



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 10, 2010

***Vancouver Coastal eHealth Privacy Investigation Report to Be Issued***

**VICTORIA**—The findings of an extensive three-year investigation into the adequacy of privacy protection in Vancouver Coastal Health Authority's community-based electronic health record system is due for imminent release. The investigation, conducted by the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner, also the subject of an audit by the Auditor General, is expected to be released by the first week of March, 2010.

The Primary Access Regional Information System ("PARIS") is accessed by staff and contractors involved in the delivery of a wide range of community health services outside of acute care hospitals. These health services include such things as a newborn hotline, home support for seniors, detox services and communicable disease control. The personal information contained in PARIS is highly sensitive. It includes diagnoses as well as the case notes of physicians, nurses and counsellors about the treatment they provide to their clients.

Acting Information and Privacy Commissioner Paul Fraser, Q.C., announced today that release of the investigation report originally scheduled for today, has been delayed to allow the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority sufficient time to review and comment on the recommendations.

Mr. Fraser expects to release his investigation report publicly the first week of March, 2010.

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