

**AUTHORIZATION FOR
INDIRECT COLLECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION**

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Michael McEvoy, Information and Privacy Commissioner

October 23, 2020

SUMMARY

Under section 42(1)(i) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA), the Commissioner authorizes the Ministry of Health to indirectly collect personal information about individuals seeking or receiving medical assistance in dying (MAID), and about witnesses to their written request, from medical practitioners, nurse practitioners, and pharmacists.

This authorization extends the timeline of the earlier authorization made on this matter (October 31, 2018) by one year. With the exception of this extension, all conditions and limitations set out in the earlier authorization remain in place. For reference, the earlier authorization is appended to this extended authorization.

BACKGROUND

On October 31, 2018, I authorized the Ministry of Health to indirectly collect personal information in accordance with the Deputy Minister of Health's obligations as a designated recipient under regulations prescribed by the federal Minister of Health pursuant to s. 241.2(3) of the *Criminal Code* and in respect of its own oversight of MAID in BC.

The Ministry of Health requested an extension of that authorization which expires on November 1, 2020.

REASONS FOR EXTENSION

The earlier authorization expired on the sooner of the coming into effect of an enactment, which expressly authorizes the Minister of Health to indirectly collect the information for the purposes of monitoring and overseeing the provision of MAID, or November 1, 2020.

To date, no such enactment has come into effect.

It is our understanding that the Ministry of Health is working on bringing forward legislation that will provide for such indirect collection.

AUTHORIZATION

I extend the earlier authorization on this matter (dated October 31, 2018) for one year. With the exception of this time extension, all conditions and limitations set out in that authorization remain in place, including the following:

1. The Ministry of Health must notify me of any changes to the Federal Regulations or provincial standards that would require the Ministry of Health to indirectly collect any personal information beyond what I have identified in my Oct. 31, 2018 authorization.
2. This authorization will expire on the sooner of the coming into effect of an enactment, which expressly authorizes the Minister of Health to indirectly collect the information for the purposes of monitoring and overseeing the provision of MAID or November 1, 2021.

October 23, 2020



Michael McEvoy
Information and Privacy Commissioner
for British Columbia