



# INFORMATION BULLETIN

Metal theft is a significant public safety concern in Alberta. To deter these thefts and provide a consistent approach to regulating the scrap metal industry across the province, the Government of Alberta introduced Bill 25, the *Protecting Alberta Industry from Theft Act, 2020*. The Bill received Royal Assent and was brought into force by Order-In-Council on July 23, 2020.

Effective **September 1, 2020** the Act requires metal dealers and recyclers to collect personal information from sellers.

Effective **November 1, 2020** formal entry into the prescribed province-wide database will come into force.

The regulations specify commonly stolen items, including but not limited to:

- a) Copper cables and wires, including power lines, telecommunications cables and cable reels;
- b) Metal traffic control lights, signals and signs;
- c) Street lighting poles, wiring and fixtures;
- d) Sewer grates and manhole covers;
- e) Metal guard rails and handrails;
- f) Metal grave markers, funeral vases, memorial plaques and monuments;
- g) Catalytic converters; and
- h) Lead acid batteries.

The regulations require you to record transactions "in a form and manner acceptable to the Government of Alberta". At this time, the acceptable form of recording to be used is offered by Business Watch International (BWI). BWI is an internet software company that supplies an automated recording service called RAPID that runs off of Microsoft Internet Explorer 8 or higher and requires an Internet connection. BWI is a Canadian owned and operated company which has been in business for 24 years. The data will stay in Canada on Canadian servers.

A representative from BWI will contact you to assist in the setup process and training. You will be assisted with configuring your equipment and trained on the use of the software. Any transaction fees or payment arrangements should be discussed directly with BWI during your account setup.

After the initial setup is complete, additional inquiries can be directed to BWI's helpdesk by calling 1-877-404-3368 Ext: 1, or by email at [helpdesk@businesswatch.ca](mailto:helpdesk@businesswatch.ca).

For issues not related to BWI please contact Sergeant Derrick Tabaka of the Provincial Scrap Metal Intelligence Unit at [scrap.metal@cisa-alert.ca](mailto:scrap.metal@cisa-alert.ca).

We look forward to working with you to help prevent metal theft in the province of Alberta.

Please refer to the attached fact sheet for further information on the Act.

**Superintendent Dwayne Lakusta**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Alberta Law Enforcement Response Team

**Inspector John Respet**  
Director  
Criminal Intelligence Service Alberta (CISA)