



Consumer Protection Alert

Service Alberta, Consumer Investigations Unit

Unlicensed Prepaid Contractor, Edmonton and area

Name:

- Timothy Watson

Affiliated Businesses:

- Watson Development Group Ltd.
- Evolution Developments Ltd.

Details

The Consumer Investigations Unit is warning Albertans in the Edmonton area about an unlicensed prepaid contractor – Evolution Developments Ltd., operated by Timothy Watson. Known to operate under other names, Watson has been convicted for contravening Alberta’s consumer protection laws. He does not have a Prepaid Contracting Licence with Service Alberta.

A recent investigation by the Consumer Investigations Unit has resulted in a conviction against Watson under the *Consumer Protection Act* under Section 104(1) – “No person may engage in a designated business unless the person holds a licence under this Act that authorizes the person to engage in that business.”

Watson is known to:

- Request deposits from consumers without having a Prepaid Contracting Business Licence;
- Provide renovation contracts that don’t align with consumer protection laws;
- Fail to provide refunds when contracts are cancelled;
- Fail to complete all work agreed in contracts with consumers;
- Engage in unfair practices, which include taking actions and making statements that might reasonably deceive or mislead consumers.

Consumer Tips / Instructions

Prepaid contractors are required to be licensed by Service Alberta. Before you pay any money, ask to see a business licence. Consumers are strongly encouraged to conduct research before hiring a contractor for home renovations or repairs.

Anyone planning to hire a contractor should review Service Alberta’s Home Renovations tipsheet, located at: <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/home-improvements-what-you-need-to-know>

If you suspect a contractor may not be licensed, is contravening Alberta’s consumer protection laws, or is avoiding work commitments, report it at 1-877-427-4088.

Consumer Investigations Unit

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