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 By *Marlisse Silver Sweeney*, Corporate Counsel, @MarlisseSS

Too Many Cooks Can Spoil Your Data Governance Stew

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Are there too many cooks in your information governance committee's kitchen? With representatives from legal, records, compliance, information security, information technology and each of the business units, it can get a bit crowded, [according to Linda Sharp writing in JD Supra](#). She notes that most such committees are made up of people representing each section of the company, with no one person at the helm. "As a result, many of these initiatives are dragging on for years with nominal benefit to the organization," says Sharp.

A better recipe may be to appoint one person to leverage information by streamlining business processes, while reducing costs and risks. "Data is such a critical asset within an organization that we are starting to see the creation of a new position that is dedicated to such initiatives," she says. "These individuals are the ones to corral the various business units, define their business needs, identify policies that meet

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the corporate objectives, and most importantly, get the job done.”

Sharp says this person generally comes from the legal department, or records management, compliance or IT, and needs to have an understanding of the company's particular organizational needs. However, she notes the secret ingredient to information governance is a process that meets the needs of the business teams, because “information governance that places undue burden on business users is bound to fail.”

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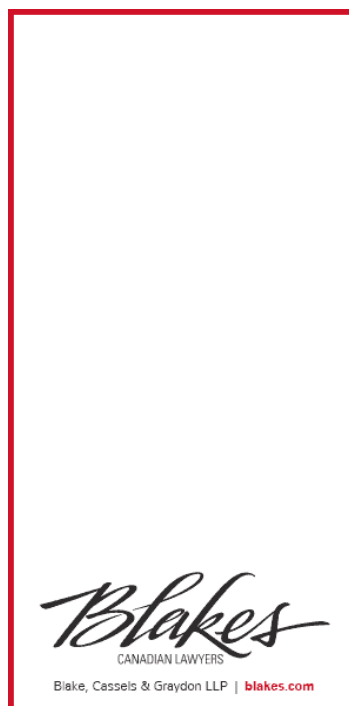
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