



Protecting privacy. Promoting transparency

**Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner
External Advisory Board Meeting
Nov 13, 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
- David Flaherty, former Information & Privacy Commissioner for B.C.
- Drew McArthur, McArthur Consulting Group
- Jay Fedorak, Assistant Commissioner, Investigations & Mediation, OIPC
- Michael McEvoy, Assistant Commissioner, Policy & Technology, OIPC
- Cara McGregor, Manager of Communications and Public Education, OIPC

Regrets: Dr. Ben Goold, and Dirk Ryneveld, QC

Agenda

1. Introduction and overview of OIPC activities

Commissioner Elizabeth Denham introduced Jay Fedorak as the new Assistant Commissioner of Investigation & Mediation.

Assistant Commissioner Michael McEvoy provided an overview of the work underway in the policy and technology division of the office, as well as upcoming investigation reports on automated licence plate recognition (ALPR), FIPPA section 25 public health and safety notification, and the OIPC's audit of the provincial government's open information/open data program.

Jay Fedorak provided an overview of the 20th anniversary conference, which has been scheduled for October 10-11, 2013 in Vancouver. Board members discussed the structure of the conference, role of the agenda planning committee, and some possible titles and themes for the conference.

Communications manager Cara McGregor provided an update on the office's recent events, new publications, as well as a preview of the OIPC's new website, which is set to launch in the coming days.

2. Budget and Service Plan

Assistant Commissioner Jay Fedorak led a discussion of the OIPC's proposed budget and service plan for 2013/14 – 2015/16. Board members provided their feedback as to how to best describe and position the OIPC's accomplishments, priorities and request for funding.

3. Role, Structure and Function of the External Advisory Board

Commissioner Denham led a discussion about the current and future role of the board in OIPC business and activities. After providing an overview of how the board currently functions, the Commissioner asked members for their feedback on how their expertise could be better utilized by the Office. The board made the following comments and suggestions:

- In terms of membership, the OIPC should define the skills needed on the board, identify the gaps and fill them. It was suggested that a person with private sector IT or technical skills might be a good addition to the board.
- When engaging in strategic planning, hold a joint meeting with OIPC staff and the EAB to give each an opportunity to weigh in on vision, mission, and values
- It was stressed that the board can offer an external perspective, and may be better able to connect the dots between different issues that are before the Office.
- Less formal consultation with the board, over telephone or on email
- Engage the board in a less formal way, for example when we are in the middle of grappling with a difficult issue – could hold a teleconference or email exchange
- Include a board member in a review capacity on investigation reports, for example
- Invite EAB to a brown bag lunch and learn series for staff – include those outside OIPC to promote connections/learning
- Use the EAB as a sounding board for new ideas/projects