



OFFICE OF THE
INFORMATION & PRIVACY
COMMISSIONER
for British Columbia

Protecting privacy. Promoting transparency.

January 6, 2012

B.C.'s Information and Privacy Commissioner announces new partnership in global privacy

VICTORIA—The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia has been accepted as a member of the [Global Privacy Enforcement Network](#) (GPEN).

Founded in September 2010, GPEN aims to facilitate cross-border co-operation in the enforcement of privacy laws. Membership in GPEN also enables privacy regulators from around the world to work more closely as they address risks to the personal information of their citizens.

“The GPEN initiative is an important forum for offices like mine who are increasingly challenged by issues and investigations dealing with the online world, where data knows no borders,” said Commissioner Elizabeth Denham. “I look forward to participating in GPEN and to doing our part to support dialogue, collaboration and co-operation in global privacy.”

The need for greater cooperation in the enforcement of privacy laws has been recognized by privacy regulators and organizations like the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum.

GPEN members enforce privacy laws at the national and sub-national level. Agencies in the following countries and regions have been accepted as members of GPEN: Canada (British Columbia), Australia (Victoria, Queensland), the European Union (Bulgaria, Berlin, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland), Israel, Korea, New Zealand, United Kingdom (Guernsey) and the United States.