



Vancouver
**community
network**

The regional freenet

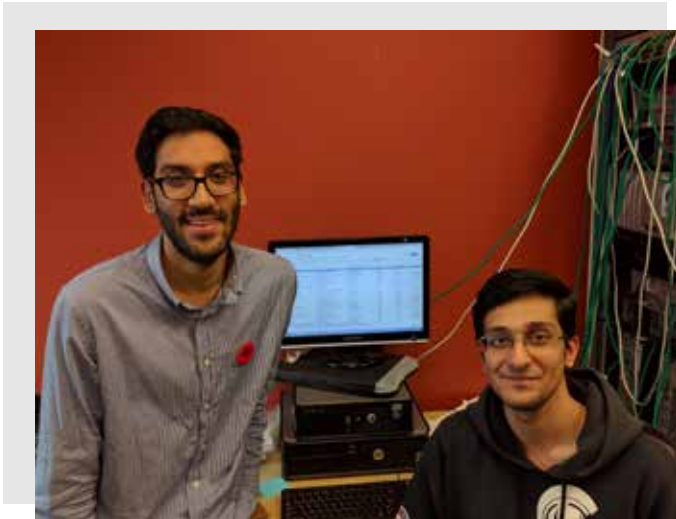
Newsletter | November 2016

Youth Internship Program

The Youth Internships (YI) Program is now well underway! This year, the Vancouver Community Network (VCN) will help place 41 youth interns with various host organizations in roles related to outreach, IT support and web development.

Nahn Lam, who has been coordinating the program for 2 years, is no longer with VCN. We thank her for all the hard work she has put into running this program, and wish her all the best in her future endeavours. The Program Coordinators for this year's placements are Gurraj Ahluwalia and Pratyush Dhawan.

A Word from the Coordinators



From Left to Right: Gurraj, Pratyush

Pratyush "I feel very fortunate to take part in the Youth Internship Program with the Vancouver Community Network. VCN's work empowers marginalized communities and people in the greater Vancouver area, and to contribute to just a small part of that with the YI initiative is truly rewarding. It's also incredible to get a glimpse at the work of nonprofits working within the Downtown Eastside and beyond. Coordinating the placements provides us with a unique vantage point, and it is a sincerely humbling experience."

Gurraj "I am very excited to be part of VCN and the Youth Internship Program. I can't wait to learn and contribute to VCN's initiatives aimed at increasing access to the internet and digital literacy for our community. I also look forward to working closely with the incredible organizations and supporting interns, so their placements are a positive learning experience"

Blog!

In keeping with the VCN mandate to help increase digital literacy, the coordinators will blog regularly to explore themes and issues related to the World Wide Web and all the topics it affords. We encourage you to follow and leave any comments. For our first blog post, we present “A Brief Guide to ‘Phishing Scams’”.

Please refer to this link <http://yid.vcn.bc.ca/2016/11/01/a-brief-guide-to-phishing-scams/> to access the entire post which includes more examples and in-depth information.

A BRIEF GUIDE TO PHISHING SCAMS

WHAT ARE THEY?

Targeted scams delivered through different mediums designed to “phish” your personal information or fool you into installing malware on your computer



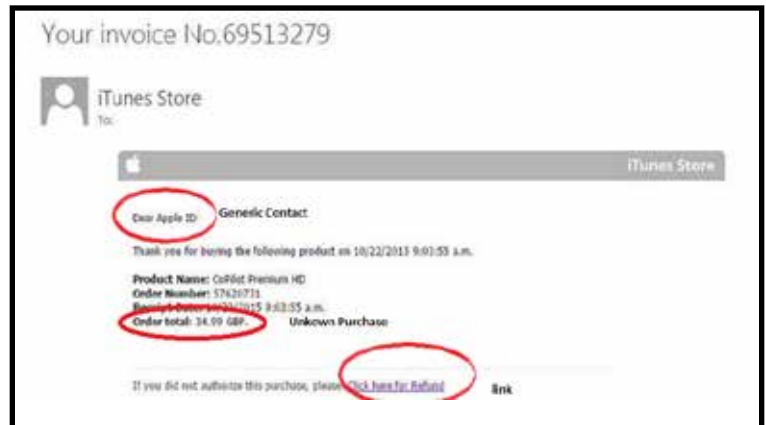
4 SIGNS?

- Generic Greeting – Content is addressed broadly: i.e. Dear Customer, Dear Apple ID.
- Formatting and Spelling Errors – The content may have altered logos, grammar mistakes and consistent spelling errors.
- Urgency and Warning – The urgent tone of the message and suggestion of consequences like: winning or losing significant amount of money, closing of your account, emotional harm, or triggering an emotional reaction.
- Missing Information – Often scammers fail to provide a callback number, address or name.
- Getting Personal – If they are asking for your personal information, or banking information, you should immediately stop.



IF YOU

- Are receiving an email – Delete it. Report it to the organization.
- See a pop-up? – Close the pop-up or the browser.
- Receive a phone call? – Ask for a callback number. If they do not provide one, politely hang up the phone.
- Receive a text – ignore and delete it



WHAT ARE SOME PROACTIVE MEASURES YOU CAN TAKE?

Install and regularly update anti-virus, anti-spyware programs, ad-blockers. MAC users too!

WHAT HAPPENS IF I HAVE GIVEN MY INFORMATION?

Take a deep breath, the scam is delivered to thousands of people. Your safety is not likely compromised, however consult this link for advice on how to proceed:

<<http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/scams-fraudes/rep-sig-eng.htm>> .

IF YOU SENT YOUR....

- Username and password for any account – change the username/password immediately.
- Personal information that is changeable: contact the appropriate organization or financial institution and report the identity theft and follow the appropriate procedure outlined by the organization. Afterwards, be aware of any unusual activities on the account.
- Personal information that isn't changeable: There is not much you can do. Please be aware of any suspicious activity and report the identity theft.

If you liked this blog or simply want to stay updated on new opportunities, events, and initiatives offered by the VCN, make sure to follow us on Facebook (@vcn.community) or Twitter (@VCN_Community). You can also donate to support VCN's work here:

<<http://www2.vcn.bc.ca/get-involved/donate/>>.

Thanks for reading!