

WHAT DOES THE INFORMATION AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONER DO?

The Saskatchewan Information and Privacy Commissioner is responsible for overseeing three different provincial statutes:

- *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act;*
- *The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (LA FOIP) Act; and*
- *Health Information Protection Act (HIPA).*

All three statutes establish your right to a review by the Commissioner. The Commissioner is an officer of the Legislative Assembly and is independent of government.

The Commissioner is also responsible for the following:

- Investigating complaints;
- Commenting on privacy implications of proposed legislation/programs;
- Authorize indirect collections;
- Recommend destruction of improperly collected personal health info;
- Recommend changes in collection, use or disclosure practices; and
- Provide public education.

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner



**503-1801 Hamilton Street
Regina, SK
S4P 4B4**

**Phone: (306) 787-8350
1-877-748-2298**

Fax: (306) 798-1603

Website: www.oipc.sk.ca

**Your Privacy and Access to
Information Rights in
Saskatchewan**

Privacy and Information Rights in Saskatchewan

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP) and The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (LA FOIP) are designed to do 2 things: (1) give the public a right to know what government is doing and (2) protect the privacy of individuals.



The FOIP Act covers all provincial government departments, Crown Corporations and a long list of almost 70 provincial boards, bodies and agencies. The LA FOIP Act covers all regional health authorities, universities and colleges, schools and municipalities.

Neither Act applies to private businesses or associations.

The Health Information Protection Act (HIPA) sets out the rules that govern the collection, use and disclosure of your personal health information. HIPA covers all bodies that are subject to the FOIP Act plus regional health authorities, physicians, pharmacists, nurses, dentists and other health care providers and their professional regulatory bodies.

This brochure describes the underlying principles of the 3 Saskatchewan laws and the steps you can take to identify and request information held by the Government of Saskatchewan, Crown Corporations and local authorities and health information trustees within Saskatchewan.

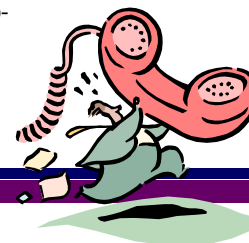
The 5 principles of the FOIP and LA FOIP Act can be described as follows:

- Right of access to records
- Right of access to/correction of personal information
- Limited exemptions to right of access
- Prevent unauthorized collection, use, disclosure of personal info
- Provide for independent review of decisions

HIPA has been designed to facilitate the sharing of personal health information among designated “trustees”. There is no right to access any personal health information other than your own.

You May Never Need These Acts...

Most times you can get the information you need by just phoning the public body or trustee. These Acts exist for those cases where you encounter problems trying to get information.



Each government institution or local authority should have a contact person or FOIP Coordinator who is responsible for overall management of its freedom of information and protection of privacy responsibilities. If you are not sure which public body has the information you are looking for, contact the FOIP Coordinator for the public body you think is most likely to have the information.



Each health information trustee should have a contact person or HIPA Coordinator who is responsible for overall compliance with HIPA. You should call that person if you have questions about how to access your personal health information.

If you can't get satisfaction informally, ask them for a copy of an Access to Information Request Form or download from our website. Submit the completed form to the FOIP Coordinator to make a formal access request.