

## For Immediate Release September 16, 2024

## Exercise your access to information rights during Right to Know Week 2024

**VICTORIA**—The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia (OIPC) recognizes Right to Know Week from Sept. 16-20, 2024.

"I am very pleased to join my colleagues around the world in celebrating Right to Know Week, an event that highlights the right to access government records and the essential role of access to information in our democracy," said Michael Harvey, Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia.

To learn more about how access rights are exercised in BC, the OIPC is conducting an investigation under s. 42(1)(a) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) into municipalities' disclosure of records. "As part of this investigation, we are surveying all municipalities to better understand which records are available to the public – whether through freedom of information (FOI) processes, proactive disclosure, or for purchase," said Commissioner Harvey.

"Municipalities provide many of the most important public services we need every day, extending from the roads we drive and ride on to protecting our homes from the threat of fire. Transparency and accountability for these services are critical," he said.

The OIPC will share tips about access to information on our social media channels throughout Right to Know Week.

For more information about Right to Know Week, including events happening across Canada, visit righttoknow.ca.

Michelle Mitchell

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for BC

250 217-7872 | mmitchell@oipc.bc.ca

X (Twitter): @BCInfoPrivacy https://x.com/BCInfoPrivacy

LinkedIn: Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia | LinkedIn