



OFFICE OF THE
INFORMATION &
PRIVACY COMMISSIONER
for British Columbia
Protecting privacy. Promoting transparency.

Minutes of the External Advisory Board
Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for B.C.
May 14, 2013

Attendees

- Elizabeth Denham, Information and Privacy Commissioner for B.C.
- Heather Black, former Assistant Privacy Commissioner for Canada
- Dr. Peter Chow-White, School of Communication, Simon Fraser University
- Dr. David Flaherty, former Information & Privacy Commissioner for B.C.
- Dr. Ben Goold, Faculty of Law, University of British Columbia
- Drew McArthur, McArthur Consulting Group
- Jay Fedorak, Assistant Commissioner, Investigations & Mediation, OIPC
- Michael McEvoy, Assistant Commissioner, Policy & Technology, OIPC
- Cara McGregor, Manager of Communications, OIPC

Agenda

Update on OIPC activities

Commissioner Elizabeth Denham congratulated David Flaherty for his Lifetime Achievement Award from the Electronic Privacy Information Centre (EPIC).

Commissioner Denham provided Board members with an overview of recent files before the Office including the “no responsive records” investigation report, new guidance for the use of personal email accounts for public business, recent site visits, staffing updates, and upcoming international events in access and privacy including the APPA conference in New Zealand in July.

Assistant Commissioner Michael McEvoy provided an overview of the work underway in the policy and technology division of the office, including upcoming investigation reports on open government and FIPPA section 25 (public health and safety notifications).

Assistant Commissioner Jay Fedorak provided an update on 20th anniversary conference planning. A draft agenda will be posted to the website soon.

Communications Manager Cara McGregor provided an update on the office’s recent social media activity, as well as early results of the Global Privacy Enforcement Network

(GPEN) first annual Internet Sweep. The OIPC was one of 19 data protection authorities participating in the sweep, which focused on privacy policy transparency.

Setting the OIPC's strategic direction

Commissioner Denham led a discussion about the OIPC's strategic direction, and what key areas the Office should focus on in the next three years. Board members provided suggestions including comprehensive privacy management (accountability), big data, and audits/investigations of public institutions that collect sensitive personal information. The Board reminded the OIPC of the need to balance proactive new projects with the core workload of the office, which takes the lion's share of the Office's resources.

Access and privacy priorities for a new Parliament

Commissioner Denham led a discussion about what issues the OIPC might want to bring forward to a new Minister responsible for FIPPA and PIPA. The Board provided some suggestions which the OIPC will take into consideration as it prepares for a first meeting with the new Minister.