

Statement

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Privacy commissioners urge stronger privacy protections in national security framework

VICTORIA — Acting Information and Privacy Commissioner Drew McArthur and his federal, provincial, and territorial counterparts have provided a formal submission to the government's review of Canada's national security framework.

The submission calls for improved privacy protections in the collection and use of metadata and in domestic and international information sharing agreements. The commissioners also recommend that all government institutions with a national security role be subject to expert, independent oversight.

"This is an issue of national importance. Government has not demonstrated why their current capabilities are insufficient. Any new surveillance measures must be demonstrably necessary and proportionate to the security risk," said McArthur.

The Submission of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada to the National Security Policy Directorate of Public Safety Canada is available here.

A backgrounder, *Privacy and Canada's national security framework*, is available here.

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