

June 29, 2020

Commissioners launch joint investigation into Tim Hortons app amid concerns over persistent geolocation tracking

VICTORIA— The privacy protection authorities for British Columbia, Canada, Quebec, and Alberta announced today they will jointly investigate Tim Hortons and its use of persistent geolocation tracking as part of its mobile app.

The investigation will be undertaken by:

- The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for BC (BC OIPC);
- The Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada (OPC);
- La Commission d'accès à l'information du Québec (CAI); and
- The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for Alberta (AB OIPC).

The investigation was initiated in the wake of numerous media reports that raised questions about the apps' privacy settings. The investigation will review whether Tim Hortons is obtaining consent to collect, use and disclose geolocation and associated data, including for the creation of detailed user profiles. Privacy Commissioners will also review whether Tim Hortons' privacy practices are reasonable in the circumstances.

The four privacy regulators will examine whether the organization's practices are in compliance with Canadian privacy legislation.

- OIPC BC will investigate compliance with the [*Personal Information Protection Act*](#).
- OPC will investigate compliance with the [*Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act*](#) (PIPEDA).
- La CAI will investigate compliance with the [*Act Respecting the Protection of Personal Information*](#) in the Private Sector and the [*Act to establish a legal framework for information technology*](#) in Québec.
- OIPC AB will investigate compliance with the [*Personal Information Protection Act*](#).

As this is an active investigation, no additional details are available at this time.