



## ***For Immediate Release***

### **Don't be a Victim: Investment Fraud Awareness Events Set for Downtown Winnipeg**

*Manitoba Securities Commission and Winnipeg Police Service teaching Manitoba investors to recognize and report investment fraud*

**Winnipeg, MB; October 23, 2013**— The Manitoba Securities Commission (“MSC”) and Winnipeg Police Service have teamed up to help Manitobans recognize investment fraud with a pair of pop-up events located around downtown Winnipeg, as part of a new campaign to get investors thinking, and talking, about where and how investment scams can happen.

On October 23 at cityplace and October 29 at Winnipeg Square, Winnipeggers can stop by the MSC’s pop-up kiosk to speak with investigators and Winnipeg Police Service officers about how to spot signs of investment fraud and protect their investments. Investors across Manitoba are also encouraged to learn more about what scams can look and sound like by visiting **RecognizeInvestmentFraud.ca**, where they can follow four easy steps to check the registration and history of their financial adviser, test their investor knowledge, and even report suspicious activity to the MSC.

“It’s important for Manitobans to know the red flags of investment fraud,” says Doug Brown, Director of Legal and Enforcement for the Manitoba Securities Commission. “Learning to recognize the different types of scams – what they look like, sound like, and where they can happen – is crucial to understanding and preventing investment fraud.”

“One of the best investments investors can make is taking the time to learn how they can protect themselves from investment fraud,” said Sgt. Ken Molloy of the Winnipeg Police Service Commercial Crime Unit.

“All too often, by the time police become involved in these matters it’s far too late to recover the investments of unwitting investors. It all starts with awareness and prevention.”

The **Recognize Investment Fraud** campaign was developed in response to a 2012 survey conducted by MSC that revealed one in three Manitobans were unable to recognize investment fraud. A concerning number considering the survey also indicated that one in five Manitobans have been approached by what they thought was investment fraud at some point in their lives.

To learn what investment fraud looks like and how it can happen, visit [RecognizeInvestmentFraud.ca](http://RecognizeInvestmentFraud.ca). Investors can also call the MSC tip line at 1-855-FRAUD-MB to report potential scams or speak with an investigator.

*The Manitoba Securities Commission is a division of the Manitoba Financial Services Agency, a Special Operating Agency of the Government of Manitoba that protects investors and promotes fair and efficient capital markets throughout the province.*

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