

Some tips for writing to the Privacy Commissioner

DRAFT

It's easy... and critical!

HERE'S YOUR OPPORTUNITY to tell B.C.'s Privacy Commissioner what you think about the government's plans to contract out the administration of the Medical Services Plan, Pharmacare and other public services to American multi-national corporations where, under the USA Patriot Act, it could be accessed by the FBI.

Privacy Commissioner David Loukidelis is inviting your input. *Please provide it!*

Your letter will be much more effective if it is in your own words. **Make it strong. Make it clear. And make it personal.**

These tips are intended to help you get started.



www.RightToPrivacyCampaign.com

1 Voice your opposition

Describe your concerns, as a British Columbian and a Canadian citizen, about the handing over of your personal information to American multi-national corporations where, under the USA Patriot Act, it could be accessed by the FBI.

2 Make it personal

Say how you feel about:

- this potential invasion of your privacy
- multi-national corporations administering your private information
- the kinds of personal information that could be accessed by others, including the FBI (such as what medications you are prescribed, list of dependents, whether you have coverage through mental health or human resources)... and why
- lack of public accountability or ability of the government to ensure private companies will keep your personal information protected from identity theft

3 Offer a solution

The only way to prevent this potential invasion of your privacy is for the government to halt its plans to contract out your personal information to any company that could then be compelled to violate Canadian privacy laws.

4 End on a strong note

Reiterate your concerns and hope that these plans will be stopped before it's too late.

5 Mail, fax or e-mail your submission

Submissions to Privacy Commissioner David Loukidelis must be clearly labelled "**Submission on the USA Patriot Act**". Deadline for submissions is **12 noon, Friday, July 23, 2004.**

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