also been happening in other areas around the province. **The impersonation of a public officer is a criminal offence.**

Food premises operators have been contacted by phone by individuals alleging to be a "public health official". These individuals are requesting to schedule an inspection of the premises, requesting detailed business and personal information from the owner/operator, and are requesting a call back to confirm the personal information through the use of a unique code number.

"We do not conduct business this way," says Jane Lyster, Director of Health Protection with the LGL District Health Unit. "We encourage local residents and business owners not to be fooled by these phony inspectors," Lyster adds. **"Do not give out any personal or business information and report the incident to Fraud Busters.**

Please be advised that Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit inspectors:

- Will not call a business to book an appointment, nor will inspectors issue an inspection number or require businesses to call back to confirm appointments.
- Will not ask for personal or financial information about the business or the owner.
- Carry photo identification.

If business owners encounter a public health Inspector they have not met before or they are unsure of their identity, they should ask for proper identification signed by a Medical Officer of Health. They can also report fraud to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC) 1 -888-495-8501 e-mail: info@antifraudcentre.ca.

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**Contact: Susan Healey, Communications Co-ordinator 613-345-5685 or 613-802-0550
Or Sgt. Kristine Rae, OPP, 613-285-5479**