



Engagement from small businesses is important in Bill C-26 process

By *TINA BEAUDRY-MELLOR*
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On June 14th, 2022, the Minister of Industry, Minister Champagne, along with Public Safety Minister Mendicino introduced Bill C-26 into Parliament. The Bill includes an Act respecting cyber security, but also included some amendments to the Telecommunications Act. Both in tandem are a move towards the Critical Cyber Systems Amendment Act.

The Bill applies to four of the federally regulated industries: energy, telecommunications, finance and transportation. These industries are viewed as critical to national security or public safety. In an nutshell, it seeks to require businesses in those four sectors to report on cyber breaches to the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security and will include provisions to allow regulators to impose fines for non-compliance. These can be as high as \$1M/day for individuals and \$15M/day for organizations.



The amendments to the Telecommunications Act also prohibits the use of and forces the removal of Huawei and ZTE equipment. This further bolsters moves by the federal government to ban Huawei from 5G earlier this year.

Globally we have seen similar legislation from the United States and the United Kingdom.

What does this mean for small and medium sized businesses in Regina?

Businesses in these sectors will have to report on cyber breaches to the federal government or face fines. Details about what would have to be reported, how quickly and the process to report need to be worked out.

Small and medium sized businesses – still recovering from the pandemic and suffering with labour challenges - may need time to assess their current cyber maturity and ensure risk is mitigated before the Bill is passed. That is why the engagement of industry at the committee stage is critically important, especially because the Bill would also establish classes of operators which could hamper industry competitiveness locally and globally.

Many are also suggesting that this Bill will become the model for the provincial regulation of industry, which remains to be seen.

Chamber members can prepare for these changes by:

- Participating in future government consultations;
- Assessing your current cybersecurity readiness and risks;
- Developing a risk matrix that is regularly reported on to board members and shareholders; and,
- Developing a cybersecurity incidence response plan

For more information contact Tina Beaudry-Mellor, Partner, Cyber Strategy and Risk Advisory, Deloitte tbeaudrymellor@deloitte.ca

UPCOMING REGINA CHAMBER EVENTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

MEET CARLA BECK

Join us for an evening with Carla Beck
 First elected female leader
 of the Saskatchewan NDP
 The Studo @ The Cornwall Centre
 5 p.m. -- 7 p.m.



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

2022 LUNCHEON SERIES

"Is Your Business Ready?"

A presentation on cybersecurity
 by Shannon Parker & Tina Beaudry-Mellor
 Deloitte Canada
 Sponsored by TD
 Conexus Arts Centre theatre lobby
 11:30 a.m. -- 2 p.m.

Shannon Parker
 Risk Advisory/Cyber & Strategic Risk
 Deloitte

Tina Beaudry-Mellor
 Partner - Cyber Strategy & Risk Advisory
 Deloitte

For more information or to register for this outstanding Chamber event click [HERE](#)

"We acknowledge, with respect and truth, that we work and support the business community in Treaty 4 Territory and the traditional lands of the nêhiyawak (Cree), Anihšīnāpēk (Saulteaux), Dakota, Lakota, Nakoda, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation."

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