



OFFICE OF THE
INFORMATION &
PRIVACY COMMISSIONER
for British Columbia

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Statement

For Immediate Release

July 6, 2017

Acting Commissioner's statement on the improper disposal of financial documents in Metchosin

VICTORIA—Acting Information and Privacy Commissioner Drew McArthur issued the following statement about the improper disposal of financial documents in the District of Metchosin:

“On June 13, 2017, media reported that two Metchosin residents had discovered financial documents in a private wooded site adjacent to a trail. I opened an investigation on June 14, and on June 19, OIPC investigators retrieved two boxes of water-damaged papers from the dump site. We were unable to communicate with the individual responsible for improperly disposing of these documents, so we securely destroyed them.

“On June 22, my office obtained additional files that had been previously taken from the dump site by one of the residents and given to another individual. These documents contained personal information of 10 people. OIPC investigators also securely disposed of these papers.

“I am disappointed with the careless treatment of this sensitive personal information, and I urge all private businesses to review their document retention and disposal practices to better protect their clients from fraud and identity theft.”

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