## **ALERT 2002-10**



## **OCC ALERT**

Comptroller of the Currency Administrator of National Banks

Subject: Internet Banking Fraud Description: Fictitious Digital Investment

Certificates

TO: Chief Executive Officers of All National Banks; All State Banking Authorities; Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; Conference of State Bank Supervisors; Deputy Comptrollers (districts); Assistant Deputy Comptrollers; District Counsel and Examining Personnel

**RE:** Maryland Investments Club in group with Excalibur Capital Management, Inc., Toronto, Canada

The Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation (CDIC) has advised North American investors and depositors of an apparent Internet fraud scam falsely involving CDIC. A person or group of persons carrying on business as the Maryland Investments Club is offering investment certificates called "digital investment certificates" for sale over the Internet. These certificates are purported to be held electronically and guaranteed in full, by the CDIC. This is not the case. The signature of CDIC's general counsel, Gillian Strong, on any Maryland Investments Club documentation is a forgery. The certificates falsely bear the Government of Canada wordmark and the logo of the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Please see the warning notice at the CDIC Web site: [http://www.cdic.ca/?id=287&contid=184&count=0].

Any information that you have concerning this matter should be brought to the attention of:

Your local office of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and, Bob Quinn

Director, Communications and Public Affairs Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation

Phone: (613) 943-1971 E-mail: <u>bquinn@cdic.ca</u>

Gerard J. Sexton

Assistant Director, Enforcement & Compliance Division

Attachment

Date: August 19, 2002 Page 1 of 1