

# Beware of calls offering a quick fix for your debt problems!

Debbie Gillis, Resolve Credit Counselling Manager warns, 'If it sounds too good to be true...it probably is [too good to be true].'

Resolve Credit Counselling is in full agreement with the Financial Consumer Agency of Canada (FCAC) who issued a consumer alert January 10, 2012. The FCAC alert cautions people to take a closer look at the claims to slash debt, protect credit ratings and that imply government involvement.



“Unfortunately, people do not always see the benefits that debt reduction companies lead them to expect—and some people wind up even deeper in debt than they were before,” says FCAC Commissioner Ursula Menke. “If an offer to reduce your debts seems too good to be true, it probably is.”

Locally, Resolve Credit Counselling, a not-for-profit, community service provides consumers with what makes the most sense – a complete review of their situation; an expert overview of all the options available; suggestions for immediate actions or changes; and the support to follow through with a long-term plan.



Resolve Credit Counselling Manager, Debbie Gillis said, “When we talk to people about their debt, we try to identify how they came to be in this position. Often, the situation is created by factors such as underemployment or family separation. Also, there are times when it’s a lack of money management and budgeting skills (we can teach those). That’s why making a plan that’s specific to that person or family is so important. Budgeting is like a diet – if it’s too strict; it’s hard to stick with it. It’s a way of life, not a quick fix.”



The Ontario Association of Credit Counselling Services (OACCS) has more than 40 members, including Resolve, who have been providing not-for-profit credit and debt counselling services for over forty years. “During 2011, we successfully helped almost 195,000 Ontarians in need, with more than \$730 million in consumer debt under management,” said OACCS Executive Director, Henrietta Ross.

Resolve is working in partnership with government; education; and financial sectors; the United Way and other credible organizations to help clients move beyond their debt issues and become financially fit.



**Resolve**  
We're here. Let's talk.  
Credit & Financial Counselling Services  
Services-conseils en finances et crédit  
Let's talk about money • Parlons argent

