CYBERSECURITY COMMUNICATION

Please circulate

April 21, 2020

To: University Cybersecurity Communications Recipients

From: University Systems

Re: Continued cyber exploitation of COVID-19

As the COVID-19 situation evolves, cyber criminals continue to use the heightened public interest to lure individuals to open and interact with phishing emails posing as payroll information requests, government economic relief offers, disease centre alerts, information on the spread of the virus, expert protection advice, or offers of "cures". Links and attachments often lead to malicious software that tries to steal data, collect usernames and passwords, or commit other crimes.

The following messages are examples of this type of scam seen recently at UVic:



Re: COVID-19 (Payroll Adjustment)

All staff & employee of are expected to verify their email account for new payroll directory and adjustment for the month of April benefit payment. Please kindly Click <u>APRIL-BENEFIT</u> and complete the required directive to avoid omission of your benefit payment for April 2020.

Thank you,

Payroll Admin Department.

Please take this opportunity to remind everyone of the importance of taking time to analyze the message, look for indications of a phishing email, and avoid opening any unexpected, untrusted attachments. To learn more about how to identify malicious email messages, please visit www.uvic.ca/phishing.

If you have any questions about this notice, please reply to this message.

Regards,

David



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To verify the authenticity of this message, visit: www.uvic.ca/systems/verify