



Information and Privacy
Commissioner of Ontario

Commissaire à l'information et à la
protection de la vie privée de l'Ontario

December 17, 2018

Re: 2018 Health Privacy Breach Statistics Reporting

As you may be aware, according to new rules under the *Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA)*, health information custodians in Ontario are now required to report statistics relating to health privacy breaches annually to my office, which oversees compliance with *PHIPA*.

Examples of health information custodians include health care practitioners such as doctors, nurses, pharmacists, speech-language pathologists, chiropractors, dental professionals, dieticians, medical laboratory technologists, massage therapists, midwives, occupational therapists, opticians and physiotherapists.

This statistical report will set out the number of times in 2018 that personal health information held by a health information custodian was stolen, lost, used without authority and/or disclosed without authority. The other sections of the report will focus on the cause of the breach and the number of individuals affected. The report does not ask for personal health information.

The purpose of this letter is to let you know that we have now opened our [online statistics submission website](#) for health information custodians across Ontario to submit their statistics for the 2018 reporting year. If you experienced at least one health privacy breach during the 2018 reporting year—from January to December—you are required by law to complete our online questionnaire. The deadline to submit is **Friday, March 1, 2019**.

If you experienced 0 (zero) health privacy breaches during the 2018 reporting year, you should not submit a statistical report.

To begin, please send us an email to statistics.ipc@ipc.on.ca including all of your contact information and we will provide you with a login ID that will give you access to our [online statistics submission website](#). You will then be able to reset the password. The online questionnaire is easy to complete and you may consult the [Workbook and Guide](#) as you go along. Note that we cannot accept submissions by mail or fax; please complete the questionnaire online at this link: <https://statistics.ipc.on.ca>

For your convenience, we have also published a [frequently asked questions](#) document, which will give you the answers to most of your questions.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to email statistics.ipc@ipc.on.ca or call my office at 1-800-387-0073 and ask to speak to an Information Officer.



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Thank you for your cooperation and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Beamish', written in a cursive style.

Brian Beamish
Commissioner