



## Travel Alert - CHIP DEBIT CARDS -Country Blocking

CHIP-enabled debit cards, which were first introduced in Canada in 2007, were created to help reduce the number of incidents of debit card fraud. However, due to the time allotted for retail conversion of the card reader devices they still contain the magnetic stripe, and a PIN. If a criminal is able to obtain debit card information, (from a non-chip reader) they are still in business.

The criminals did not go away. They simply adapted. This means criminals that have obtained Canadian debit card information can still illegally access money by going outside of Canada.

Unfortunately, the magnetic stripe will need to remain on debit cards for the foreseeable future. That means OECU needs to remain vigilant; we have completed a thorough risk assessment of our debit cards, and have anti-fraud measures in place.

During the review we have determined that we will “Country Block” the following countries due to excessive fraudulent losses that have occurred. A country block will not allow any transactions to occur on your debit card originating from that country, even if they are legitimate.

**In the Following Countries your debit card... WILL NOT WORK! Please contact us for further information if travelling to any of these countries.**

- **Hong Kong**
- **India**
- **Indonesia**
- **Malaysia**
- **Philippines**
- **Sri Lanka**

**Please note this list will be updated as required.**