

Spot Investment Scams Checklist:

BC SECURITIES
COMMISSION



INVESTMENT SEMINARS

Be wary of free seminars or promises of a free meal or gift

Once you are there, you may be asked to pay fees or commissions.

Don't be fooled by 'limited time offers'

If someone is pressuring you, decline the offer or seek advice from an independent investment advisor.

Watch for claims of secret techniques for building wealth

The salespeople at seminars can make misleading claims that may entice you to sign up.

Think critically about promises to 'be a millionaire in three years' and 'get rich quick'

Use common sense and do your own research.

Listen for excessive use of financial jargon

Promoters use this language to make you feel intimidated so that you are less inclined to ask questions. If you do not understand something about the investment, ask.

Be aware of talk of tax avoidance or moving money offshore

You can defer paying taxes, but you cannot avoid paying them.

Do your own research before attending an investment seminar

Looking into the opportunity will arm you with information you can use to ask questions at the seminar.

Research the company and promoters

Search the web and use the British Columbia Securities Commission InvestRight.org website or call to check on the company or individual selling the investment.

REPORT SUSPICIOUS INVESTMENT ACTIVITY

Your care and attention may save a friend, family member or member of your community from falling victim to an investment scam.

You can call or e-mail the BC Securities Commission to find out more.

Telephone:

604-899-6854
1-800-373-6393

Email:

inquiries@bcsc.bc.ca

Report online:

www.InvestRight.org