



NEWS RELEASE

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Joint resolution by federal, provincial and territorial privacy commissioners regarding the right to privacy, protection of personal information, and transparency in the digital ecosystem in Canada

HALIFAX – In a joint resolution yesterday, Canada’s information and privacy regulators called on their respective governments and other relevant stakeholders to ensure that privacy rights, the protection of personal information, and transparency are fully respected throughout the design, operation, and ongoing evolution of a digital identity ecosystem in Canada.

“A digital identity is an essential element of modernizing services for citizens, across all levels of government. I believe the conditions and properties set out on the joint resolution are vital for a robust digital identity ecosystem here in Nova Scotia,” says Tricia Ralph, Information and Privacy Commissioner for Nova Scotia. “The current legislative framework continues to have gaps that create barriers to Nova Scotia being a leader in this front. For example, I can foresee that municipalities will be keen to embark on a digital identity to modernize their services, and currently there is no legislative oversight for municipal privacy.”

The regulators recognise the many potential benefits of a privacy-respecting and secure digital identity for use by Canadians. However, they note that the benefits of a digital identity ecosystem must not come at the cost of fine-grained tracking and surveillance, increased risk of discrimination, heightened incidence of identity theft, fraud and other harms, or diminished roles for individual users.

The joint resolution adopts 18 digital ecosystem properties, sets out individual rights and remedies, and outlines governance and oversight that should be integrated with a legislative framework applicable to the creation and management of digital identities.

Related document:

Joint Resolution: [Ensuring the Right to Privacy and Transparency in the Digital Identity Ecosystem in Canada](#)

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