



**March 19, 2018**

**Statement from Acting Information and Privacy Commissioner on the  
Facebook data breach**

**VICTORIA**—Drew McArthur, Acting Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia, released the following statement on the Facebook data breach:

“I am aware of media reports that personal information posted on Facebook was used for political purposes. The personal information of some 50 million Facebook users was reportedly used without their knowledge and consent.

In BC, provincial and federal political parties are subject to the *Personal Information Protection Act* (PIPA), which generally requires consent for collection, use and disclosure of personal information.

The Information Commissioner’s Office in the UK has announced an investigation into how Facebook data may have been illegally acquired and used. The Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada is seeking information from Facebook about how many Canadians’ personal information was accessed. I will actively monitor their work to determine the impacts on BC residents as well as on my office’s other investigations”

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The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner provides independent oversight and enforcement of BC’s access and privacy laws including the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, which applies to public bodies, and the *Personal Information Protection Act*, which applies to private sector organizations.

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