

For those that missed it—at a Financial Consumers Agency of Canada (“FCAC”) meeting on November 6, 2014, the Chair of the BCSC launched the “Fraudster Fighter” campaign - a direct, no-nonsense approach to promoting the Commissions latest attempt at combating securities fraud. During her speech she called the video many adjectives including “fun”, “entertaining”, and “educational”. The video featured “Jean” - a well known character in many of their other productions. In this video, Jean played a mother of an investor that had just been taken advantage of by a fraudster. Jean’s character goes into a daydream, where she runs through the streets, doing flips and cartwheels and ends up at the fraudsters residence. As the fraudster opens the door it shows Jean rolling up her sleeve and saying, “Hello David”. The video left no doubt that Jean resorted to physical violence of the alleged fraudster.

In the excerpt below, you will see my comments to the Panel at one of my Hearings—within hours, the 7 minute video was taken down off the internet and a revised edition of the Fraudster Fighter video was released. In this one, she doesn’t resort to beating up the fraudster and only disrupts one of his seminars.

These videos are what the good people at the BCSC do with their money—what a waste!

MR. WHARRAM: Before I begin today I would like your permission to read a brief statement I'd like to make for the record. Can I do that?

THE CHAIR: I don't know what you're about to say, so I don't really have any comment about that, so carry on.

MR. WHARRAM: In the last week I've been approached at my residence by nothing short of what I would call a hoodlum. The hoodlum in no certain terms told me they wanted their friend's money back that I scammed. I have made a police report of the incident with a Constable Nishin (phonetic) of the Chilliwack RCMP and have been issued a police file number. Recently I had an opportunity to watch what the British Columbia Securities Commission in another glamorous press release calls an entertaining video. In the video the main character, the mother of a victim of fraud, attacks an alleged fraudster with physical violence that I will call a vigilante act. The video is a sick, pathetic attempt to make the people of BC aware of securities fraud. This would be equivalent of the Vancouver Police Homicide Department making an entertaining video promoting family members of murder victims to attack an alleged perpetrator. On November 6, 2014 Brenda Leung, the chair of the British Securities Commission, calls the fraud fighter video fun in a speech that she did at the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada's 2014 national conference. I'm concerned if anything happens to my family or myself, I think this video is -- and if anyone hasn't seen it in this room I encourage you to see it, it is actually sick, made me sick to my stomach when I first seen it. I just want to bring it to the panel's attention, public's attention. I think it's important that people like myself are protected out there. Thank you.