NORTH AMERICA
Regional Overview 2019
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North America Chapters:
- New York City
- San Francisco-Bay Area
- Canada
- Quebec
- DC
- Illinois
- Hawaii
- Colorado
- New Mexico
- Philadelphia

Chapters in-progress:
- Indigenous (Turtle Island)

* In good standing  *pre-rejuvenation  *in-progress
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North America

- Highly developed digital economies; well-established democracies
- Very high Internet penetration (reported, Statista):
  - Canada: 94.7%
  - US: 86.5%
- Challenges continue in rural, remote areas; issues with reporting/mapping
- Affordability continues to be a challenge
The North American Political Environment

United States:

• Polarized, divided Congress:
  • August is scheduled to be a month of recess, but another budget must be passed by mid-September. Any bills not introduced by the end of July are unlikely to move forward until the new Administration given 2020 will largely be dedicated to Presidential campaign activities.
• Election on the horizon:
  • Fake news, censorship, and antitrust are going to be big themes.
  • Several candidates are already calling to break up big tech.
• Distracted:
  • The Mueller Report, immigration, and trade are sucking the air out of the room.
• Committed public service
• Issues: privacy, 5G, censorship, net neutrality, antitrust/consolidation, impact of Internet on children
• FTC has imposed fines against Facebook and is investigating others, but some in Congress and the public don’t think they’re doing enough.
Access in the US

Congress appears to be increasingly interested in access/digital divide issues:

• Bills to expand funding, implement dig-once and one touch make ready policies, and establishing offices in NTIA and the FCC.
• Maps are inaccurate, Congress and FCC recognize this: show that way more Americans have adequate Internet access than there actually are (see Microsoft's estimates for internet service).
• Congress is holding more hearings and asking more questions about spectrum.
• The FCC has held and will hold more spectrum auctions that sell unused or little-used bands of spectrum to companies and networks.
• The primary goal is to make way for 5G technologies.
The North American Political Environment

Canada:

- Election year – Current government (Liberals) may be in trouble
  - Most federally-funded or -led projects are on hold until the end of the fall
- Current government committed to multistakeholder model and global collaboration
- Strong relationship with Federal Government
- Access is a priority for Federal Government – have committed funds and support
  - $6 billion announced
- Tech discussion currently dominated by election interference
- Dominate ‘tech’ issues: access, digital literacy, election security, cybersecurity, routing within Canada (IXPs), privacy, review of telecommunications and Broadcasting Act
2019 Activities to-date

Media hits: 13
Blog posts: 10
Publications: 3
Government consultation comments: 4
Presentations: 8
Events/workshops: 14

connecting the World
Building Trust
MANRS
Community Engagement
Shaping the Future
Programs
Connecting the World
Connecting the Northwest Territories

**Long-term outcome:**
Underserved communities have improved access to Internet service on their own terms

**Activities:**
In partnership with GNWT, NLGP, IRC, and others, provide training and support to communities in the Northwest Territories to create and manage community networks

**Cross-cutting:**
Involves work with Jane, CN team, communication, PubPol
Connecting Uluhaktuk, NWT

Population: 396
- 60% under 35
- 90% Indigenous

Geography:
- Arctic community, fly-in only
- Located at 70° North

Access:
- Satellite-dependent, expensive

Activities to-date:
- Preliminary network designs developed
- Community meetings in June 2019
- Training materials in development

Next steps:
- Training to commence September 2019
- CN deployment Nov/Dec 2019 (TBC based on community input)
Connecting Sahtu Region, NWT

- ISOC partnered with communities of Fort Good Hope (516), Deline (533), Colville Lake (129), Tulita (477), Norman Wells (778)
- Community workshops held in June 2019
- Focus: building relationships, information sessions
Indigenous Connectivity Summit

**Activity:**
Coordinate and plan the Indigenous Connectivity Summit 2019

**Details:**
November 12-15, 2019
Hilo, Hawaii

**Partnerships:**
First Mile Connectivity Consortium, University of Alberta, Indigenous and Hawaii chapters, local Indigenous community

