

Public Interest Disclosure Act

January 2023

Key Messages

- The Public Interest Disclosure Act (PIDA) is the Government of Saskatchewan’s whistleblower legislation.
- PIDA protects public service employees who make a disclosure in good faith of wrongdoing that has occurred in their workplace and relates to public interest.
- Employees can disclose a wrongdoing to the [designated officer](#) of their ministry/organization or the [Public Interest Disclosure \(PID\) Commissioner](#).
- PIDA also provides protection against reprisals to employees who make a disclosure, seek advice about making a disclosure, participate in an investigation of a wrongdoing or decline to take part in a wrongdoing.
- There is a PIDA training module available in the My Learning App in [PSC Client](#). If you don’t have access to the My Learning App, click [here](#). All employees are encouraged to take this training to ensure they understand the Act and the protections it provides employees.
- To learn more about PIDA, how to make a disclosure of wrongdoing or a complaint of reprisal, see the resources available on [Taskroom](#).

Questions and Answers

What legislation protects whistleblowers who work in public service?

The [Public Interest Disclosure Act \(PIDA\)](#) protects employees who make a disclosure in good faith of wrongdoing that has occurred in their workplace and relates to public interest.

What government institutions are covered by this Act?

PIDA applies to employees of Executive Government, as well as employees of agencies, boards, commissions, Crown corporations and other bodies prescribed in the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy \(FOIP\) Regulations](#). In addition, PIDA applies to most employees of the Saskatchewan Health Authority and the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency.

What is a “wrongdoing” under PIDA?

A wrongdoing is defined as: 1) contraventions of any federal or provincial legislation; 2) acts or omissions that create substantial and specific danger to life, health, safety or the environment; 3) gross mismanagement of public funds or a public asset; and 4) knowingly directing or counselling someone to commit a wrongdoing of these kinds.

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How can I report a wrongdoing?

To disclose a wrongdoing, please contact the [designated officer](#) of your ministry/organization or the [Public Interest Disclosure \(PID\) Commissioner](#). Please note that not every government institution covered by PIDA has their own designated officer. In case your organization does not have a designated officer, please contact the PID Commissioner. **Contacting a designated officer or the PID Commissioner is confidential.**

A designated officer or the PID Commissioner will determine if a disclosure falls under PIDA and if further investigation is required. You may also be asked to fill out a [Disclosure of Wrongdoing Form](#). If a wrongdoing is found, a designated officer or the PID Commissioner will conduct an investigation and make recommendations to the head of your organization on how best to resolve it.

Who can I contact for advice before reporting a wrongdoing?

You can contact the [designated officer](#) of your ministry/organization or the [PID Commissioner](#).

Are employees protected in case of a reprisal?

Yes, PIDA provides protection against reprisals to employees who make a disclosure, seek advice about making a disclosure, participate in an investigation of a wrongdoing or decline to take part in a wrongdoing.

I believe I have been subject to a reprisal in my organization. What should I do?

Please contact the PID Commissioner. You can also fill out a [Complaint of Reprisal Form](#) and provide it to the PID Commissioner in support of your case.

Is there any training available for government employees on whistleblower protection?

Yes, there is a PIDA training module available in the My Learning App in [PSC Client](#). If you don't have access to the My Learning App, click [here](#).

Where can I find more information on PIDA and whistleblower protection?

To learn more about PIDA, how to make a disclosure of wrongdoing or a complaint of reprisal, see the resources available on [Taskroom](#). You can also find information available on the PID Commissioner's [website](#).