

**From:** [Karen Matthews](#)  
**To:** [Karen Matthews](#)  
**Subject:** FOIPPA Amendments 2021  
**Date:** December 2, 2021 8:29:07 AM

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**From:** CITZ Deputy Minister, CITZ:EX <[CITZDeputyMinister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:CITZDeputyMinister@gov.bc.ca)>

**Sent:** November 29, 2021 10:13 AM

**Cc:** IMIT Policy CITZ:EX <[IM.ITpolicy@gov.bc.ca](mailto:IM.ITpolicy@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** FOIPPA Amendments 2021

**CAUTION:** External Message

Good Morning:

I am pleased to let you know that government has recently passed amendments to B.C.'s *Freedom of Information and Privacy Act* (FOIPPA). Apart from some minor changes in 2019, the Act has not been updated since 2011 and technology and peoples' expectations have changed substantially since that time, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

With royal assent on November 25, these amendments will help B.C. keep pace with new technology, ensure timely access to information, strengthen privacy protections and improve services for people in B.C.

Highlights of the amendments include:

- Updated data-residency provisions so public bodies can use modern tools while continuing to protect the personal information people entrust to us.
- Enhanced public-sector privacy protections and increased accountability by implementing mandatory privacy breach reporting and increasing penalties for offences.
- Introduction of an application fee for non-personal FOI requests.
- Demonstration of the Province's commitment to diversity, inclusion, reconciliation and equity by increasing information sharing with Indigenous peoples, adding Indigenous cultural protections and replacing non-inclusive language.

We have also developed some resource materials to support public bodies to understand the changes which can be found [here](#).

We are hosting information sessions for public bodies' executive leaders, and more detailed sessions for privacy and information management practitioners in early December to provide an overview of the changes, implementation requirements and where to find support resources. Please visit [www.gov.bc.ca/privacytraining](http://www.gov.bc.ca/privacytraining) for more information and to register.

If you have any questions in advance of the sessions, please contact [IM.ITPolicy@gov.bc.ca](mailto:IM.ITPolicy@gov.bc.ca)

Thank you for your support on this important update to B.C.'s information and privacy protection legislation.

Sincerely,

Shauna Brouwer  
Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Citizens' Services

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