

Peace of mind on tech front

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Special to *The Journal*
EDMONTON

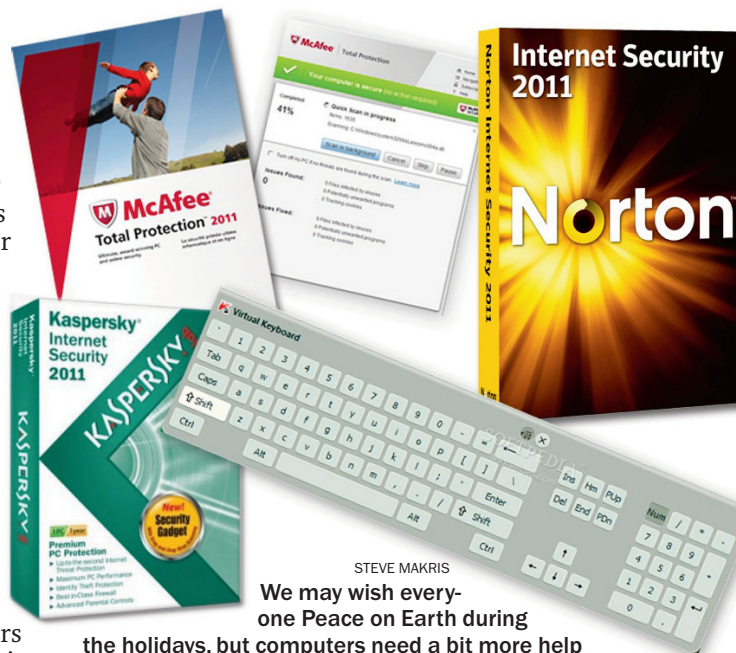
Computer threats don't slow down during the holiday season, so while we think of peace on earth, how about some amity for today's beleaguered PC? The gift of a reputable anti-virus program will go a long way, literally every second you are on the Internet.

Here is a selection of the best bilingual 2010 antivirus programs for Windows PCs with good family protection features. They also feature real-time protection, taking action against Internet threats. Because of their popularity they have the most updated information to act on. They are faster and smarter than last year's versions, so this is a good time start anew.

Kaspersky Internet Security 2011, \$79.99, let's you check new files on a desktop drag-and-drop gadget icon. Instead of your keyboard, the exclusive virtual onscreen keyboard, let's you safely enter sensitive information such as passwords and

credit card numbers. Kaspersky varies its scanning speed depending on what else you are doing with your PC and uses a "Safe Desktop" for opening suspicious files without harming your PC. Customizable buttons quickly get you to security features use the most. For computers, crippled by severe virus attacks, Kaspersky prompts you for a downloadable tool that scans and repairs the PC.

Norton Internet Security 2011, \$79.99, features an anti root kit technology, protecting your PC against hackers using off-the-shelf invasive malware. It uses a two-way firewall for stopping rogue programs from installing on your PC and inspects websites to make sure they are not fake, before your browser and other sensitive information is automatically detected, secured and stored, out of sight.



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We may wish everyone Peace on Earth during

the holidays, but computers need a bit more help from the newest anti virus program. Kaspersky (lower left) features a virtual onscreen keyboard to input sensitive personal information online, while McAfee and Norton have beefed this year's version to run faster with a smaller computer footprint.

It can differentiate between safe websites and suspicious sellers and has easy to get to controls and settings.

McAfee Total Protection, \$79.99, gives you safety ratings on websites and lets you manage your security network from one PC. Your data can backed up automatically and you are alerted of network intrusions. Its effective anti-spam technology does a particularly good job of detecting fraudulent emails while your personal docu-

ments are password protected and encrypted. A featured digital shredder makes sure deleted files stay that way, undetected by others who may have access to your computer.

Hint: Look for big savings on these programs for multiple users and more than a one-year subscription.

Steve Makris is a freelance technology writer who can be contacted at <http://stevoid.wordpress.com> He can also be seen on GlobalTV Monday Morning News.

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EDM00490533_1_1, COUGAR CREEK GOLF RESORT, 10.122, 8.764, Black, Cyan, Magenta, Yellow