

NEWS RELEASE
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2014 Information Summit opens in Vancouver this Friday

Conference will examine future of Freedom of Information and Privacy

Vancouver, September 15, 2014--The BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association (FIPA) is excited to announce that the 2014 BC Information Summit will take place this Friday, September 19th at UBC Robson Square.

The event, entitled *Where's the Balance? Next Steps for Freedom of Information and Privacy* will feature more than a dozen experts examining and debating where new technology, new programs and new court decisions are taking us and our information rights.

BC's **Information and Privacy Commissioner Elizabeth Denham** will kick off the Summit with a keynote address on recent developments in access and privacy, addressing how the office is using 20th century laws to address 21st century challenges including new technologies, surveillance and digital record-keeping.

After lunch, **Carmen Cheung, Senior Council with the BC Civil Liberties Association**, will address how the mass surveillance programs of signals intelligence agencies are being challenged in courts around the world, and ask, what are the next steps? Who is being targeted? And what can we do to rein in this unchecked surveillance?

There will also be four exciting panels dealing with topics including:

- Innovation vs transparency in Open Data
- Implications of a major Supreme Court of Canada decision on FOI and policy advice
- Whistleblowers and how we can protect them
- What changes are needed to the *Personal Information Protection Act*

Details on speakers and panelists can be found on our website at <http://www.infosummit.ca>

Secure registration is still available through the website, but seats are going fast.

FIPA would like to thank our Info Summit sponsors and our community partners, including the School of Library, Archival and Information Science at UBC, CUPE BC, Vancity, the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner, the Canadian Taxpayers' Federation, the Trial Lawyers Association of BC, BCGEU, the Wilderness

Committee, Newspapers Canada, Disability Alliance BC, Media Democracy Days, OpenMedia, BC Civil Liberties Association, Open Data BC, and Securecom Mobile.

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About FIPA:

FIPA is a non-partisan, non-profit society that was established in 1991 to promote and defend freedom of information and privacy rights in Canada. Our goal is to empower citizens by increasing their access to information and their control over their own personal information. We serve a wide variety of individuals and organizations through programs of public education, public assistance, research, and law reform.