

**August 6, 2021**

**Commissioner announces investigation into Liberal Party of Canada’s use of facial recognition technology**

**VICTORIA**— British Columbia Information and Privacy Commissioner Michael McEvoy has launched an investigation into the Liberal Party of Canada’s use of facial recognition technology for identification purposes in nomination races.

The Commissioner acknowledges that the Liberal Party offers individuals participating in virtual nominations in British Columbia an alternative “manual ID verification” option that does not involve the use of facial recognition technology. He is drawing this alternative to the attention of individuals participating in nominations because the “automated ID verification” method is now under investigation. (In doing so, the Commissioner is not expressing any view on the merits of the matter, which remain to be determined.)

The investigation was initiated in the wake of concerns about the Liberal Party of Canada’s use of a third-party service provider for automated identification verification. The investigation will review whether the Liberal Party of Canada’s use of facial recognition is compliant with BC’s *Personal Information Protection Act* (PIPA).

A final report will be published online at [oipc.bc.ca](http://oipc.bc.ca) upon completion of the investigation. As this is an active investigation, no additional details are available at this time.

**Media Contact**

Michelle Mitchell | Senior Communications Manager  
Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for BC  
250 217-7872 | [mmitchell@oipc.bc.ca](mailto:mmitchell@oipc.bc.ca)  
Twitter: @BCInfoPrivacy