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# AccessPrivacy Health Privacy Symposium

Exploring Key Concepts for the Reform of  
Canadian Health Privacy Legislation

February 3, 2026

**ACCESSPRIVACY**  
BY OSLER

# AccessPrivacy Health Privacy Symposium:

## Exploring Key Concepts for the Reform of Canadian Health Privacy Legislation

FEBRUARY 3, 2026 | 100 KING ST WEST, TORONTO, SUITE 6300

8:00-9:00 AM	Registration and Breakfast
9:00-9:15 AM	<p><b>Opening Remarks from Conference Co-Chairs</b></p> <p><b>Rosario Cartagena</b>, Special Counsel, Privacy and Data Management, Osler, Hoskin &amp; Harcourt LLP; Chief Privacy and Legal Officer/Corporate Secretary, ICES</p> <p><b>Adam Kardash</b>, Co-Chair, Privacy and Data Management, Osler, Hoskin &amp; Harcourt LLP; AccessPrivacy National Lead</p>
9:15-10:00 AM	<p><b>AI in Health System Transformation: Opportunities, Challenges, and Risks</b></p> <p><b>Mark Daley</b>, Chief AI Officer and Professor, Department of Computer Science, Western University</p> <p><b>Teresa Scassa</b>, Canada Research Chair in Information Law and Policy, University of Ottawa</p>
10:00-10:45 AM	<p><b>Exploring the EU Health Data Space and Finnish Data Regulatory Model – Opportunities for Canada</b></p> <p><b>Sirpa Soini</b>, Director and Chief Data Officer, Department of Data and Analytics, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare</p>
10:45-11:00 AM	Networking Break
11:00-11:45 AM	<p><b>Patient Expectations, Misconceptions, and the Reality of Health Data Use</b></p> <p><b>Jonathan Dewar</b>, CEO, First Nations Information Governance Centre</p> <p><b>James Falconer</b>, Section Chief, Census Futures Project, Statistics Canada</p> <p><b>Alies Maybee</b>, Co-Founder and Chair, Patient Advisors Network</p>
11:45 AM-12:30 PM	<p><b>Statutory and Policy Foundations for a Harmonized Health Data Ecosystem</b></p> <p><b>Matthew Hebert</b>, Chief Operating Officer – Primary and Preventative Health Services (PPHS), Government of Alberta</p> <p><b>Michael Hillmer</b>, Assistant Deputy Minister – Digital and Analytics Strategy, Ontario Ministry of Health/Ministry of Long-Term Care</p>

12:30-1:30 PM	Networking Lunch
1:30-2:15 PM	<p><b>Respectfully Leveraging Health Data as a Public Good</b></p> <p><b>Ashley Dent</b>, Chief Privacy Officer and General Counsel, Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI)</p> <p><b>Kim McGrail</b>, CEO and Scientific Director, Health Data Research Network Canada; Associate Dean of Research, School of Medicine, Simon Fraser University</p> <p><b>Devin Singh</b>, Staff Physician and Co-Lead, Clinical AI in Medicine, SickKids; Co-Founder &amp; CEO, Hero AI</p> <p><b>Amol Verma</b>, Temerty Professor of AI Research and Education in Medicine, University of Toronto; Co-Lead, GEMINI – The General Medicine Inpatient Initiative</p>
2:15-3:00 PM	<p><b>Advancing Trustworthy Health Data Ecosystems Through Data Stewardship</b></p> <p><b>Brent Diverty</b>, Vice President, Data Strategies and Statistics, Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI)</p> <p><b>Nadia Remtulla</b>, Privacy Director and Chief Privacy Officer, Ontario Health</p> <p><b>Pam Snively</b>, Chief Data &amp; Trust Officer, TELUS</p>
3:00-3:15 PM	Networking Break
3:15-4:00 PM	<p><b>Reflections from Canadian Privacy Regulators</b></p> <p><b>Michael Harvey</b>, Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia</p> <p><b>Patricia Kosseim</b>, Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario</p> <p><b>Diane McLeod</b>, Information and Privacy Commissioner of Alberta</p>
4:00-5:00 PM	Closing Remarks and Cocktail Reception

## Conference Co-Chairs



### Rosario Cartagena

Special Counsel, Privacy and Data Management, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP; Chief Privacy and Legal Officer/Corporate Secretary, ICES

Rosario is counsel in Osler's Privacy and Data Management group. Bringing over 20 years of experience working within or alongside health system stakeholders, Rosario brings a unique and strategic perspective to her clients.