**Cross-cutting:**
Jane, PubPol, Communications, CN team
Connecting Pu‘uhonua o Waimānalo, Independent Nation of Hawai‘i

Population: ~80
Access:
• Mobile only
Activities to-date:
• Community meeting
• Preliminary network designs developed
• Backhaul access negotiated
Next steps:
• Training, deployment at 2019 ICS
Other Access Work

**Research:** economic benefits of community networks in Indigenous communities (with Jangala, M-Lab, and University of Alberta)

**Enhancing voice:** partnership with the Telecommunications Act Review Panel to consult with northern/Indigenous community members (complete)

**Research:** feasibility study of IXPs in Arctic satellite dependent communities (with Qikitani Health Authority, Nuvujaq, City of Iqaluit, CBC)

**Support:** IXPs in Ottawa (OGIX), Inuvik, Iqaluit, VANIX

**Policy:** Influencing policy discussions in Canada and the US
Progress to-date – Connecting the World

• Government of Canada committed publicly to funding Community Networks

• CRTC’s Broadband Fund criteria for funding projects is merit-based, not reverse auction

• CRTC's Broadband Fund application guide references five recommendations from the Indigenous Connectivity Summit report

• Arctic Council (intergovernmental body representing the 8 Arctic states) adopts recommendations from Indigenous Connectivity Summit

• Canadian Telecommunications Review Panel completes ISOC recommended tour of northern Indigenous communities, hires Indigenous advisor the “direct result of ISOC’s help”
Connecting the World

Internet access key to protecting threatened Indigenous languages

By Crystal Gail Fraser  Opinion
Mark Buell
Tues., June 25, 2019  0.3 min. read

At the turn of the century, Gwich’tahda’eha relied on language.

As a fur trader, trapper, mother.
Tsiigehzhic area of the North travelled through present-day / Territories was intrinsically in languages: her own, Dinji Zhuh.

More than 100 years later, Can piece of Indigenous culture that couldn’t inherit: the ability to be than 400 fluent Dinji Zhuh Gzir.

The federal government’s 2019 budget earmarked $1.7 billion for a lofty, and utterly vital, aim: universal access to high-speed Internet. While the funding is a step in the right direction, many more steps are needed to ensure all Canadians have access to a basic service that’s fundamental to participating in nearly every facet of the modern world.

Improved Internet services can boost Northern Indigenous communities’

success

By Aaron Ipannia  January 12, 2019

Following their second annual Indigenous Connectivity Summit (ICS) that was hosted in 2017, the Internet Society has issued a report that highlights how improved Internet connectivity can empower Indigenous communities, beyond just strengthening their download speeds.

No one left behind: for universal internet access, federal government must do more

By MARK BUELL  APR. 1, 2019

The government’s 2019 budget earmarked $1.7 billion for a lofty, and utterly vital, aim: universal access to high-speed Internet. While the funding is a step in the right direction, many more steps are needed to ensure all Canadians have access to a basic service that’s fundamental to participating in nearly every facet of the modern world.
Building Trust

CANADIAN MULTISTAKEHOLDER PROCESS
ENHANCING IOT SECURITY
Canadian Multistakeholder Process: Enhancing IoT Security

Long-term outcome:
End users trust that Internet security is protected when they use Internet-connected devices.

2019 Goal:
Enhancing IoT Security Project recommendations created, promoted, and launched in Canada; recommendations referenced and/or process duplicated internationally (completed).

Partnerships:
GoC-ISED, CIRA, CANARIE, CIPPIC, Canada and Quebec chapters.

Cross-cutting:
Communications, ITO, OTA.
Canadian Multistakeholder Process: Enhancing IoT Security

Status:
- Final report launched May 2019
- Implementation Working Group active
- Global IoT Security Policy Platform established

Next steps:
- Promotion of recommendations
- Collateral development
- Implementation
2019 Priorities – Building Trust

Privacy: Influence the development of a US comprehensive federal privacy law and enhancements to Canadian privacy law

Encryption: Implemented a targeted media and democracy strategy to communicate the importance of encryption; actively participate in a coalition of like-minded organizations and thought leaders to amplify messages; submissions to government consultations on encryption and exceptional access in the US and Canada

MANRS: Formalized strategic partnerships with Industry and Government organizations to promote MANRS within their memberships

IoT campaign: Creation, launch, and growth of the IoT Security Policy Platform

10 Goals for Good Privacy Protection Law

The concept of digital "privacy" refers to an individual's right to determine when, how, and to what extent their personal data can be shared. Privacy is essential to our ability to trust the Internet. Without it, people, countries and economies can't fully benefit from the opportunities the Internet can provide.

