

MOTION

No. 69

Protecting Privacy and Personal Information During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Stephen Howard gives notice that tomorrow he will move, seconded by Peter Bevan-Baker, the following Motion:

WHEREAS Prince Edward Island is engaged in the fight against COVID-19 and will be for the foreseeable future;

WHEREAS governments in Canada and around the world are considering or implementing new policy initiatives and technology to support their efforts to combat the COVID-19 crisis;

WHEREAS some policy initiatives and technology threaten to reduce a person's privacy and increase government access to personal information;

WHEREAS a state of emergency has been declared on PEI, granting the provincial government extraordinary powers to address the crisis;

WHEREAS privacy and civil liberty advocacy groups have called on governments to show restraint with respect to the use of new policy initiatives or technology so as to protect and preserve the privacy rights of the public;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Government prioritize approaches which do not require any surveillance or data gathering to stay at home;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Government exercise due process for adopting any new powers, including using the legislative process and seeking privacy reviews from the Information and Privacy Commissioner where privacy might be impacted;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Government favour consent in any new data-sharing initiatives;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Government put strict limits on data collection and retention and on the use and disclosure of that data;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Government ensure proper oversight, transparency and accountability, including by informing the public of its data collection activities and the public's options for recourse in the event of data breaches or misuse;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT surveillance efforts related to COVID-19 do not fall under the domain of security, law enforcement or intelligence agencies.

Signed by: Stephen Howard

Signed by: Peter Bevan-Baker

Date: May 26, 2020