



Office of the
Information and Privacy
Commissioner of Alberta

June 29, 2010

Adjudicator rules posters contravened several sections of the Personal Information Protection Act

Two organizations in Edson have been found in contravention of several sections of the Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA) following an inquiry into posters which had been posted around the community.

An individual complained to the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner that Murphy Industrial Oilfield Inc., and Brooklyn Oilfield Services Inc. had posted posters that consisted of an enlargement of his driver's license with a caption suggesting that he posed a danger to children. An RCMP investigation into the issue concluded the posters were a hoax and that the individual posed no danger to children.

It was apparent that there was an acrimonious dispute between the Complainant and the organizations, and Adjudicator Wade Riordan Raaflaub found that despite denials from the organizations, on the balance of probabilities, it was the organizations that had created and posted the posters. Riordan Raaflaub found that the photograph on the posters was taken from a copy of the same driver's license the Complainant had provided to the organizations. He also found that both organizations were responsible for the Complainant's personal information.

Riordan Raaflaub determined that the organizations used and disclosed the Complainant's personal information in contravention of several sections of PIPA including using and disclosing for reasons that were clearly not reasonable. He also found that the organizations used and disclosed inaccurate personal information.

The organizations have been ordered to stop disclosing the Complainant's personal information and to ensure that its employees are made aware of the organizations' obligations under PIPA.

For a copy of Order P2009-013 and P2009-014, please visit our website at www.oipc.ab.ca

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