

PIPEDA & ITAD: What You Need to Know

A plain-language guide to your obligations under PIPEDA at end-of-life and how a certified ITAD provider helps protect your organization from data, compliance, and reputational risk.

What is PIPEDA?

The Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA) is Canada's federal privacy law for private-sector organizations. It governs how personal information is collected, used, stored, and ultimately disposed of.

Your Obligations at End-of-Life

- 1 Ensure all personal data is securely destroyed before disposal or reuse.
- 2 Maintain control and accountability over assets until destruction is complete.
- 3 Use vendors that meet recognized security and environmental standards.
- 4 Be able to demonstrate compliance through documentation and audit trails.

Where Organizations Get Exposed

- 1 Untracked assets leaving the organization without chain of custody.
- 2 Improper or incomplete data erasure.
- 3 Use of uncertified or unverified downstream vendors.
- 4 Lack of reporting or proof of destruction.

How a Certified ITAD Provider Protects You

- 1 Full chain of custody tracking from pickup to final disposition.
- 2 Certified data destruction aligned to NIST SP 800-88 standards.
- 3 Audit-ready reporting and certificates of destruction.
- 4 Controlled downstream vendors and environmental compliance.

Best Practices

- 1 Implement a formal IT asset disposition policy.
- 2 Work only with certified ITAD partners (R2v3, ISO).
- 3 Ensure secure logistics and documented chain of custody.
- 4 Regularly audit and review your ITAD program.

Bottom Line: Under PIPEDA, your responsibility for data doesn't end when equipment leaves your office. A certified ITAD partner ensures that your organization remains compliant, secure, and audit-ready.