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IPC Privacy & Access by Design Fall 2012 | Open Data, Big Data, Yes ... Personal Data, No!

Published Date

Sep 05, 2012



Information and Privacy Commissioner, Ontario, Canada

Fall 2012 e-Newsletter

SPOTLIGHT

Open Data, Big Data, Yes ... Personal Data, No!

To mark Right to Know Week 2012, I am hosting an event with the Toronto Board of Trade on Thursday, September 20, on how Open Data makes vast amounts of government-held data available for use in new and unanticipated ways – while keeping personal information private.

The speakers will discuss the importance of encouraging public institutions to use technology to proactively disclose public information. This Access by Design approach allows citizens to see and question the actions of their governments and participate meaningfully in policy decisions.

Register at: www.bot.com/events or call 416-862-4500

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FROM THE COMMISSIONER



Ann Cavoukian, Ph.D.
Information and Privacy
Commissioner
Ontario, Canada

A Policy is Not Enough - You Have to Put it into Practice!

Privacy policies and procedures alone, without a concrete strategy for implementation, will not protect an organization from privacy risks. You have to actively communicate it, educate your staff, and have measures in place to ensure that the policy doesn't just sit on a shelf, but is reflected in concrete actions.

The importance of this

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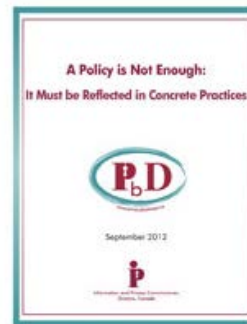
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WHAT'S NEW

White Paper. September



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issue was highlighted recently when Elections Ontario lost two USB keys containing the unencrypted personal information of as many as 2.4 million voters. My **investigation into this breach** found that the agency's failure to systematically address privacy and security issues was at the root of the problems.

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5, 2012. A Policy is Not Enough: It must be Reflected in Concrete Practices

Media Coverage. August 29, 2012. A Privacy-Friendly Way to Ban Gambling Addicts From Casinos

White Paper. August 16, 2012. Privacy and Drones: Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

Investigation Report. July 31, 2012. Elections Ontario Breach

VIDEOCONTEST

Calling all young Ontario filmmakers!

Engaging in social media can be a very enjoyable pastime, but people's perceptions of their privacy fall far short of reality, and they lack awareness of the potential ramifications. People can get fired for what they post, inflict pain on others by inappropriately sharing or cyber-bullying, and unknowingly interact with predators because they think social media is safe. It is not – you are not! One mistake, one bad move, can have a serious impact on you, your family, your education and even future career.



That is why I am calling on young Ontario filmmakers to produce a short video to educate Ontarians, and people all around the world, about protecting their privacy and how they can make the right choices online. My hope is that the **Make the Right Choices – A Privacy by Design Video Contest** will capture imagination of young artistic minds and that they will develop creative educational messages to remind people to use social media sites wisely, post information with their eyes wide open, and consider the potential risks.

Contest entrants are also being asked to incorporate one of the **7 Foundational Principles of Privacy by Design** in their submission. I believe that it's never too early to learn about the benefits of **Privacy by Design** in order to protect privacy in a positive sum manner – you can have social media and privacy together.

The contest is open to residents of Ontario, ages 18 to 30, and closes at 11:59 p.m. on November 30, 2012. Visit makerightchoices.ca for full contest details, rules and regulations.

FEATUREDVIDEO



Commissioner's Corner.
August 22, 2012.
Geotagging & Mobile Devices



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SPOTLIGHT | ...continued from above

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Access by Design advances the view that government-held information should be made readily available to the public. When information is easily accessible, citizens may then question the actions of their governments and participate meaningfully in policy decisions. The global movement towards Open Data is one of the truest embodiments of *Access by Design*. It makes machine-readable data freely and proactively available by way of portals, metadata, and search tools, for use in new and unanticipated ways.

In the lead up to International Right To Know Week, please join Ontario's Information and Privacy Commissioner, Dr. Ann Cavoukian, and other leading experts in the field, to learn how Open Data:

- Makes vast amounts of data held by governments available to the public — while keeping personal information private;
- Increases transparency in governments and raises levels of accountability;
- Enables evidence-based research and supports innovation by academics, researchers, the public sector and industry; and
- Is already being used effectively by municipalities in Ontario to improve service delivery.

Panelists:

Brian Beamish, Assistant Commissioner, Access

Jury Konga, Principal, eGovFutures Group

Dave Wallace, Chief Information Officer, University of Waterloo

Daphne Gaby Donaldson, Executive Director, Corporate Information Management Services, City of Toronto

Samantha Liscio, Corporate Chief Strategist, MGS

Location:

One King West

1 King Street West, Grand Banking Hall

Toronto, ON, M5H 1A1

FROM THE COMMISSIONER | ...continued from above

A Policy is Not Enough - You Have to Put it into Practice!

Privacy policies and procedures alone, without a concrete strategy for implementation, will not protect an organization from privacy risks. You have to actively communicate it, educate your staff, and have measures in place to ensure that the policy doesn't just sit on a shelf, but is reflected in concrete actions.

The importance of this issue was highlighted recently when Elections Ontario lost two USB keys containing the unencrypted personal information of as many as 2.4 million voters. My **investigation into this breach** found that the agency's failure to systematically address privacy and security issues was at the root of the problems.

By embedding privacy policies into your organizational fabric, using a **Privacy by Design** framework, you will be able to operate in a privacy-conscious manner, without compromising any functionality. To assist organizations in taking a proactive approach to reducing the risk of privacy harm, I am releasing a new guidance document today, ***A Policy is Not Enough: It Must be Reflected in Concrete Practices***, which provides a 7-step action plan that you can use to effectively execute an appropriate privacy policy and embed it into all aspects of your operation.

If you do experience a privacy breach, a **disciplined and immediate response** is vital in order to address the situation in a manner that protects individuals, meets the expectations of the public, consumers and regulators, and ultimately preserves your reputation.

Remember, a policy is not enough – you have to put it into practice!

Kind regards,

Ann Cavoukian, Ph.D.

Information and Privacy Commissioner

Ontario, Canada

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