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## **Bogus employment postings**

VANCOUVER: The Better Business Bureau of Mainland BC and the BC Crime Prevention Association are combining their efforts to warn consumers about a current employment scheme circulating the marketplace taking advantage of the vulnerable unemployed and new immigrant population.

Harris Black, also known as Harris Kennedy, doing business as Work Vancouver, is posting Help Wanted ads on free classifieds services including Craigslist claiming to be offering positions, when in reality the ads are for resume writing services which require fees.

"It is really unfortunate that the most vulnerable are being targeted," says BBB president Lynda Pasacreta. "The owner of this company has a history of criminal behaviour, and the BBB is concerned about his company's pattern of misleading sales practices."

Harris Black was previously convicted in Quebec of sexual assault in incidents related to his employment agency service. In 2000, he was fined \$2000 for violating the Consumer Protection Act.

Most recently, Harris Black has resurfaced under a new website called: Careerexperts.org. The website provides a resume writing service and was recently contacted by the BBB for illegally displaying the BBB trademark logo on its website without authorization. Upon being contacted by the Better Business Bureau the company removed the BBB trademark.

Careerexperts.org is not a Better Business Bureau member.

Harris Black operates under several different names and companies which also include:

- Horizon Recruiting
- HMB Consulting Human Resources Service
- John Ashton
- Phoenix Enterprises
- Ideal Personnel
- Employment 3000
- Employment 2000
- Roxton Marketing
- Find-A-Job

Valerie MacLean, Executive Director of the BC Crime Prevention Association, warns consumers to be cautious when applying to "employment opportunities" found in classified ads.

"Beware of individuals who, under the guise of offering employment opportunities, are selling resume services," says MacLean. "For further information specifically about Harris Black, you may wish to check out [www.harrisblackwatch.com](http://www.harrisblackwatch.com)".

To find out more about Harris Black's operations please visit his Company Report on the BBB's website.

The BBB reminds consumers to take the necessary steps to protect yourself and your identity. Research any company for which you are considering working, as they would research you. Remember that it is illegal in B.C. for an employer or agency to charge a fee in exchange for employment