



## THE INVESTIGATOR



### About Us

Since 2000, BCSI Investigations Inc. has performed thousands of successful investigations. Our integrated team of investigators and support services ensure that the investigations are conducted in a timely fashion with leading edge techniques. BCSI Investigations Inc. is considered the platinum standard of the industry based on the quality and the wide spectrum of its services as well as the expertise of the investigators.

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### Dating during a Pandemic

Finding love during a pandemic is no easy feat. Between social distancing, working from home, having a small bubble, and the widespread fear of contracting COVID-19, the options to meet people organically are slim to none. As shelter in place and stay at home orders shut down most parts of our social life, many are enduring the resulting feelings of isolation. So, to counteract this, millions are turning to online dating to fill the gap. Even Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Theresa Tam, weighed in, "I'm not a dating expert, but let's just say, just to be sensible, maybe start virtually."

With a drastic increase in time spent at home, both men and women have had more time to invest in conversations on common dating platforms such as Match, Bumble, Tinder, and Plenty of Fish. Both [Bumble and Tinder](#) said that by the end of March, there were substantially more users sending messages back and forth and engaging in more extended conversations on the apps than they were even during the beginning and middle of March. Apps that allow for video and voice chats are seeing even more significant increases. By the end of March, there was an 84% increase in the number of voice calls and video chats on Bumble. Video chats have provided daters a new way to connect without the weight of meeting face to face and the stress of maintaining health and safety protocols.

But be wary! [B.C.'s cyber-bullying](#) has had a massive upswing in recent months with scammers creating fake profiles, building trust, and then requesting compromising photographs or money. These victims are then threatened with having those images going public if they do not pay. Romance scams are not new, but with the increase in online dating, means an increase in fraudsters looking to take advantage.

Here are some [warning signs](#) to look out for:

- Your new romantic interest sends you a picture that looks more like a fashion magazine model than an ordinary snapshot.
- The person quickly wants to leave the dating website and communicate with you through email or instant messaging.
- He or she lavishes you with attention. Swindlers often



inundate prospective marks with texts, emails, and phone calls to draw them in.

- He or she repeatedly promises to meet you in person but always seems to come up with an excuse to cancel.

If you or someone you know has been the victim of a romance scam, we can help! Contact us at 604-922-6572 or visit our website at <https://www.picanada.ca/> to learn more.

## Contact Us

With over 20 years of experience in investigations, BCSI Investigations Inc. is the platinum standard for private investigations. Contact us at 604-922-6572 or visit our website at [www.picanada.ca](http://www.picanada.ca) to learn more.



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