

**October 12, 2022**

**Statement regarding the passing of former Information and Privacy Commissioner David Flaherty**

**VICTORIA**— BC Information and Privacy Commissioner Michael McEvoy provided the following statement regarding the passing of former Information and Privacy Commissioner David Flaherty:

“Our dear friend and colleague David Flaherty passed away last evening.

His contributions to matters of access to information and privacy are immense. They have made a lasting impact on society not just in British Columbia but in Canada and internationally.

David was British Columbia’s first Information and Privacy Commissioner, serving from 1993 to 1999. He paved the way for his successors by establishing the Office and issuing hundreds of decisions helping shape BC’s law. Before becoming Commissioner, he was a renowned scholar teaching at Princeton University, the University of Virginia, and Western University where he was professor of history and law from 1972 to 1999. He held fellowships at Harvard, Oxford, Stanford, and Georgetown Universities.

To the last he was a staunch supporter of the OIPC, serving on the Office’s External Advisory Board supporting research, public education, and policy work. He was also deeply committed to his community volunteering time to various boards and donating generously to philanthropic causes.

I am forever grateful for the counsel, encouragement and wisdom he offered so generously over the years. He will be missed by many.

Our entire Office extends our deepest condolences to his wife Karen and all of David’s family and friends.”

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