

For immediate release

February 23, 2026

OIPC BC joins international data protection authorities in statement on privacy risks of AI-generated imagery

VICTORIA – The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia joined data protection authorities from across the globe today in publishing a [Joint Statement on AI-Generated Imagery](#).

The statement, coordinated by the Global Privacy Assembly's (GPA) International Enforcement Cooperation Working Group (IEWG), represents the united position of 61 authorities and has been issued in response to serious concerns about artificial intelligence (AI) systems that generate realistic images and videos depicting identifiable individuals without their knowledge and consent. The signatories are especially concerned about potential harms to children.

The statement outlines key expectations and fundamental principles for all organisations developing and using AI content generation systems including:

- Implement robust safeguards to prevent the misuse of personal information and generation of non-consensual intimate imagery and other harmful materials, particularly where children are depicted.
- Ensure meaningful transparency about AI system capabilities, safeguards, acceptable uses and the consequences of misuse.
- Provide effective and accessible mechanisms for individuals to request the removal of harmful content involving personal information and respond rapidly to such requests.
- Address specific risks to children through implementing enhanced safeguards and providing clear, age-appropriate information to children, parents, guardians and educators.

The co-signatories aim to share information on their approaches to addressing these concerns including in the areas of enforcement, policy and education.

OIPC BC's actions to protect privacy rights of children and youth

The OIPC BC's [2025/26 – 2027/28 Strategic Plan: Trust in the Age of Information](#) identifies trusted innovation as a strategic priority, with artificial intelligence a key domain of focus. The OIPC has committed to working with public bodies and private sector organizations to ensure that AI is adopted responsibly and in ways that protect people's privacy rights. To this end, the office is

building internal capacity by establishing a dedicated team focused on emerging technologies that can provide focused regulatory advice on AI-related risks, including AI-generated imagery.

The OIPC's Strategic Plan also commits to enhancing the privacy rights of youth and children. The OIPC has been a vocal advocate for children's privacy rights in BC, nationally, and in global forums. The office will continue to advocate for legislative amendments to better address children's needs and focus enforcement on empowering children and youth to benefit from technology rather than be harmed by it.

BC Information and Privacy Commissioner Michael Harvey said that today's statement aligns closely with the OIPC's strategic priorities and reflects a growing global consensus that the privacy risks posed by AI-generated imagery demand a coordinated regulatory response.

"AI-generated images of real people, created without their knowledge or consent, speak to why our privacy rights are so vital in the Information Age. These images rob people of their dignity, autonomy, and ability to control their own information, their own stories. Children and youth are especially vulnerable. A child's developing sense of identity and agency is directly threatened when technology is weaponized to fabricate their images, exploit or bully them, with consequences that can cause lasting harm.

"The OIPC stands with regulators around the world in this call for AI systems to respect the autonomy and dignity of every person, and we are committed to working with organizations here in BC to making sure that advances in AI do not come at the expense of children's wellbeing and their fundamental rights," said Commissioner Harvey.

Full statement: [Joint Statement on AI-Generated Imagery and the Protection of Privacy](#)

Media Contact

Michelle Mitchell | Director of Communications
Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for BC
250 217-7872 | mmitchell@oipc.bc.ca

Bluesky: [oipcbc.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/oipcbc.bsky.social)

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/office-of-the-information-and-privacy-commissioner-for-british-columbia/>