

Prevention tips for safe social media use among young people

In recent months, the Montreal Police Service (SPVM) has noticed an increase in malicious offers made to young people on social media. Posts on social media and encrypted messaging apps encourage them to commit criminal acts in exchange for money. To this end, the SPVM recommends:

- learning about the platforms used by young people and the groups and channels they follow;
- taking seriously any discourse that glorifies or trivializes violence;
- being attentive to any changes in behaviour and sums of money of uncertain origin;
- Ensure that young people do not communicate with strangers on gaming platforms.
- Check the security settings of the installed applications.

For information or support related to gun violence, call RENFORT at 514-653-6363, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. This is a free and confidential telephone service.

The SPVM invites anyone with knowledge of a situation involving the criminal exploitation of a minor to contact 911 or their local police station.

It is also possible to provide information anonymously and confidentially by contacting Info-Crime Montréal at 514-393-1133 or by using the reporting form available on the website infocrimemontreal.ca.