Rosario's practice is focused on health privacy law, health research, privacy and data governance, information security, risk management and data ethics. She also advises clients on cybersecurity readiness, compliance program development and audits, AI frameworks and regulatory issues.

In addition to her role as strategic advisor to firm clients, Rosario is also Chief Privacy and Legal Officer at ICES — an Ontario-based analytics and research institute that uses population data to generate meaningful insights to improve policy, health care, and health outcomes. As a member of the executive team and corporate secretary to the Board, Rosario oversees a team that includes subject-matter experts in: privacy, legal, enterprise risk management, compliance and cybersecurity.

Rosario's experience working within the health system has allowed her to gain a deep understanding of industry trends and key priorities for stakeholders that results in practical advice for how best to navigate and address the growing privacy, legal, reputational, and ethical risks in the health care and health research sectors.

Rosario previously worked with the health law group at another national law firm and within public sector agencies advising on legal and privacy matters that intersect health and data management. Following the completion of her graduate degree, Rosario was a post-grad intern at the Harvard School of Public Health. She is also a Certified Information Privacy Professional/Canada (CIPP/C) and has a Certificate in Health Law, from Osgoode Hall Law School



### Adam Kardash

Co-Chair, Privacy and Data Management, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP; AccessPrivacy National Lead

Adam is an acknowledged Canadian legal industry leader in privacy and data management; he leads the firm's national Privacy and Data Management practice. Adam has been lead counsel on many of the most significant privacy matters in Canada.

Adam advises Fortune 500 clients in their business-critical data-protection issues, compliance initiatives and data governance. He regularly represents clients on regulatory investigations and security breaches. Adam is Special Counsel to the Interactive Advertising Bureau of Canada and counsel to the Digital Advertising Alliance of Canada.

He has extensive experience in the privacy law area and regularly advises Chief Privacy Officers, in-house counsel and compliance professionals in the private, health, public and not-for-profit sectors on managing security incidents, privacy regulatory investigations, antispam law compliance, privacy and security reviews/audits; privacy policies, practices and procedures; privacy compliance initiatives; and service-provider arrangements involving personal information, including transborder data flows. Adam has worked on a wide variety of transactions involving information technology, including technology acquisitions, licensing, outsourcing and service-provider arrangements, as well as general corporate commercial issues with respect to carrying on business over the Internet and in the electronic environment.

Adam speaks regularly on privacy issues, is a past chair of the Ontario Bar Association privacy section, and for three years taught an MBA course at York University's Schulich School of Business on legal issues relating to electronic commerce.

Widely recognized as an innovator in his fast-moving area of law, Adam is also Head of [AccessPrivacy](#) Osler's integrated privacy compliance and data-governance consulting and information service that is complementary to the firm's national privacy and data management practice. This integrated offering includes a thought-leadership forum that involves Chief Privacy Officers and senior in-house counsel from many of Canada's leading companies; in addition, it provides online subscription tools for CPOs, in-house counsel and compliance professionals.

## Conference Speakers



### Mark Daley

Chief AI Officer and Professor, Department of Computer Science, Western University

Mark is the Chief AI Officer at Western University and a Professor in the Department of Computer Science with cross-appointments in five other departments, The Rotman Institute of Philosophy, and The Western Institute for Neuroscience. He is also a faculty affiliate of Toronto's Vector Institute for Artificial Intelligence.

Mark was named in the Maclean's magazine "Power List 2024" of the top 100 Canadians shaping the country and in Constellation Research's AI150, a list of the 150 top global executives leading AI transformation efforts.

In October 2024, Mark was appointed the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Scholar in Residence in Artificial Intelligence.

Mark has previously served as the Vice-President (Research) at the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR), and Chief Digital Information Officer, Special Advisor to the President, and Associate Vice-President (Research) at Western.



### Teresa Scassa

Canada Research Chair in Information Law and Policy, University of Ottawa

Dr. Teresa Scassa is the Canada Research Chair in Information Law and Policy at the University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law. She is the author or co-editor of several books, including: *The Future of Open Data* (2022) and *Artificial Intelligence and the Law in Canada* (2021). She serves in a volunteer capacity on numerous advisory bodies, including the Ontario Information and Privacy Commissioner's Strategic Advisory Council and the Ontario Health Data Council. In 2024 she was awarded the Picasso Award in the category of Privacy Leader Academia/Thought Leader. Her research focuses on AI regulation, data governance and privacy.