Large-scale corporate data breaches and inappropriate use of personal data seem to happen more and more often. It is more important than ever that laws created to protect us provide clear, achievable rules for privacy protection and motivate data handlers to improve best practice. Legislation must also be technology neutral to promote relevant, lasting protection of user data in a way that does not harm the infrastructure of the Internet. Well-crafted legislative solutions will protect users, consider the evolving nature of technology, and encourage constructive and beneficial innovation.

A good privacy law should:

Require Privacy-by-Design

Require privacy-by-design, from the outset, when new products or services are developed. Privacy-by-design includes principles such as data minimization, clear specification of intended use, and limits on sharing and retention.

Promote Clarity

Require plain language on all privacy-related agreements, to ensure users can give informed consent based on a true understanding of what will be shared, how and with whom.

Enforce Privacy Protection

Ensure that privacy regulation can be effectively enforced, and that data handlers are accountable for their privacy practices. Require safeguards to enhance data security overall, based on accepted best practice.

Strengthen oversight and enforcement

Undergo regular review to ensure it remains relevant and fit for purpose, provide sanctions and remedies for privacy violations, and encourage companies to be transparent about compliance.

Give Users Control

Make sure users have effective control over their own privacy, requiring data handlers to give users greater control over whether, and how, they share their data, including the ability to opt out. Make sure that if users opt to share data, they are able to request its removal later. And that, if they opt out, they have meaningful alternatives.

Increase Accountability

Require transparency and accountability for privacy practices and breaches. If something goes wrong, data handlers must be held accountable and do their best to contain the harm, give appropriate support to help those affected and ensure timely notification of any violations. The cost of bad practice must be borne by the responsible party.

Work Globally

Include mutually-agreed cross-border provisions to protect personal data that leaves one country and enters another, to ensure continuous privacy protection without undermining the Internet's global nature.

Be Strict but Fair

Impose strict conditions on any exceptions to privacy and personal data protection. Exceptions should be restricted to matters of national security or public safety. They must have a legitimate goal, be necessary and proportionate, and be subject to transparent, independent judicial supervision.

Keep it Anonymous

Protect individuals and their data against the "re-identification" of their data over time. The law should require data handlers to ensure that privacy protection methods - including anonymization, where this is allowed as a privacy protection - remain reliable, as technology and re-identification methods evolve.

Be Drafted Collaboratively

Privacy affects everyone, so it makes sense to involve the private sector, regulators, privacy advocates and consumer groups in formulating policy in this area. Multi-stakeholder participation makes for more open and sustainable policy-making.
2019 Priorities – Other

Fostering a Collaborative Approach:

• Coordinated and led a politically diverse multistakeholder group of net neutrality experts to create a baseline set of principles in the United States for an open Internet. These principles formed input into a bipartisan process.

Building our Community:

• Enhance the capacity of NA Chapters to carry out work in support of ISOC’s vision.

Policy Engagement:

• 5 consultations (trust and access related) in North America meaningfully include ISOC recommendations in reports.
We make our mission ‘hit home’ with:

• Clear, consistent, bold communications that help people understand what we do.

• Regional strategies that make audiences care about our work and want to support our mission.

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Strengthening our voice

- We’re building a strong reputation through strategic thought leadership opportunities
**Stronger together than apart**

- Collaboration is critical to our success.
- Members, chapters, and community influencers consistently engaged in multi-channel campaigns to achieve our goals on access, privacy, and IoT security.
Get involved.

There are many ways to support the Internet. Find out today how you can make an impact.

internetsociety.org
@internetsociety

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