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PRIVACY COMMISSIONER
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News Release

**For Immediate Release
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Statement from B.C. Privacy Commissioner regarding the results of government's public consultation on the BC Services Card

VICTORIA—B.C. Information and Privacy Commissioner Elizabeth Denham issued the following statement about the results of government's public consultation on the BC Services Card:

"The BC Services Card is the first program of its kind in Canada. The first phase of the program is the enrolment and issuance of the Card, built around a provincial Identity Assurance Service. Future phases of the program will enable government services to be accessed online and in person, using an embedded chip that will authenticate an individual's identity. Comprehensive privacy protection must be at the heart of the design and architecture of the BC Services Card.

"I want to commend government for its fulsome public consultation on the BC Services Card. Government engaged technical experts, civil society groups, and citizens in an effort to identify the guiding principles and practices for future phases of the program.

"The quality of recommendations flowing from the Specialist Forum and Citizen User Panel indicates to me that government's objectives for the BC Services Card should be based on the advice it received in this process. These consultation reports should be the blueprint, and we will be measuring government's future design against the recommendations made by citizens and experts in this consultation.

"The need for public engagement on the BC Services Card does not end here. Future public consultations will be essential as the system is architected and new services are contemplated.

"My Office will be studying the consultation reports further in the coming days, and will provide a substantive response to the reports and recommendations in one month."

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