### Sirpa Soini

Director and Chief Data Officer, Department of Data and Analytics, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare

Dr. Sirpa Soini has a strong background in health and social care information management, medical research law and national data ecosystems. She leads a department of ca. 200 experts at the intersection of law, data, health policy and digital transformation.

Sirpa has a system-level perspective on the Finnish health and social care landscape and its ongoing reform. THL, subordinated under the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, works with the wellbeing services counties to build a high-quality, interoperable and meaningful national data foundation that supports leadership, assessment, research and innovation.

Sirpa's department oversees large-scale national data collections, registries and biobank assets, ensuring their quality, availability and secondary use in line with FAIR principles. Her staff actively prepares for the new European frameworks such as the European Health Data Space (EHDS).

Sirpa is also one the Chairs of the Medical Research Ethics Review Boards of the Helsinki University Hospital.



### Jonathan Dewar

Chief Executive Officer, First Nations Information Governance Centre

Jonathan Dewar, PhD, is the Chief Executive Officer at the First Nations Information Governance Centre. The FNIGC leads national-level research, designing and implementing surveys, including the longstanding First Nations Regional Health Survey, as well as related research and public health initiatives, and provides information governance and OCAP® education and training. FNIGC is also leading the implementation of the national First Nations Data Governance Strategy.

He has spent most of his career directing research and knowledge translation initiatives for national

Indigenous-led organizations. During that time, his work has focused on governance, strategic planning, health and well-being, data sovereignty, arts and literatures, and truth, healing and reconciliation.

Jonathan previously served as the Director General and Vice President, Collections, Research, Exhibitions and Repatriation at the Canadian Museum of History; Director of the Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre and Special Advisor to the President at Algoma University; and Director of Research at the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, among other leadership roles.

Jonathan received a doctorate from the School of Indigenous and Canadian Studies at Carleton University and holds an appointment as Adjunct Research Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. He also serves in many volunteer capacities, including as a member of the Board of Directors of the Queensway Carleton Hospital, where he is also Chair of the Governance and Nominations Committee, and as a member of the inaugural Board of Directors for the National Council for Reconciliation. He has served on many expert advisory bodies, including the Expert Advisory Group on the pan-Canadian Health Data Strategy, and serves as a member of the National Killam Program Selection Committee.

Born and raised in the unceded and unsundered territory of the Algonquin Nation (Ottawa), Jonathan is of Scottish- and French-Canadian heritage and a member of the Huron Wendat Nation.



## James Falconer

**Section Chief, Census Futures Project, Statistics Canada**

James Falconer is a section chief in the Census Futures project at Statistics Canada, which is a research and development unit within the census branch whose mandate is the future vision of census-taking in Canada. Much of James' work in recent years has investigated the social acceptability of using linked administrative data. James earned a PhD in Sociology from McGill in 2016, with a specialization in social epidemiology, health inequalities, and population dynamics. His research has been published in *Social Science and Medicine*, *Recherches Sociographiques*, and *BMC Medical Ethics*, among others. James lives near Ottawa with his wife and three children.



## Alies Maybee

**Co-Founder and Chair, Patient Advisors Network**

Alies Maybee collaborates as a patient/caregiver in many aspects of healthcare including research, service delivery and policy with a focus on system change. As a former technologist, she has a strong interest in how technology can be used to improve both health services and healthcare systems. Her work in research includes being a patient partner on many projects since 2014 including in the research management and governance area.

Alies looks for new ways to involve people from all backgrounds and communities which led her to co-initiate EMPaCT, a community table of people with diverse lived experiences focused on health equity. She is a co-founder and current chair of the Patient Advisors Network (PAN), a national community of practice for patient/caregiver partners and healthcare consulting practice.



## Matthew Hebert

**Chief Operating Officer – Primary and Preventative Health Services (PPHS), Government of Alberta**

Matt Hebert is currently the Chief Operating Officer for Primary and Preventative Health Service Ministry for the Government of Alberta. He oversees the Health and Well-Being System Transformation and the Strategic, Support, and Integrated Services, and Rural Health divisions, as well as the Corporate Services branch. He is also responsible for advancing cross-enterprise initiatives with other ministries.

