

CLEVER DOG IT SYSTEMS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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INTRODUCTION



Summer has almost come to a close as we step into September. Can you believe it's already back-to-school season? With a new season approaching, let's embrace the fresh start and new opportunities ahead! This summer has been extra special for us at Clever Dog IT Systems as we celebrate our 10th business anniversary. We began our journey in 2014, and we're thrilled to continue growing with you. In this edition, we'll take a quick look back at our beginnings and how much IT has evolved over the past decade, explore how you can get even more out of your Microsoft 365 subscription, and share our Cybersecurity Tip of the Month on safely scanning QR codes. Let's dive in and make the most of the rest of summer!

DID YOU KNOW?

**In 2014 we started our business in Ottawa, Ontario!
And since then many things have changed in the world of IT!**

IT has changed a lot over the past 10 years. Viruses (now usually referred to as malware) are much more complex and cause more disastrous, permanent damage than before, all while evading traditional "Anti Virus" software.

Working from home has become a new normal for many people, and keeping those users secure is a challenge that was not an issue a decade or more ago. More software is going to a software as a service (SaaS) model, where you don't own it but rent it for a monthly cost. One thing we can say is the hardware we use on a day to day basis is actually more reliable, we don't see nearly as many memory, desktop hard drive and network card failures as we used to.

So while there are a lot of things that have made the job harder, there are some things that have made it easier, like better automation for patching, remote management of servers, network equipment, BCDR* appliances for backups, and cloud managed security software.

*Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery



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IT'S TIME TO EVOLVE YOUR M365 SUBSCRIPTION!



You're Paying for the Full Microsoft 365 Suite— Are You Unlocking Its Full Potential?

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You may have NO IDEA the amount of value currently wrapped up in your M365 subscription.

M365 is more than just Word or Excel—it includes powerful tools like SharePoint, Bookings, OneNote, and many others that can streamline your operations.

Need more details?

Click [here](#) to watch a video on Microsoft 365 and what it can do for you!

CYBERSECURITY TIP OF THE MONTH



Stay Safe While Scanning QR Codes

QR codes are widely used, from restaurant menus to posters, providing a quick way to access online content with your smartphone camera. However, their popularity has led to scams where cybercriminals create fake QR codes to steal personal information, spread malware, or trick you into payments. To stay safe, verify the QR code's source before entering personal details, use a dedicated QR code scanner app rather than your device's default camera app, and review the URL of any linked websites to ensure they are legitimate.

Avoid scanning codes that look suspicious, damaged, or altered, and keep your device and apps updated to protect against vulnerabilities. Be cautious about entering personal information or making payments through QR code links.

Click [here](#) to read our blog post on safe QR code scanning!

