



## Wise Owls Fraud Prevention Program



The Wise Owls Program is a program supported by the R.C.M.P., the Alberta Provincial Rural Crime Watch Association (APRCWA) and the Government of Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security. It was originally initiated by the Edmonton City Police under the “Heads UP Fraud Prevention Association” program and this program was transferred to the Alberta Rural Crime Watch Association which included the rights to use the Logo. The Wise Owls Logo, as pictured above, was registered on August 31, 1998 and remains a Trademarked Logo.

This program is dedicated to providing fraud prevention education for seniors with topics including Phone Scams, Investment Fraud, Credit Card Fraud, to name a few. The sessions are presented by APRCWA Trained Presenters that will travel to Communities, in Alberta, to discuss these and other topics. (Arrangements may be made, with the Wise Owl Coordinator, for Presentations to Member Associations outside of Alberta) The Wise Owl Presenters usually have the necessary audiovisual equipment for the presentation and only require sufficient space to accommodate a Screen, Projector and Computer and be sufficient in size to accommodate the participants comfortably. Depending on the size of the room, the host may wish to provide a public address system (speakers and microphone) to enable all participants to hear the presentation and participate. Refreshments, if any, are provided by the Host of the Presentation.

The program consists of a PowerPoint presentation which acts as a guideline to the information. Wise Owl Presenters discuss the current issues around Fraud and the various means this occurs. This program is approximately two (2) hours long which allows for the Presentation and a question period/social discussion following the presentation. This Presentation can be an excellent choice for Guest Speakers at Meetings, Annual General Meetings, Special Presentations or a “Coffee Chat”.

APRCWA supports this information with various Brochures on many topics, as a take away for the participants. These brochures can also be used as a promotion of the Wise Owls Program by the Member Rural Crime Watch Associations.

The majority of the funding for this program is through a grant from the Government of Alberta Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security. While this funding covers the majority of the costs of the production of the equipment and printing costs, donations, to the Wise Owls Program, are encouraged to offset the cost of travel and accommodations for the Presenters.

All presentations are coordinated by the APRCWA to ensure trained Presenters are available. The procedure to request a Wise Owl Presentation is to complete the Request for Wise Owls Presentation form and submit it to the APRCWA at [aprcwa@ruralcrimewatch.ab.ca](mailto:aprcwa@ruralcrimewatch.ab.ca)

Forms are available at [www.ruralcrimewatch.ab.ca](http://www.ruralcrimewatch.ab.ca) or from your local Zone Director.



## Wise Owls Mascot



The APRCWA has a Wise Owl Mascot that is available for loan to Member Associations for Public Events, Parades, Meetings, Trade Fairs, etc. to promote the Wise Owls Program and Rural Crime Watch.



This Mascot is life size “Owl” and designed to fit a moderate sized person. The costume allows for freedom of movement and walking, with a guide, and has the vision screen in the eyes.

The Wise Owl Policy sets out the location and booking procedures for the Mascot, Use and care, safety and shipping information. This Policy is included in this section. There is a Performers Handbook that provides the directions for donning and doffing the costume, use of the fan and the cooling vest, safety information and requirements, and suggestions for the Performers. It is essential that this Performer’s handbook be read and understood, prior to the event.

Booking the Wise Owl Mascot, for an event requires the completion of Wise Owl Mascot Booking form and submitting it to the attention of the Wise Owl Coordinator at [aprcwa@ruralcrimewatch.ab.ca](mailto:aprcwa@ruralcrimewatch.ab.ca), with “Wise Owl Mascot Request” in the subject line. The Wise Owl Coordinator will follow up with the Member Association and make suitable arrangements to ship the Mascot. The Wise Owl Mascot Agreement will be sent to the Member Association for review and completion prior to the shipping of the Mascot.

Return Shipping/Delivery is also arranged at this time.

The Mascot is an Ambassador of the Wise Owls Program, Rural Crime Watch and the Member Association. Please remember this and ensure the actions and conduct of the Performer reflect a positive public impression.





# Wise Owl Policy



- Mascot will be based with the Wise Owl Coordinator
- Booking Applications are to be submitted to the Wise Owl Coordinator 1 month before date required
- Wise Owl Coordinator to maintain condition of the Mascot
- Wise Owl Coordinator to maintain a current record of location and Association bookings
- Local Member Associations to be responsible for the shipping costs, both ways, and will be invoiced for any damages that occur to the Mascot.
- Wise Owl Mascot Policy and Performer Manual to be provided to Local Association for review and signature prior to the use of the Mascot.
- Local Association to provide contact information of the Performer and responsible person to the Wise Owl Co-coordinator.