Over the last year Matt has held many roles within PPHS including, acting Senior Assistant Deputy Minister for both PPHS and Hospital and Surgical Health Services, and acting Assistant Deputy Minister of the Strategic Policy and Performance division. From November 2023 to 2025, he served as Assistant Deputy Minister of System Refocusing. The System Refocusing Division was responsible for leading the implementation of the health system refocusing, including standing up

provincial health agencies, coordinating work within the Department, government and with key stakeholders, and ensuring a smooth transition for the health care system.

Previously, Matt served as Assistant Deputy Minister System Excellence at Education. In that role, he was responsible for teacher certification, leadership development, and provincial assessments. He led the implementation of the new teacher and teacher leader professional discipline model and the launch of the new provincial assessment digital platform. Previously, he was an executive director at Indigenous Relations, Transportation, and Health leading a variety of different teams. Matt has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Studies from Augustana University College and a Master of Business Administration from the Ivey Business School, Western University.



## Michael Hillmer

**Assistant Deputy Minister – Digital and Analytics Strategy, Ontario Ministry of Health/Ministry of Long-Term Care**

Michael Hillmer is the Assistant Deputy Minister of Data and Analytics Strategy in the Ontario Ministry of Health/Ministry of Long-Term Care. In this role, he oversees health data, analytics, data science information policy, and privacy policy.

His division is responsible for maintaining trusted, high-quality health data and generating actionable insights that improve the health care system. The information management and strategy portfolio establishes strategies that drive responsible use of health data for the public good.

Dr. Hillmer is an Associate Professor at the University of Toronto. He's received degrees from Carleton University and the University of Toronto.



## Ashley Dent

**Chief Privacy Officer and General Counsel, Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI)**

Ashley Dent is Chief Privacy Officer and General Counsel at the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), where she provides executive leadership on legal, privacy, governance and regulatory matters supporting CIHI's role as a trusted steward of health data in Canada. She brings more than 20 years of public- and private-sector experience advising boards, senior leaders and cross-sector stakeholders on complex legal, policy and data protection issues. Ms. Dent has held senior roles at KPMG Canada, Ontario Health, Hamilton Health Sciences and LifeLabs Medical Laboratories, and previously served as a senior policy advisor in both the federal and Ontario governments. She is a member of the Ontario bar and a former faculty member with Osgoode Hall Law School's professional programs.



## Kim McGrail

**CEO & Scientific Director, Health Data Research Network Canada; Associate Dean of Research, School of Medicine, Simon Fraser University**

Kimberlyn McGrail is Associate Dean of Research in the School of Medicine at Simon Fraser University. She is Scientific Advisor for Population Data BC and Scientific Director / CEO of Health Data Research Network Canada. Her research interests are in primary care, policy evaluation and all aspects of population data science. From 2020-2022, Kim was a member of the Expert Advisory Group for the pan-Canadian Health Data Strategy. She is a member of the Global Partnership for AI Data Governance Working Group as well a number of Canadian advisory groups related to health data and research.



## Devin Singh

**Staff Physician and Co-Lead, Clinical AI in Medicine, SickKids; Co-Founder & CEO, Hero AI**

Dr. Devin Singh is one of Canada's first physicians to specialize in clinical artificial intelligence. He is an emergency physician at The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) and holds a Masters in Computer Science degree from the University of Toronto. He is an Assistant Professor at the University of Toronto in both the Temerty Faculty of Medicine and the Division of Computer Science and is an emerging scholar helping to innovate the regulatory, privacy, and ethical landscape for AI in Canada and beyond. He is also the co-founder and CEO of Hero AI, a healthcare technology company dedicated to empowering patients and providers with AI.



## Amol Verma

**Temerty Professor of AI Research and Education in Medicine, University of Toronto; Co-Lead, GEMINI – The General Medicine Inpatient Initiative**

Amol Verma is a physician and scientist in General Internal Medicine at St. Michael's Hospital and the Temerty Professor of AI Research and Education in Medicine at the University of Toronto. Dr. Verma co-founded and co-leads GEMINI, Canada's largest hospital clinical data research network, which is collecting data from >35 hospitals in Ontario, who care for >60% of the province's population.

