

# MEMO



To: All Staff

From: Information Technology Department, TBRHSC/SJCG

Date: March 30, 2023

RE: **Be Cyber Aware - TikTok**

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On February 28, 2023, the Canadian government banned TikTok from all government-issued mobile devices, citing security concerns. Provincial governments have followed suit, and on March 16, 2023, Ontario Health recommended all health service providers remove TikTok from organization-issued and managed devices effective immediately.

TikTok is an application that is downloaded (eg: from the App Store or Play Store), that allows users share their video content with others. It is known to perform data harvesting from mobile devices including:

- Biometric and password data
- Contact lists, including anything stored within the contact itself (passwords, login information, etc.)
- Calendars and appointment details
- Information collected from scanning hard drives including externally attached devices, i.e. when a device is connected to a laptop for charging
- Geolocation data while not using the app

**To mitigate risk to cybersecurity and protect the personal health information of the people we serve, we will be following Ontario Health's recommendation and any impacted users of organized-issued and managed devices have been contacted directly.**

**We recommend you evaluate the risk on your own personal devices as well.**

Please contact the Help Desk at [help@tbh.net](mailto:help@tbh.net) or by calling (807) 684-6411, in case of questions or concerns.