

## Parent Night Take-Home Package

[www.youthlinkcalgary.com/safesurf](http://www.youthlinkcalgary.com/safesurf)

### 10 tips for parents

- Prepare your child to deal with potentially harmful situations by beginning the dialogue now. An open line of communication about the risks and hazards posed by the Internet will reduce your child's risk of victimization (A discussion guide, with questions, can be found on the website.)
- Sign up for the social networking sites your kids use, and have them add you as a friend so you can monitor their page.
- Tell your kids to trust their instincts. Encourage them to tell you whenever they feel threatened or uncomfortable by someone or something online.
- Keep internet-enabled computers in high-traffic areas of the home, and out of the bedroom.
- Discourage kids from filling in their personal profile — this information is made public, so young people should never use this option.
- Develop an open line of communication with your kids about the inappropriate things they may see online. Kids need to feel safe talking with an adult about cyberbullying and other issues, because they're often afraid to speak up for fear of losing their Internet or computer privileges.
- Identify a cyberbully or bullies and save any evidence.
- Establish rules before your child goes online. Typical rules include limiting non-educational time, playing games with offline world friends only, never chatting with strangers or giving out personal information.
- Model good email behaviour by never replying to spam or forwarding chain e-mail letters.
- Install a filtering and an anti-spyware application.

## **Other information sources**

- Frontline® video (“Growing Up Online”) address:  
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/kidsonline/>
- Websites that may be of interest:
  - [www.cybertip.ca](http://www.cybertip.ca)  
Lots of valuable information and tips for families, operated by the Canadian Centre for Child Protection Inc. Supported in part by the Government of Canada.
  - [www.wiredsafety.org](http://www.wiredsafety.org)  
Focuses on the prevention and investigation of cyber crimes and resources for use with kids.
  - [www.cbe.ab.ca/Parents/internet\\_links.asp](http://www.cbe.ab.ca/Parents/internet_links.asp)  
The Calgary Board of Education’s list of links to many other good internet safety resources.
- Articles that may be of interest (attached):
  - <http://www.canada.com/theprovince/news/story.html?id=70519cfe-5929-45f3-8922-213ac478d431&k=47218>  
Hanging It All Out Online Discusses how private information becomes public through Facebook or similar sites.
  - [http://www.edweek.org/dd/articles/2008/06/24/01onlinesecurity\\_web.h02.html?qs=online+safety+summit](http://www.edweek.org/dd/articles/2008/06/24/01onlinesecurity_web.h02.html?qs=online+safety+summit)  
Online Safety Summit Emphasizes Community Collaboration Discusses the importance of schools and homes working together proactively to prevent online safety problems.

## ***The 7 Internet Topics***

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Social Networks	
Chat Rooms	
Instant Message	
Online Bullying	
Online Gaming	
Email	
File Sharing	