



Ottawa PC Users' Group, Inc
<https://opcug.ca>



Recent Scams

One of our members recently received the following E-mail message:

Subject: The COVID-19 Response Fund
Date: 5 May 2020 11:33:54 -0700
From: USAID <noreply@cidi.org>
To:

Dear Prospective Donor,

The U.S Agency for International Development (USAID) and The Center for International Disaster Information (CIDI) is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic with decisive action at home and abroad. Our priorities in the COVID-19 response are to protect the safety and health security of our global workforce, ensure that we can continue our life-saving mission across the world, and support partner countries in their response to COVID-19.

Across the globe, USAID is supporting countries affected by COVID-19. We are working directly with governments, multilateral organizations, NGOs, the private sector and other organizations responding on the ground to combat the dangerous pathogen. This includes working with frontline workers to slow the spread, care for the affected, and equip local communities with the tools needed to fight back against COVID-19.

*Donations will enable USAID buy critically-needed supplies, including personal protective equipment for front line workers, and to accelerate research and development of a COVID-19 Vaccine and treatments for all who need them.

*The USAID is also in help to provide more Ventilators for the COVID-19 victims in all states in Canada and The United States (USA).

*The COVID-19 Response Fund is a secure way for individuals, philanthropies and businesses to contribute to the USAID-led effort to respond to the pandemic.

*The Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan outlines a funding need of at least US\$675 million for critical response efforts in countries most in need of help through May/June 2020. As this outbreak evolves, funding needs are likely to increase. Funding of the above project is quite a huge costs and we plead for your good will donation,

*Any amount donated will go a long way to save lives.



*Due to the general lockdown happening around the world, You can now donate to The COVID-19 Response Fund through the secure digital currency (**Bitcoin Wallet** below).



*You can scan The USAID Bitcoin QR Code here to make donations

N.B If bar code does not display kindly click on show image to display bar code

Or Copy and paste our Bitcoin address here to make donations :

*18ss3A1AXkjja6oVF59ATovAV5AoeLei4s***

Thanks you once again for your Goodwill contribution in standing against the COVID-19 virus.

Please help us share this message to reach as many as possible to help Support for all the urgent humanitarian needs of The USAID. For more enquiries kindly email us at covid19fund@[usaid-covid19.us](mailto:covid19fund@usaid-covid19.us)



Regards

Malobabic Slavko

Co-ordinator: The USAID/COVID-19 Response Fund **

COVID-19 Response Fund Phone Number: (657) 238-8891

donate@usaid-covid19.us

malobabic.slavko@usaid-covid19.us

Red Flags - Why is this a scam?



The use of English throughout the text is extremely poor. Note, for example, phrases such as: “*The USAID is also in help to...*”, “*...the above project is quite a huge costs...*”, the improper use of capitalization (e.g. *Ventilators*), and incorrect terminology (e.g. *philanthropies*).



This supposed international agency appears to be unaware of Canada’s provincial and territorial jurisdictions (i.e. “*...all states in Canada...*”)



Donations are requested in Bitcoin [a HUGE red flag]; there are no other payment options.



USAID exists as a legitimate US government entity but is located on a .gov domain not a .us domain. For example, their page on Covid-19 is <https://www.usaid.gov/coronavirus>