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**STATEMENT**  
**For Immediate Release**  
Nov. 15, 2013

**Statement from B.C. Information and Privacy Commissioner  
regarding the Supreme Court of Canada decision**

**VICTORIA**—B.C.'s Information and Privacy Commissioner Elizabeth Denham issued the following statement regarding the Supreme Court of Canada's decision in [Alberta \(Information and Privacy Commissioner\) v. United Foods and Commercial Workers, Local 401](#).

The Supreme Court upheld the Alberta Court of Appeal's decision to quash a ruling of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Alberta restricting the video taping of persons crossing a union picket line.

"The Alberta case has always been about lawful union picketing activity. It was important to hear from the Supreme Court of Canada because it has convincingly rejected the Alberta Court of Appeal's narrow view of privacy rights. The Supreme Court has clearly affirmed privacy's fundamental social and legal value.

"I am pleased that the Supreme Court has affirmed the fundamental right of privacy in the modern information age.

"Given the similarity of Alberta and British Columbia private sector privacy legislation, the Court's decision today could have an impact in British Columbia and for that reason I look forward to discussions with our provincial government on how to balance PIPA's vital privacy protections with freedom of expression related to union picketing activity."

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