



July 3 2014

Ref: 174740

Peg Orcherton, Chair
Board of Education
School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)
556 Boleskine Rd
Victoria BC V8Z 1E8
Email: pegorcherton@telus.net

Dear Ms. Orcherton:

Thank you for your letter of May 21, 2014, on behalf of the Greater Victoria Board of Education concerning the privacy and data control implications of MyEducation BC.

Let me assure you that the security and privacy protocols and controls in MyEducation BC meet all requirements for the protection of personal information as outlined by legislation and the mandatory requirements of the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), in addition to following industry best practices. As the Ministry of Education, we take the protection of personal and sensitive information extremely seriously and ensure that all employees are trained in this area.

To verify compliance with the comprehensive security and privacy requirements outlined in the contract, the Ministry has put in place a security and controls audit for MyEducation BC. Independent agents have been contracted to conduct an analysis of the Ministry's Security Threat and Risk Assessment (STRA) results, and to perform Vulnerability Testing on the service. All data will remain in Canada and a Ministry expert will be conducting site inspections of both data centres.

The Ministry has also completed a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) of MyEducation BC, which has now been approved by the OCIO, and also reviewed by the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner.

As you are aware, responsibility for privacy is jointly held by the Ministry and the Districts. The Ministry, through a contract with its service provider, provides the shared application software and the infrastructure. The Districts are responsible for the collection, use, disclosure, accuracy and correction of personal student information. To assist school districts we are providing a PIA template to assist them in completing their own Privacy Impact Assessments, and providing free online training on privacy and security for all school district employees.

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It has always been the intent of the Ministry to provide access to MyEducation BC using the BC Services Card (BCSC). We did receive a temporary exemption from this requirement in order to align the implementation timelines of MyEducation BC and the BC Services Card. The exemption is valid until February of 2018, but may be reviewed at an earlier date dependent upon the usage of the BC Services Card.

Thank you for your interest in the new common student information service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Fassbender', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Peter Fassbender
Minister