## Manitoba Ømbudsman

## Celebrate your RIGHT to KNOW

## International Right to Know Day is celebrated every September 28

Right to Know (RTK) Day had its start on September 28, 2002, in Sofia, Bulgaria, at an international meeting of access-to-information advocates. They proposed the date be dedicated to the promotion of access to information worldwide.

Right to Know Day is acknowledged around the world. Over 100 countries have access to information laws and more countries are in the process of developing such laws.

Canada also celebrates national Right to Know Week. In 2017, RTK Week is September 25-October 1.

## How should I celebrate Right to Know Day or Week?

- Write and share online posts or articles on the importance of access to information.
- Host a student or public forum to hear speakers on the subject.
- Participate in a poster or video contest.
- Have an open house at a location where access to information is practised every day (such as a school, library, or some other public location).



"The overarching purpose of access to information legislation is to facilitate democracy. It does so in two related ways. It helps to ensure first, that citizens have the information required to participate meaningfully in the democratic process, and secondly, that politicians and bureaucrats remain accountable to the citizenry."

Justice Gérard La Forest, Supreme Court of Canada