



November 9, 2006

Commissioner launches investigation into stolen Calgary Health Region laptop

Alberta's Information and Privacy Commissioner has confirmed that his office is investigating the theft of a laptop computer from the home of an employee of the Calgary Health Region. The computer contains the personal health information of approximately 1,000 patients, who received services provided by the Region's Collaborative Mental Health Department.

Commissioner Frank Work has called an investigation under the Health Information Act (HIA). The Commissioner says of paramount concern is ensuring that proper measures are taken to limit any harm to the individuals involved in this issue.

The Commissioner says he will focus his investigation on what security measures there were on the laptop, and will develop recommendations for the Calgary Health Region to follow.

The Health Region reported the theft to the Commissioner's office and is taking steps to notify the patients involved.

The Commissioner's report on the matter is expected within a few weeks.

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