



FOIP News

Issue No. 9, December 3, 2002

“FOIP News” is an electronic newsletter produced by Information Management, Access and Privacy (IMAP), to highlight news relating to Alberta’s *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act*. FOIP News is issued as needed. Web site links are provided to allow you to easily obtain more information on a news item.

FOIP Act Review Complete

The Select Special FOIP Act Review Committee completed its deliberations earlier this month. The Committee’s final report, containing 62 recommendations, was tabled in the Legislative Assembly of Alberta on November 28, 2002. A copy of the report is available at www.assembly.ab.ca/lao/speaker/news021128.htm.

Municipal Assessment Roll

IMAP has released a FOIP Discussion Paper for municipalities on the topic of disclosing the personal information contained in an assessment roll. The paper looks at the rules around disclosing names and addresses on the assessment roll. The paper is available on the FOIP web site at www3.gov.ab.ca/foip/other_resources/publications_videos/dp_assessment_roll.cfm.

Information & Privacy Commissioner Order

2001- 038 Calgary Board of Education

A parent complained that the Calgary Board of Education was using and disclosing personal information of his child in contravention of the *FOIP Act*. The Board entered into a contract with an e-mail provider to provide e-mail accounts for students. The contract required the Board to provide certain personal information of students to the service provider. The individual argued that there was an advertising, marketing, and revenue generation aspect to the contract with the service provider and that proper consent had not been received from parents.

The Calgary Board of Education submitted that it was authorized to collect, use and disclose the students’ personal information for the purpose of establishing and administering an e-mail system. Adjudicator Dave Bell found that the disclosure of the personal information of the child of the complainant for setting up and administering an e-mail system was in accordance with the *Act* except for the child’s gender. However, he found that disclosing the student’s personal information for the purposes of advertising, marketing, and revenue generation was not in accordance with the *FOIP Act* (section 40). These are not uses

consistent with the purpose for which the personal information was collected. If the Board wished to use or disclose personal information for a commercial purpose, it must first obtain appropriate consent.

Meeting Calendar

Municipal - Southern Alberta FOIP Regional Alliance	January 16, 2003	Lethbridge
Post-Secondary FOIP Network	January 17, 2003	Edmonton
Municipal - Central Alberta Network of Information Management	January 31, 2003	Banff
School Jurisdictions FOIP Network	January 31, 2003	Nisku
Municipal – Edmonton Regional FOIP Alliance	February 6, 2003	Sherwood Park
Health Sector Information Access and Privacy Network	February 24, 2003	Edmonton

FOIP Training

The dates of the upcoming courses are:

- Introduction and Privacy: Edmonton, Jan. 21 Calgary, Feb.19
- Access to Information: Edmonton, Jan. 22 Calgary, Feb. 20
- Managing a FOIP Program: Edmonton, Jan. 23 Calgary, Feb. 21

For more information and additional course dates please see the training calendar. The calendar is available on the FOIP Web site at www3.gov.ab.ca/foip/other_resources/training/index.cfm.

Did You Know....

...The 2003 FOIP Conference will be held June 2 and 3, 2003 at the Mayfield Inn and Suites in Edmonton, Alberta.

...The B.C. Access and Privacy conference will be held on February 13-14, 2003 in Victoria.

...Prince Edward Island's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* was proclaimed on November 1, 2002 for all departments, agencies, boards and commissions of the government, and will be extended to school boards and health agencies in November 2003. More information is available at www.gov.pe.ca/foipp/index.php3.

...On December 5, 2002 an oral public hearing will be held at the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner regarding the collection of personal information by the Alberta Motor Vehicle Industry Council (AMVIC). For more information click on www.oipc.ab.ca/news/detailspage.cfm?id=791.

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If you have an e-mail address, please let us know. Send an e-mail to foiphelpdesk@gov.ab.ca stating your name and organization and we will add you to our e-mail distribution list.