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<u>legal matters</u>

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What's new in the age of Covid and real estate deals?





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New on the market Helsons have adopted (if the client wishes) a signing service combined with video conferencing (Zoom) that allows clients to sign their real estate deals from the comfort of their home or on the beach if you have internet and a computer with audio and video. Here is how it works. If you chose to sign remotely let us know. We send you an email with a link and a time for a meeting. You click on the link and meet your lawyer via Zoom with 1/2 of your screen having documents you review with your lawyer, one at a time in the same way you would in person. Signing spots clearly outlined on the documents are signed using your mouse, or finger on a touch screen. It does not matter how bad your signature appears because your lawyer is witnessing you sign. When finished you push send and the deal is legally signed.

Welcome to the world of Covid.

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NFWS

PRIVACY LAW WILL HAVE PENALTIES FOR THOSE THAT ABUSE CANADIANS' DATA

ALEX BOUTILIER aboutilier@thestar.ca

The federal Liberals will propose penalties Tuesday for companies that abuse Canadians' personal data in what is being billed as a "significant" reform to the country's privacy laws, the Star has learned.

A federal source told the Star that the new legislation, expected as early as this week, will attempt to bring the country's aging privacy regime up to international standards.

Within the government, the legislation is viewed as the implementation of the Liberals' long-promised "digital charter" that Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced in 2018, which promised Canadians greater control over



Pexels photo

The federal government will introduce penalties for companies that abuse Canadians' personal data in what is being billed as a 'significant' reform to the country's privacy laws.

and transparency around how private companies use the personal information they collect.

"It's a leap forward for the privacy protections that Canadians have. It's really about more control over what companies can do with your data, and greater transparency about what they've done with your data once they have it," said the source, who agreed to discuss the government's plan on the condition they not be named.

Canada's privacy regime has not been significantly updated since the advent of smartphones. The European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is seen by advocates as the current gold standard for a modern privacy regime. The GDPR legislation was enacted in 2018 and is heavily focused on requiring companies obtain consent before col-

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