Dr. Verma completed medical training at the University of Toronto, a Masters degree at the University of Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar, and research fellowships through the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, the Canadian Frailty Network, and AMS Healthcare. He served on the Council of Canadian Academies Expert Panel on Health Data Sharing, is a Provincial Clinical Lead for Quality Improvement in General Internal Medicine with Ontario Health, and is serving on the Canadian Institute of Health Information's Expert Advisory Group for Hospital Data Transformation.

He is the Chair of the Researcher Council of the Digital Research Alliance of Canada (DRAC) and is a Board Member of DRAC and AMS Healthcare.

He has received numerous awards for leadership, research and teaching, including the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Early Career Leadership Award, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research's Trailblazer Award in Population and Public Health Research, and the Canadian Society of Internal Medicine's New Investigator Award.



## Brent Diverty

**Vice President, Data Strategies and Statistics, Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI)**

Brent Diverty is Vice President, Data Strategies and Statistics at the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), where he has executive oversight for CIHI's range of health services, expenditure, and workforce data holdings, strategic data initiatives, and CIHI's data governance portfolio. In 2011-12, Brent worked at the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare in Canberra, overseeing a diverse portfolio of health and welfare information programs. Previously, Mr. Diverty worked as a Director at CIHI, in management consulting roles and at Statistics Canada. He is part of the executive of Health Data Research Network Canada, and the Board of Directors of the Canadian Research Data Centre Network. Over his 20-year career, he has worked on both the supply and demand sides of data and information, often with a focus on health care systems and population health. He holds an MA in economics from McMaster University, with a specialization in health.



## Nadia Remtulla

**Privacy Director and Chief Privacy Officer, Ontario Health**

Nadia Remtulla is the Privacy Director and Chief Privacy Officer for Ontario Health. In this role, she is responsible for overseeing the organization's privacy compliance, assessing complex regulatory issues and promoting responsible data governance. Nadia has 15 years of experience specializing in public sector health care privacy, including advising on data protection for key provincial assets that support data analytics, population screening, and health information systems. Her work focuses on translating privacy principles into practical, scalable frameworks that support innovation while managing privacy compliance.



## Pam Snively

**Chief Data & Trust Officer, TELUS**

Pamela Snively is the Chief Data & Trust Officer at TELUS. She leads the team responsible for privacy governance and data ethics, along with data management and a number of compliance functions, including the Anti-bribery & Corruption and Competition Law programs. Pam approaches overall data governance through the lens of customer trust, leveraging TELUS' Customer First principle to drive the organization's commitment to privacy and data ethics.

Pam is a lawyer but has dedicated most of her career to developing and operationalizing privacy best practices, either as a consultant or in-house.

Under Pam's leadership, TELUS has significantly transformed its approach to about its data handling practices. This has included a refresh of the TELUS Privacy Centre to include layered information on TELUS' data management practices, as well as some best transparency practices to help our customers protect their information. Pam has also published the framework for her privacy management program

online, encouraging TELUS' customers to more fully understand what responsible private sector organizations do to protect privacy.

Pamela was the recipient of the 2017 Ontario Bar Association's Karen Spector Memorial Award for Excellence in Privacy Law. She participates in a number of national and international think-tanks and governance bodies related to privacy and data governance, including serving as a Board member for the Information Accountability Foundation and on the Privacy and Data Advisory Committee for the Canadian Marketing Association. She is also a founding member and Chair of Canada's Business Privacy Group, a working group made up of some of Canada's leading privacy professionals and industry associations focused on building trust in Canada's digital ecosystem and legislative regime.

Pam is a frequent speaker on privacy and data ethics and she actively encourages other organizations to join her in her mission to earn and elevate consumer trust in our digital ecosystem.



## Michael Harvey

**Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia**

Michael Harvey was appointed to a six-year term as BC's Information and Privacy Commissioner by unanimous motion of the Legislative Assembly in May 2024.

From 2019 until his appointment, Michael served as the Information and Privacy Commissioner for Newfoundland and Labrador. Prior to taking on that role, he led policy and planning initiatives in executive positions in Newfoundland and Labrador's Department of Health and Cabinet Secretariat.

He holds degrees in Political Science from Memorial University and Queen's University and certificates in conflict management, change management and diversity, equity and inclusion. He has lectured on political science and public administration at Memorial University, the University of Guelph, and the University of Toronto.



# ACCESSPRIVACY

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AccessPrivacy is a service offering affiliated with Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP that helps organizations in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors to develop a strategic approach to data governance, supported by sound policies and practices.

## Get in touch!

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