

Commissioner Ann Cavoukian sending out four teams for *Right to Know Blitz Day*, Sept. 28

To help mark *Right to Know Week* next week, Dr. Ann Cavoukian, Ontario's Information and Privacy Commissioner, is sending out four teams on Friday for a *Right to Know Blitz Day*. The IPC is setting up information tables at four Toronto malls, where staff will be handing out IPC publications and answering questions from the public.

This is the second *Right to Know Week* in Canada, sponsored by federal and provincial Information and Privacy Commissioners, to raise awareness of the public's right to access government-held information. This special week – and the timing of the IPC's *Blitz Day* – is based on the international *Right to Know Day*, September 28. On September 28, 2002, freedom of information organizations from more than a dozen countries met in Sofia, Bulgaria, and agreed to collaborate in the promotion of individual right of access to information and open, transparent government.

“Citizens cannot participate meaningfully in the democratic process and hold politicians and bureaucrats accountable unless they have access to information held by government,” said Commissioner Cavoukian. “Our *Right to Know Blitz Day* is one of the tools we are using to focus attention on the public's right to access government-held information.”

The four Toronto malls where the IPC is setting up information tables September 28, from 1 to 5 p.m., include: The Yonge-Eglinton Centre, the Sheppard Centre, Centrepont Mall and the Promenade Shopping Centre.

SPECIAL PANEL

Later this fall, on October 31, Commissioner Cavoukian is organizing a special luncheon at the Dominion Club in Toronto to further draw attention to Ontarians' *right to know* what elected and appointed officials are doing – and why. The Commissioner will serve as the moderator of a panel that includes three of her fellow Officers of the Legislature – **Justice Sidney B. Linden**, the recently appointed Conflict of Interest Commissioner; **Andre Marin**, Ontario's Ombudsman; and **Jim McCarter**, Auditor General of Ontario.

Tickets for the *Right to Know* luncheon will soon be available through the Toronto branch of the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (www.ipac.ca/Toronto/events), which is co-sponsoring the luncheon with the IPC.

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