

Open Letter from the Chief Electoral Officer of Ontario

Dear Ontarians,

If, on October 6, 2011, you lived in one of the electoral districts listed below, a privacy breach with respect to your personal information has occurred. Please accept my sincere apology. I take this matter very seriously.

There is no evidence that your personal information has been inappropriately accessed. However, I want to exercise the greatest degree of caution.

The information at issue is limited to full name, gender, birth date, address, whether or not you voted in the last provincial election and any elector information updates that you provided to us during that time, as well as administrative codes used solely for election purposes.

The information **does not** include Social Insurance Numbers, Ontario Health Card information, driver's licence information, telephone numbers, email addresses, credit card or banking information, or other information provided by voters during the 2011 election to confirm their identity or residence.

On learning of this breach, I directed immediate steps be taken to secure and to try to recover the information. I have contacted the Ontario Provincial Police and the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario for assistance. Their investigations are ongoing. I will take further action based on their recommendations. We recommend that you monitor and verify transaction statements from governments, financial institutions, businesses and other institutions to detect any unusual activity. If you do detect any suspicious activity, you should contact them immediately, or if you need help finding out who to call, please call my office at 1.888.ONT.VOTE (1.888.668.8683), TTY 1.888.292.2312 and we will refer you to the appropriate organizations.

As many as 25 electoral districts from the following list may be impacted:

- Ajax—Pickering
- Algoma—Manitoulin
- Ancaster—Dundas—Flamborough—Westdale
- Brampton West
- Brant
- Bruce—Grey—Owen Sound
- Burlington
- Davenport
- Don Valley East
- Don Valley West
- Essex
- Etobicoke Centre
- Etobicoke—Lakeshore
- Etobicoke North
- Haliburton—Kawartha Lakes—Brock
- Halton
- Hamilton Centre
- Kingston and the Islands
- Kitchener Centre
- Kitchener—Conestoga
- London—Fanshawe
- London North Centre
- London West
- Mississauga South
- Mississauga—Streetsville
- Nepean—Carleton
- Newmarket—Aurora
- Nickel Belt
- Nipissing
- Northumberland—Quinte West
- Ottawa South
- Ottawa—Vanier
- Ottawa West—Nepean
- Peterborough
- Pickering—Scarborough East
- Prince Edward—Hastings
- Sarnia—Lambton
- Sault Ste. Marie
- Scarborough—Agincourt
- Simcoe—Grey
- Simcoe North
- Stormont—Dundas—South Glengarry
- Timiskaming—Cochrane
- Timmins—James Bay
- Toronto Centre
- Whitby—Oshawa
- Windsor West
- York Centre
- York West

If you require assistance regarding this notification or to confirm your electoral district, please contact our information line at 1.888.ONT.VOTE (1.888.668.8683), TTY 1.888.292.2312, or our website at www.elections.on.ca. You may also wish to visit the website of the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario at www.ipc.on.ca for further information on how to protect your privacy.

Again, please accept my sincerest apologies for the concern this may cause you.

Sincerely,

Greg Essensa
Chief Electoral Officer of Ontario

