

## ***Strong Communities***

*February 6, 2009*

## **Alberta's online resources help children and youth navigate the web safely**

### ***February 10 marks 2009 Safer Internet Day***

*Edmonton...* The Internet offers access to vast amounts of information and is an important tool for many of us in our everyday lives. However, it has also opened the door for children and youth to be targeted by online predators.

Internet luring has become a growing concern in Alberta and around the world. Research suggests that 50 per cent of youth have received unwanted sexual comments online, and 25 per cent have been asked by someone they knew only online to meet in person.

Alberta has a number of age-appropriate resources available to help children, youth, and families use the Internet safely, and educate them about the dangers they may face online:

- **www.weron2u.ca** is a hard-hitting peer-to-peer website for teens that includes information on predator tactics, real-life stories, and tips on how teens can keep themselves safe.
- **www.badguypatrol.ca** is an interactive website for children aged five to 10. The site teaches kids critical Internet safety skills through a series of fun games. A cast of animal friends teaches the importance of protecting personal information and that people they meet online may not always be who they say they are. A section for adults provides additional tips on how to keep kids safe.
- **www.child.alberta.ca** includes information for families on staying safe online, including a family contract that defines clear guidelines for Internet use and encourages discussions on Internet safety and establishing boundaries for safe use.

Since their launch in 2006, the Bad Guy Patrol and Weron2u websites have received a combined total of more than one million visits. International Safer Internet Day takes place each year in February to

promote safer and more responsible use of online technology, especially among children and youth.

-30-

**Media inquiries may be directed to:**

Christina Bruce  
Communications  
Children and Youth Services  
780-427-4801

To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

[Alberta Government](#) | [Newsroom](#) | [Ministries Listing](#) | [Children and Youth Services Home Page](#) | [News Releases](#) | [Top of Page](#) |

---

[Send us your comments or questions](#)

Copyright(©) 2009 Government of Alberta

