



Consumer Protection Alert

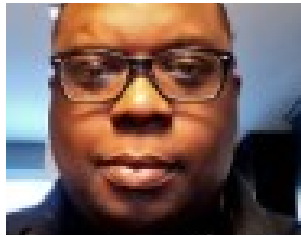
Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction

Unlicensed Prepaid Contractor Edmonton area

Name: Leon Coates

Leon Coates has been identified operating under several business names:

- Northern Rockland Development Inc.
- Final Grade Solutions Services
- Edmonton Landscapers Inc.



Details

The Consumer Investigations Unit is warning Albertans about an unlicensed prepaid contractor, Leon Coates, operating in the Edmonton area. Coates is known to:

- Take deposits from consumers without having a prepaid contracting business licence;
- Enter into contracts that do not align with consumer protection laws;
- Fail to provide refunds;
- Take actions and make statements that might reasonably deceive or mislead consumers.
- Enter into a consumer transactions while the consumer is unable to receive any reasonable benefit.

Consumer Tips / Instructions

Prepaid contractors are required to be licensed with Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction.

Consumers are strongly encouraged to do their research prior to hiring a contractor for home renovations or repairs.

This includes:

- Asking to see municipal and provincial business licences;
- Establishing the total cost of the project;
- Having a written contract in place that states clear project deliverables and timelines;
- Ensuring a verifiable payment method is used, such as a cheque, bank draft or e-transfer.

Anyone planning to hire a contractor should review Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction's Home Improvements tip-sheet. You can find its link on our Consumer and Business tips page (www.alberta.ca/consumer-business-tips).

Consumers can also use the following online tools before they hire a contractor:

- **Business Enforcement Search Tool.** Use this to check if a business has had any enforcement actions taken against it (www.alberta.ca/lookup/business-enforcement-search-tool.aspx).
- **Licence status search.** Check if a business is licensed by Service Alberta and Red Tape Reduction. (www.servicealberta.ca/find-if-business-is-licensed.cfm)

If you suspect a contractor is unlicensed, contravening Alberta's consumer protection laws, or avoiding work commitments, report it at 1-877-427-4088.

Consumer Investigations Unit

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CALGARY: Suite 301, 7015 Macleod Trail SW, T2H 2K6

