

1974 Bill 201

Third Session, 17th Legislature, 23 Elizabeth II

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

BILL 201

An Act to Provide for the Protection of News Sources

MR. LUDWIG

First Reading

Second Reading

Third Reading

Printed by L. S. WALL, Queen's Printer for the Province of Alberta, EDMONTON

Bill 201
Mr. Ludwig

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1974

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEWS SOURCES

(Assented to _____, 1974)

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, enacts as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as *The News Sources Protection Act*.

2. In this Act

- (a) "court" means
 - (i) any court of competent jurisdiction and includes a judge, arbitrator, umpire, commissioner, magistrate, justice of the peace, or other officer or person having by law or by the consent of parties authority to hear, receive and examine evidence, or
 - (ii) a person or body holding or conducting an inquiry or investigation held or made under authority of a law of the Province of Alberta or under the authority of a court, tribunal, commission, board, power or authority or a judicial, administrative or ministerial official, or
 - (iii) a person or body holding or conducting any other proceeding or matter whatsoever coming within the legislative authority of the Legislature of the Province of Alberta, or within the prerogative of the Lieutenant Governor in Council;
- (b) "journalist" means an employee or self-employed member of the news or editorial staff of a newspaper;
- (c) "reporter" means an employee or self-employed member of a newspaper, or a news media, whose purpose is the gathering and reporting of public news;
- (d) "newspaper" means any paper, magazine or periodical containing public news, intelligence or reports of events or any remarks or observations

Explanatory Notes

thereof printed for sale and published periodically or in parts or numbers at intervals not exceeding thirty-one days between the publication of any two such papers, parts or numbers;

- (e) “news media” means any broadcasting station including radio and television, established and operated under a licence; in which the transmissions are intended for direct reception by the public.

3. A journalist, reporter or anyone engaged in the activity of gathering and disseminating public news, intelligence, or reports of events, that is given or communicated to, or seen, heard, or otherwise obtained by him and published or broadcast in whole or in part in or by a newspaper or any news media, is not compellable to disclose or produce to a court the source of his information.

4. This Act shall bind the Crown and shall have application notwithstanding the provision of any law of Alberta contrary hereto or inconsistent herewith.

5. This Act comes into force on the day upon which it is assented to.