



Information and Privacy
Commissioner of Ontario

Commissaire à l'information et à la
protection de la vie privée de l'Ontario

OPEN LETTER

June 4, 2021

The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy
President of the Treasury Board
Rm 4320, 99 Wellesley St W
Toronto, ON M7A 1W3

Dear Minister Bethlenfalvy:

RE: Consultation: Ontario's Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence (AI) Framework

We are pleased to have the opportunity to offer advice and guidance to the government regarding the development of its [Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence Framework](#), and enclose a copy of our response to its consultation document.

Artificial intelligence (AI) is poised to dramatically impact the economy, health care, social services, law enforcement and all manner of daily life. However, the use of AI particularly by governments to automatically make or guide decisions about individuals or groups poses serious challenges to access, privacy, and other human rights.

The Framework's commitments to transparency, trust, and equity are closely aligned with my office's strategic priority of Privacy and Transparency in a Modern Government. Our goal in this area over the next few years is to advance Ontarians' privacy and access rights by working with public institutions to develop bedrock principles and comprehensive governance frameworks for the responsible and accountable deployment of digital technologies.

Our submission includes our preliminary views on the proposed Framework, its supporting commitments and potential actions. Our primary focus is to put forward suggestions on how the government might better define and clarify the scope, specificity, and accountability measures required for the Framework to meet its stated goals. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss our submission in more detail and look forward to continue working with the government on related initiatives associated with its [Digital and Data Strategy](#).

In the spirit of transparency, this letter and our submission will be posted on our website.

Sincerely,

Patricia Kosseim
Commissioner

encl.

cc: Hillary Hartley, Chief Digital and Data Officer, Deputy Minister, Treasury Board Secretariat

John Roberts, Chief Privacy Officer, Archivist of Ontario, and Chief Information Security Officer, Ministry of Government and Consumer Services



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