February 7, 2023

There has been an increase in fraudulent activity regarding the BC Services Card App. Please ensure that you only download BC Government documents and BC Services Card App from official sources (gov.bc.ca). The BC Services Card app is free and available for Android™ and iOS (iPhone® and iPad®).

Challenge yourself with our Raise Your Cyber Security Game Quiz!

This past week's stories:

- **From instant essays to phishing scams, ChatGPT has experts on edge**
- **B.C. leads Canada in race to protect citizen's personal information from cybersecurity threats**
- **Intelligence agency says ransomware group with Russian ties poses 'an enduring threat' to Canada**
- **University president addresses cyber security incident**
- **Experts warn of 'Ice Breaker' cyberattacks targeting gaming and gambling industry**
- **Arnold Clark customer data 'stolen in cyber attack'**
- **Denmark raises cyber security alert level after attacks from Russian hacker groups**
- **Anonymous leaks 128 GB of data from Russian ISP Convex**
- **Italy warns hackers targeting known server vulnerability**
- **OpenSSH releases patch for new pre-auth double free vulnerability**
- **UK engineering company Vesuvius hit by cyberattack**
- **Corporate boards struggle to understand cybersecurity and digital transformation**
- **Five Guys allegedly hit by ransomware**

From instant essays to phishing scams, ChatGPT has experts on edge

The artificial intelligence tool ChatGPT launched in November and has already become so popular around the world that people cannot access the platform because it is routinely at capacity.

That's largely because people have flocked to see for themselves the tool draft emails, craft cover letters for job applications and write academic essays on Shakespeare — all from a simple prompt.

https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/chatgpt-academia-cybersecurity-1.6733202

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B.C. leads Canada in race to protect citizen's personal information from cybersecurity threats

A dozen Canadian ministers quietly met in Vancouver last week to brainstorm better online protections for the private information of citizens.

The Digital Trust and Cybersecurity symposium on Jan. 25 was attended by representatives from every province and territory, save Alberta, and took place roughly six months after the inaugural meeting in Quebec.

https://bc.ctvnews.ca/mobile/b-c-leads-canada-in-race-to-protect-citizen-s-personal-information-from-cybersecurity-threats-1.6255771

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Intelligence agency says ransomware group with Russian ties poses 'an enduring threat' to Canada

Canada's cyber intelligence agency says LockBit — a prolific ransomware group with links to Russia — was responsible for 22 per cent of attributed ransomware incidents in Canada last year and will pose an "enduring threat" to Canadian organizations this year.

On Thursday, the Communications Security Establishment said it sent a threat report to Canadian organizations warning about LockBit and its affiliates.

https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/cse-lockbit-threat-1.6734996

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University president addresses cyber security incident

The first topic tackled by University of Windsor President Dr. Robert Gordon was the cyber security incident that occurred last year.

“It’s just the new reality that all universities and colleges are dealing with,” said Gordon, who explained during his State of the University Address things could been worse had it not been for the help of the community.

https://windsor.ctvnews.ca/university-president-addresses-cyber-security-incident-1.6257808

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Experts warn of 'Ice Breaker' cyberattacks targeting gaming and gambling industry

A new attack campaign has been targeting the gaming and gambling sectors since at least September 2022, just as the ICE London 2023 gaming industry trade fair event is scheduled to kick off next week.

Israeli cybersecurity company Security Joes is tracking the activity cluster under the name Ice Breaker, stating the intrusions employ clever social engineering tactics to deploy a JavaScript backdoor.

https://thehackernews.com/2023/02/experts-warn-of-ice-breaker.html

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Arnold Clark customer data 'stolen in cyber attack'

Some Arnold Clark customers have been told their personal information may have been stolen in a cyber attack.

The car retailer, which sells more than 300,000 cars per year, said data that may have been stolen included bank details and ID documents.

https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-business-64488013

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Denmark raises cyber security alert level after attacks from Russian hacker groups

Denmark on Tuesday raised its cyber security alert level from “medium” to “high” after several attacks by pro-Russian hacker groups in recent weeks, the country’s Centre for Cyber Security said.

“The risk level is being raised on the back of high activity among pro-Russian cyber activists, who are carrying out many attacks against targets within a wide range of NATO countries,” the center said in a statement.

https://www.insurancejournal.com/news/international/2023/02/01/705555.htm

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Anonymous leaks 128 GB of data from Russian ISP Convex

Caxxii, an affiliate of Anonymous hacktivists, has released 128 GB of documents revealing the Russian government’s illegal surveillance tactics to spy on its citizens.

The hacktivist group Anonymous released 128 gigabytes of data from Convex, the leading Russian internet provider, detailing the Kremlin’s alleged illegal monitoring of its citizens across the country.

https://www.hackread.com/anonymous-data-leak-russia-isp-convex/

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Italy warns hackers targeting known server vulnerability

Thousands of computer servers have been targeted by a global ransomware hacking attack targeting VMware (VMW.N) ESXi servers, Italy's National Cybersecurity Agency (ACN) said on Sunday, warning organisations to take action to protect their systems.

The hacking attack sought to exploit a software vulnerability, ACN director general Roberto Baldoni told Reuters, adding it was on a massive scale.

https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/italy-sounds-alarm-large-scale-computer-hacking-attack-2023-02-05/

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OpenSSH releases patch for new pre-auth double free vulnerability

The maintainers of OpenSSH have released OpenSSH 9.2 to address a number of security bugs, including a memory safety vulnerability in the OpenSSH server (sshd).

Tracked as CVE-2023-25136, the shortcoming has been classified as a pre-authentication double free vulnerability that was introduced in version 9.1.

https://thehackernews.com/2023/02/openssh-releases-patch-for-new-pre-auth.html

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UK engineering company Vesuvius hit by cyberattack

British molten metal flow engineering company Vesuvius is currently managing a cyberattack following unauthorized access to its systems.

According to the company's statement, after learning about unauthorized activity on its networks, Vesuvius "has taken the necessary steps to investigate and respond to the incident, including shutting down affected systems."

https://cybernews.com/news/uk-engineering-company-vesuvius-hit-by-cyberattack/

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Cyberattack forced US hospital to cancel surgeries

Florida hospital operator, Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare (THM), was hit with a cyberattack, forcing the organization to cancel surgical procedures and fall back on paper.

THM noticed an “IT security issue” impacting its systems on late February 2. The organization that operates a 772-bed hospital and several healthcare institutions was forced to turn its systems offline.

https://cybernews.com/news/attack-forced-florida-hospital-cancel-surgeries/

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Corporate boards struggle to understand cybersecurity and digital transformation

Corporate board directors are struggling to oversee the rapidly evolving threat of cyberattacks, according to a report from Diligent Institute, which specializes in corporate governance issues. They consider cyber and data security as their most challenging issue.

The report, based on a survey of 300 directors, shows corporate boards are struggling to understand cybersecurity and digital transformation issues.

https://www.cybersecuritydive.com/news/corporate-boards-cybersecurity-digital-transform/642062/

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Five Guys allegedly hit by ransomware

On Saturday, Five Guys’ name appeared on the BlackCat’s blog. The threat actor shared a preview of what data it allegedly stole from the company.

Judging from the screenshot taken by the gang, they managed to access banking statements, international payroll data, information about recruitments, and audit information, among other things.

https://cybernews.com/news/five-guys-ransomware/

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