

Submitted to the BCLA AGM, Saturday, June 19, 2004

Whereas the Province of British Columbia is seeking to privatize the Medical Services Plan records administration;

And Whereas American companies are finalists in the bidding on the privatization process;

And Whereas American companies can be compelled by the *US Patriot Act* legislation to turn over confidential information controlled by the Corporation to the FBI without notifying the Canadian officials or individuals involved;

And Whereas this will result in the confidential information of British Columbia residents being turned over to the American government authorities;

And Whereas many public sector libraries, knowingly or unknowingly, send confidential patron information to US companies through collection services, Virtual Reference providers or other Application Service Providers (ASP);

And Whereas the BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Commissioner has asked for written submissions to prepare an opinion on this matter;

And Whereas a Right to Privacy Campaign has been formed, consisting of organizations such as the British Columbia Civil Liberties Association, BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association, the Seniors network, BC Persons with Aids, and the BC Government Employees Union, to oppose the privatization of medical records;

Be It Resolved That BCLA urge the Provincial Government to not privatize our personal medical records to any American company or affiliate of an American company; and

Be It Further Resolved that BCLA prepare a submission for the BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Commissioner outlining our concerns; and

Be It Further Resolved That BCLA join the Right to Privacy Campaign; and

Be It Further Resolved That BCLA work with other Canadian library organizations to determine the impact of the Patriot Act on library information held by American companies; and

Be It Further Resolved That this resolution be sent to all British Columbia Library Boards for their action.