



The Canadian 
Internet Society

TCIS: An Update

Brent J. Arnold, Chair
ISOC Global 2025-11-08

Overview

- TCIS: An Overview
- Strategic Plan
- Leadership Transition and Board Expansion
- Outreach
- Events
- What's Next?
- Questions?

Overview of the Canadian Internet Society

- **Mission & Vision:** Advocates for open, accessible, affordable, and secure internet access for Canadians
- **History:** Established in 2013 as Internet Society Canada Chapter, rebranded to TCIS in 2024
- **Core Principles:** Open, Accessible, Affordable, and Secure Internet
- **How We Work:** Policy committees, roundtables, conferences, and research publications

Strategic Plan 2025-2029 (December 2024)

- Launched with five key priorities:
 - Building Capacity and Expertise
 - Proactive Digital Policy Leadership
 - Public Awareness and Education
 - National Engagement and Community Building
 - Formalizing Flagship Events

Key Innovation: Policy Roundtables

- Digital Sovereignty
- AI (report submitted to fed gov't's "30 day sprint")
- Cybersecurity
- Privacy
- CRTC Reform
- Broadcasting
- Future of the CBC
- Protection of Minors
- Telecommunications
- Competition & the Internet

Leadership Transition (June 2025)

- Tim Denton retired as Chair after over a decade of service Brent Arnold appointed as new Chair
- Board size expanded to deepen bench of volunteers
- Several new board members, representing prominent voices in law, technology, academia, and policy, were appointed in mid and late 2025 to expand the Canadian Internet Society's strategic reach and advocacy



New Board Members (June 2025)

- David Fraser, McInnes Cooper (Privacy Lawyer YouTube channel and award-winning blog)
- Dr. Michael Geist, University of Ottawa (host of LawBytes podcast)
- Dr. Emily Laidlaw, University of Calgary
- Jason Kee, Netflix (formerly Google)
- Jeffrey Philipp, Facturation.net

Outreach: Newsletter

- The Canadian Internet Society launched/continued its regular email newsletter in 2025, providing updates on events, digital policy, opportunities for public involvement, expert commentary, and Society news.
- The newsletter also promoted the Policy Forum, Digital Access Day, and other major initiatives.
- Members and the public can subscribe via the TCIS website to stay informed about Canadian internet policies, Society reports, and upcoming events.

Outreach: *Net Positive* Podcast

- Launched in 2024 with grant from TMU
- Started with series on AI upskilling
- Relaunching soon in video format, addressing AI, MDM, cybersecurity, etc.



Outreach: Media

- Leveraging content streams from current directors
- Numerous media appearances:
 - The National
 - Tonight with Ian Hanomansing
 - The Globe and Mail
 - Canadian Bar Association's national magazine
 - CBC's Just Asking call-in show

Events: Digital Access Day (February 11, 2025)

- TCIS flagship event at Carleton University
- Theme: "Bridging the Digital Divide: Ensuring Access for All"
- Featured speakers including Dr. Michael Geist, CRTC Commissioner Bram Abramson, Dr. Wendy Cukier
- Topics: Affordability, digital literacy, online safety, public policy

Events: Policy Forum (November 25, 2024)

- Theme: "Solutions for Canadian Digital Policy and Legislation"
- Location: Rideau Club, Ottawa
- Keynote: Mark Schaan, Deputy Secretary of the Cabinet - Artificial Intelligence
- Focus: Practical solutions for Canada's digital landscape

Events: Women in Leadership



Events: AI Infrastructure & Governance (October 22, 2025)



AI INFRASTRUCTURE & GOVERNANCE POLICY FOR CANADA

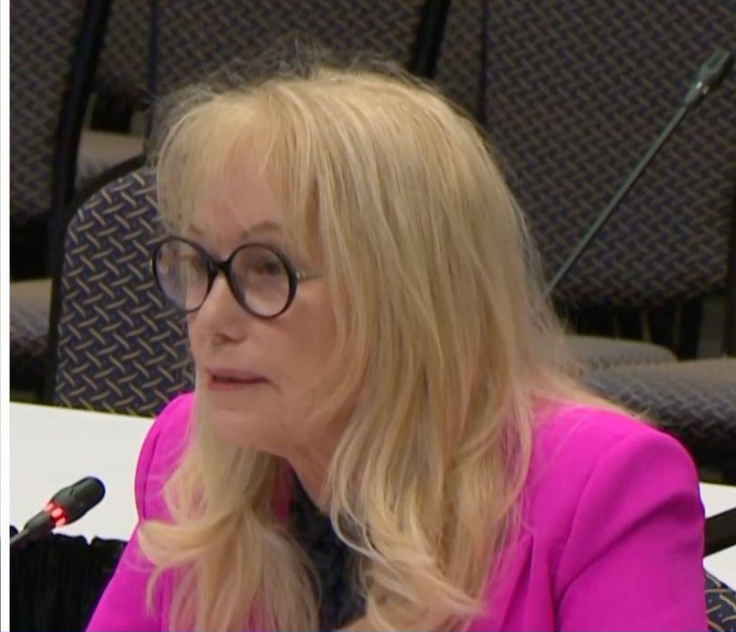
Solutions for Canadian
Digital Policy and Legislation

October 22, 2025 | 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm ET
Rideau Club, 99 Bank St. | Ottawa, Ontario
Networking reception to follow. Registration 2:00 pm.

CRTC Hearing: Canadian Content Policy



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CRTC Hearing: Canadian content and supporting the creation and distribution of domestic programming in the audio-visual sector.

What's Next?

- Continuing to leverage Policy Roundtable reports to advocate for sound federal policy
- Proactively advocating across a range of policy issues
- Continued outreach and profile-building

Questions?

THANK YOU



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