



Information and Privacy
Commissioner of Ontario

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

Backgrounder

Public consultation on 2021-2025 strategic priorities

In December 2020, the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario (IPC) launched a public consultation to seek input from Ontarians on the selection of its strategic priorities. To fuel the discussion, the IPC released a [consultation paper](#) setting out six potential strategic priorities, related goals and cross-cutting approaches to help guide their achievement.

The proposed strategic priorities were developed through the office's daily scan of emerging issues and concerns voiced by stakeholders, media, and the public, and refined through internal consultations with IPC staff. They were further informed by in-depth research on access and privacy trends emerging across Canada and around the world.

The IPC's external [ad hoc strategic advisory committee](#), an independent group of 18 privacy and access experts from various sectors, provided extensive feedback and guidance on the development of the priorities.

The IPC received nearly 60 submissions from a wide range of stakeholders during the public consultation, which closed on January 22, 2021. These included advocacy groups, children's aid societies, Crown corporations, health institutions, individuals, law enforcement agencies, municipalities, private sector organizations, provincial institutions, researchers, think tanks, and universities.

The strategic priorities ultimately selected will focus on promoting and protecting Ontarians' access and privacy rights in an increasingly data-driven world as organizations accelerate their use of new digital tools and artificial technologies.

Many stakeholders expressed a willingness to work with the IPC in advancing these strategic priorities and related goals, offering their assistance and first-hand expertise in the development of practical frameworks, guidance, and resources.

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DEVELOPMENT OF PROPOSED STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

September to November 2020

- Consulted with all IPC staff on top issues resonating with Ontarians (through complaints, appeals, inquiries, media requests, etc.)
- Researched and analyzed trends emerging from IPC's daily environmental scanning function
- Developed a long list of potential strategic priorities, narrowed down to a short list of six (6) using defined criteria in consultation with IPC's Senior Management Committee

December 2020 to January 2021

- Consulted with external, ad hoc strategic advisory committee
- Drafted the external consultation paper to gather input from general public and key stakeholders
- Released IPC's public consultation paper and launched public consultation process
- Initiated targeted outreach to over 100 key stakeholders

CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT

January to March 2021

- Considered responses received through the public consultation process
- Reconvened the ad hoc strategic advisory committee to discuss and deliberate on the public input received
- Selected IPC's final slate of strategic priorities for 2021-2025

April 2021

- Published final report announcing IPC's strategic priorities for 2021 – 2025
- Began the strategic implementation process and development of action plans in dialogue with key stakeholders

RELEASE OF IPC STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2021-2025