

For Immediate Release | March 7, 2024

Interior Health is looking to contact employees from 2003-2009

IH-Wide – Interior Health (IH) is asking individuals who worked at IH from 2003 to 2009 to contact a toll-free number to determine if their personal information is contained in a document that has been recovered in an RCMP investigation.

In January, the Vernon North Okanagan RCMP informed IH about a document discovered during an investigation that contained personal information of individuals, including current and former employees of IH. The information seized by police included names, dates of birth, social insurance numbers, home addresses, phone numbers, and the individuals' age in 2009. The document provided to IH has more than 20,000 names on it.

No patient information was included in the document retrieved by RCMP.

IH has confirmed there are approximately 7,000 current employees listed and are taking steps to notify them. Due to the age of the data and its broad scope, IH is not able to accurately confirm the former employee information nor where the information came from.

"Interior Health's top priority is to ensure that personal information is always protected. We are reaching out to employees who worked for us during these years to ensure that if their information is involved, that they receive supports, including credit monitoring, if they are part of this investigation," said Brent Kruschel, IH vice president of digital health.

Anyone who was employed by IH between 2003 and 2009 is encouraged to call 1-833-705-2569 between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. PDT Monday to Friday to determine if their information is in the document recovered by the RCMP, and if so for more information about steps they can take to protect their personal information. There is also additional information on the IH website at www.interiorhealth.ca/messageforIHstaff.

"No arrests or charges have been made in relation to this information," states Constable Chris Terleski, Media Relations Officer for the Vernon North Okanagan RCMP. "As part of the continuing investigation, we are releasing this information so potentially impacted individuals can take the necessary steps to safeguard themselves. It is a timely reminder that identity fraud continues to be a persistent threat in our community and brings to light the importance of taking proactive steps to safeguard yourself. You can significantly reduce your risk by educating yourself and staying informed about common fraud schemes and tactics, regularly monitoring your credit, and routinely reviewing financial accounts for any unusual activity."

Interior Health would like to recognize and acknowledge the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Däkelh Dené, Ktunaxa, Nlaka'pamux, Secwépemc, St'át'imc, Syilx, and Tsilhqot'in Nations where we live, learn, collaborate and work together.

In addition to working closely with the RCMP, IH hired external security experts to conduct a review of this situation. These external experts confirmed that this information is not on the dark web.

If you or someone you know is a victim of a fraud, contact your local police service to report the crime and report it to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC) [online](#) or toll-free at 1-888-495-8501. If a financial loss did not occur, still report it to the CAFC.

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MEDIA, FOR INFORMATION:

PHONE 1.844.469.7077 EMAIL media@interiorhealth.ca