



Protecting privacy. Promoting transparency

## **EXTERNAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**June 26, 2012**

### **ATTENDEES**

- Elizabeth Denham, Information & Privacy Commissioner for B.C.
- Dr. Colin Bennett, Department of Political Science, University of Victoria
- Heather Black, former Assistant Privacy Commissioner for Canada
- Dr. Peter Chow-White, School of Communication, Simon Fraser University
- Dr. Ben Goold, Faculty of Law, University of British Columbia
- Drew McArthur, McArthur Consulting Group
- Dirk Ryneveld, QC, McConnan Bion O'Connor & Peterson
- Catherine Tully, Assistant Commissioner, Investigations & Mediation, OIPC
- Michael McEvoy, Assistant Commissioner, Policy & Technology, OIPC
- Cara McGregor, Manager of Communications and Public Education, OIPC

### **REGRETS**

- Dr. David Flaherty, former Information and Privacy Commissioner for B.C.

### **AGENDA**

#### **1. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW OF OIPC ACTIVITIES**

Commissioner Elizabeth Denham introduced the newest member of the Board, Dr. Peter Chow-White. Dr. Chow-White gave a brief presentation to the Board about his background and research interests.

The Commissioner described to the Board recent activities and initiatives of the Office, including a health research roundtable meeting on June 25 and the legislative review activities of the OIPC.

Assistant Commissioner Catherine Tully presented the latest statistics on the OIPC's caseload, described the organization's strategic goals and provided an update on staffing.

Assistant Commissioner Michael McEvoy gave an overview of the work underway in the policy and technology division of the Office, as well as a report on recent judicial reviews of the Office's orders.

Communications and Public Education Manager Cara McGregor provided an update on the Office's public education and outreach activities, and outlined the upcoming Open Data Summit, to be held September 21, 2012 at UBC Robson Square in downtown Vancouver.

## 2. **20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT (FIPPA)**

The Commissioner outlined the opportunity presented by the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* in 2013, and described a proposed three-day conference and public engagement event to celebrate the occasion. The Commissioner invited Board members to comment on the proposal and to volunteer in the planning of the event.

The Board made the following comments and suggestions:

- Emphasize looking forward rather than looking backward;
- Event is an opportunity to celebrate the partnership between the OIPC and the Province in promoting/protecting information rights for citizens;
- Consider the staff resources necessary to organize a large conference, even if a conference organizer is retained to handle logistics;
- Consider the general public's role in such a conference;
- Consider whether Asia Pacific Privacy Authorities (APPA) members can play a role in the conference (B.C. as Pacific Rim Economy);
- Role of conference sponsors, public or private;
- Role of groups including FIPA, Open Media in proposed event;
- Focus on local talent and B.C.'s unique position – spotlight our work and progress;
- Promote an innovative event;
- Consider how to engage graduate students in the academic community.

The following actions were agreed to:

- The Commissioner will send a two-page summary of the proposed event to members of the Board, for their assistance in securing academic sponsorship by three of B.C.'s leading universities;

- Dr. Ben Goold, Dr. Colin Bennett, Dr. Peter Chow-White and Heather Black agreed to participate in planning activities of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary event.

### **3. PRIVATE SECTOR PRIVACY AWARENESS AND EDUCATION**

Cara McGregor provided a brief overview of the private sector education and outreach activities of the OIPC and outlined some of the challenges the Office faces in getting the attention of the many organizations governed by the *Personal Information Protection Act*.

The board made the following comments and suggestions:

- Focus on specific sectors when trying to reach not-for-profits, including e.g. the health charities sector;
- Target commercial conferences about information gathering and storing;
- In addition to seeking out organizations to host or participate in workshops, create an area on the website where users can seek out interactive workshops and videos to learn more about PIPA;
- Several board members offered to make introductions to members of Chambers of Commerce and non-profit leadership groups to promote opportunities for speaking engagements and workshops;
- Need for a set of guidelines on Privacy Impact Assessment best practices for the private sector.