



# **French-language Services Plan**

## **2025–2026**

*Office of the Information and Privacy  
Commissioner for Nova Scotia*

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2025 French-language Services Plan  
Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for Nova Scotia  
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## **French-language services plan 2025–26**

### *Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for Nova Scotia*

#### **Message from the deputy minister or CEO**

The Information and Privacy Commissioner and her staff are responsible for providing independent oversight of provincial and municipal public bodies' and health custodians' compliance with access and privacy law requirements and for raising public awareness of information access and privacy issues. The Commissioner provides an Annual Report of activities to the Speaker of the House of Assembly. Over 400 provincial and municipal public bodies including government departments, towns, police departments, universities and regional centres for education and over 26,000 health information custodians are subject to Nova Scotia's access and privacy laws, affecting Nova Scotians' rights relating to many aspects of public and private life. The Commissioner conducts complaint and review investigations and mediations, monitors compliance, initiates investigations including systemic investigations, provides education, research and development of best practices and provides expert advice and comments. In accordance with the French-language Services Act and Regulations, I am pleased to provide the Information and Privacy Commissioner's French-language Services Plan for the year 2025-26.

Respectfully submitted,



Carmen Stuart  
Acting Information and Privacy Commissioner for Nova Scotia

#### **What we're doing to contribute to the growth of the Acadian and francophone community**

The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) plan includes measures to promote the mandate of the office among francophone communities in Nova Scotia. Promoting the mandate of the OIPC can help ensure that Acadians and francophones understand their access to information and privacy rights, as well as government and health custodian responsibilities in these areas.

Strong awareness of access to information and privacy rights can assist individuals to exercise those rights and to participate in public life. Gains in this area will help strengthen Nova Scotia's democracy overall and the wellbeing of Acadian and francophone communities.

#### **French-language services coordinator:**

For questions about French-language services, contact Mary Kennedy at [Mary.Kennedy@novascotia.ca](mailto:Mary.Kennedy@novascotia.ca), 902-424-1532.

## Services we offer in French

- **Annual Reports from 2001 to 2013**
- **French-language Services Plans 2009-10 to 2024-25**
- **Federal, Provincial and Territorial Privacy and Information Ombudspersons and Commissioners joint resolutions and statements:**
  - *Transparency by default (December 2024)*
  - *Responsible information-sharing in situations involving intimate partner violence (November 2024)*
  - *Identifying and mitigating harms from privacy-related deceptive design patterns (October 2024)*
  - *Principles for responsible, trustworthy and privacy-protective generative AI technologies (December 2023)*
  - *Putting best interests of young people at the forefront of privacy and access to personal information and companion documents:*
    - *Putting best interests of young people at the forefront of privacy and access to personal information; and*
    - *How organizations can help protect young people online (October 2023)*
  - *Protecting Employee Privacy in the Modern Workplace*
  - *Facilitating Canadians' access to government records to help restore trust in our institutions (October 2023)*
  - *Ensuring the Right to Privacy and Transparency in the Digital Identity Ecosystem in Canada (October 2022)*
  - *Securing Public Trust in Digital Healthcare (September 2022)*
  - *Recommended legal framework for police agencies' use of facial recognition (May 2022)*
  - *Reinforcing Privacy and Access to Information Rights During and After a Pandemic (June 2021)*
  - *Privacy and Covid-19 Vaccine Passports (May 2021)*
  - *Effective privacy and access to information legislation in a data driven society (November 2019)*
  - *Securing Trust and Privacy in Canada's Electoral Process (Sept 2018)*
  - *Duty to Document (March 2016)*
  - *Protecting and Promoting Canadians' Privacy and Access Rights in Information Sharing Initiatives (February 2016)*
  - *Protect and Promote Canadians' Access and Privacy Rights in the Era of Digital Government*
  - *Letter to the Select Standing Committee on Public Safety about the far reaching implications of Bill C-51 (the Anti-terrorism Act, 2015)*
  - *Statement on National Security and Law Enforcement Measures (October 2014).*

### **Guidelines & public information:**

- A Citizen's Guide to Access and Privacy Rights in Nova Scotia
- Provincial Government Records: Which Office Do I Need?
- Mini Guide to Access
- Mini Guide to Privacy
- Mini Guide to Personal Health Information
- Know Your Rights: How to Make an Effective ATI Request
- PHIA Fee Fact Sheet
- Applicant Responsibilities
- Privacy Pursuit! Activity Book and Lesson Plans for grades 2-8 from the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario
- Best Password Practices
- Graphic Novel - Social Smarts: Nothing Personal!
- OIPC Guide to Review Process

- Privacy guidance on facial recognition for police agencies
- Guidance for the use of Body Worn Cameras
- Key Steps to Responding to Privacy Breaches

## **How we communicate with the public in French**

The OIPC will respond to verbal and written requests to communicate in French from the public with office staff to the extent possible and where necessary through translation services.

## **What we did to maintain or improve our French-language services in 2024–25**

- Published Federal, Provincial and Territorial Privacy and Information Ombudspersons and Commissioners joint resolution, *Transparency by default (December 2024)*.
- Published Federal, Provincial and Territorial Privacy and Information Ombudspersons and Commissioners joint resolution, *Responsible information-sharing in situations involving intimate partner violence (November 2024)*.
- Published Federal, Provincial and Territorial Privacy and Information Ombudspersons and Commissioners joint resolution, *Identifying and mitigating harms from privacy-related deceptive design patterns (October 2024)*.

## **How we plan to maintain or improve our French-language services in 2025–26**

### **Strengthen frameworks for French-language services**

- The French-language Services Coordinator will attend the French-language Services Coordinating Committee meetings where operational requirements permit.
- The French-language Services Coordinator will highlight initiatives from that committee within the OIPC where operational requirements permit.

### **Engage the Acadian and francophone community**

- Review all public documents for translation and print or publish equivalent forms where operational and budgetary requirements permit.
- Support staff to attend the Acadie at a Glance Workshop where operational requirements permit.

### **Develop and deliver programs and services in French**

Support staff attending French language training where operational requirements permit.