



# CONSUMER INFORMATION BULLETIN

## *Consumer Privacy*

Consumer Privacy has become an important issue over the past years with all the advances in electronic communication. It is important to guard your personal information at all times to protect yourself from fraud. Even very basic personal information can be used to charge purchases to your credit cards and drain your bank accounts.

It is very important to protect your social insurance number (SIN) so if a company or individual you are dealing with asks you for your SIN number ask why it is needed. Be wary about giving your SIN number.

Do not give anyone your credit card or bank account numbers unless you are making a purchase with them. Ask the business what happens once you provide them with account information. Do they keep it securely on file? Is the information deleted once the transaction is completed?

Always check your credit card, bank account transactions, cell phone and all other bills to make sure all the charges are ones you authorized.

When using a credit card or debit card locally, if your receipt is printed, either file this information or dispose of it properly.

You should always shield your personal identification number when you are using your credit card and debit card.

If you require further information or require additional assistance, please contact our office at:

Consumer Services, Public Safety Division  
Municipal and Community Affairs  
#600 5201-50<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Yellowknife NT X1A 3S9  
(867) 767-9161 Extension 21021

**This publication is intended to provide general information and is not a substitute for legal advice.**