



**THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE
FOR INFORMATION
AND PRIVACY STUDIES**

The Canadian Institute
for Information and
Privacy Studies Society

Annual Report
for
2014

April 22, 2015

The Canadian Institute for Information
and Privacy Studies

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AN OVERVIEW OF CIIPSS

Over the last thirty years, the digital information environment has become the predominant platform and arena of human endeavour. People increasingly depend on the online environment to access and exchange information, create and publish content, communicate, interact, and associate with each other.

The Internet offers tremendous opportunities for the realization of human potential. However, the development of computer and communications technologies and the resulting globalization of human affairs are driving society into uncharted territory.

Many people are having great difficulty understanding this new digital environment and very few are able to master it. This begs the questions: Who will be in control of the information environment? Will there be universal and affordable access to the critical information channels of our time? Will individuals possess the knowledge to maintain their freedom and autonomy, or will we be at the mercy of large corporations and government?

The Canadian Institute for Information and Privacy Studies Society was created in order to establish a think tank, an independent research and education institute dedicated to the critical information issues of our time. Through programs of research and education, the CIIPS Institute seeks to increase public knowledge of Access to Information and privacy issues and practices. Applying that knowledge enables individuals, communities and peoples to achieve their full potential as democratic citizens in the digital information environment.

The Society's Vision and Mission

Vision Statement

We envision a Canada where individuals and organizations enjoy the highest knowledge of Access to Information and privacy issues and people are able to reach their full potential as democratic citizens in today's information environment.

Mission Statement

Through programs of research and education, we seek to increase public knowledge of Access to Information and privacy issues and enable individuals, communities and peoples to achieve their full potential as democratic citizens in today's information environment.

Research

We study issues relating to freedom of information and privacy protection relevant to Canadian society, including their value, impact, and implementation. In partnership with independent and academic researchers, CIIPS will sponsor research papers, reports and other materials that:

- compare approaches in various nations and sectors
- seek “best practices” from around the world
- evaluate “made in Canada” policy options
- seek potential paths forward for public and corporate policy
- provide the data and ideas for advancement by professional practitioners and civil liberties organizations
- share research findings with the general public, decision-makers, practitioners, and students.

Education

CIIPS will create educational programs for the general public, youth, high school and university students. The institute will develop educational programs independently by contracting with qualified professionals, and also seek partnerships with existing universities, colleges, and schools for the development and presentation of courses of study.

As well, the Institute will reach out to the general public, as well as academic, legal, administrative, and business professionals to increase understanding of information rights and related public-policy options.

President’s Message



After I retired from the BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association (FIPA) in 2012, I was finally able to take up a task which many supporters of access and privacy rights had advocated for years – creating an independent institute to bring together Canada’s diverse Information Rights community, seek out greater resources for research and public education, and maximize the potential of our combined knowledge, talent, and resources.

The CIIPS Society has existed as a legal entity since 2005, but it was not until 2013 that the necessary people became available and accepted the ambitious challenge of creating the planned Institute. In 2014 we began to refine the blueprint and start putting the bricks in place. 2014 was our year to lay the legal and organizational foundation of the Institute, develop its identity and start reaching out to interested people across Canada.

I would like to offer special thanks to Gareth Kirkby for his outstanding support on a purely volunteer basis during the entirety of 2014. It is really his dedicated work and thoughtful presence that has made the project possible.

WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED IN 2014

The 2014 Work Team

Darrell Evans served as President of the Society and volunteer Executive Director of the Institute during 2014. Gareth Kirkby served as VP and Secretary of the Society and volunteer Communications and Community Director. Stuart MacInnes, CA, our Treasurer, provided financial and accounting advice and support. Senior Lawyer Jim Quail acted as legal advisor and Kevin Scott as our marketing consultant volunteer. Nelson Agustin was our Graphic and web designer. Legal and business planning continued throughout 2014, with actual research and education programs planned to start sometime in 2015.

Annual General Meeting

The Society held its AGM on January 22, 2014 and elected its first working board of directors, consisting of Kris Constable, Tom Crean, Darrell Evans, Charlotte Kingston, Gareth Kirkby, Stuart MacInnes, and Richard S Rosenberg. Lindsey Bertrand was welcomed to the board in 2015. (See pg. 7 for details.)

Vision-Mission workshop March 12, 2014

The CIIPS Board met on March 12 to hammer out the Society's overall vision and mission (see above). These ideals and principles will inform how the Institute approaches all its work and relationships.

The vision and mission were further refined later in 2014 and 2015 to align perfectly with the Society's charitable purposes

Transition to the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act

Registered charities such as the CIIPS Society that were originally incorporated under the Canada Corporations Act were required to transition to the new Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act (NFP Act) during 2014.

To make the transition to the NFP Act, all federally incorporated not-for-profit corporations had to replace their letters patent and by-laws with a Certificate of Continuance (attached to which are the corporation's new articles) and new by-laws that comply with the NFP Act.

The CIIPS Society's board of directors approved new Articles and By-laws on July 10, 2014, and these were confirmed by the Society's members at a **Special General Meeting** at Roundhouse Community Centre on September 18, 2014.

The new articles and by-laws were submitted to Corporations Canada and we received our Certificate of Continuance on October 1, 2014, followed by an official Letter of Acknowledgment from the Charities Directorate of Canada Revenue Agency.

We thank our volunteer counsel Jim Quail for his invaluable advice during this critical process.

Building our Advisory Board

We made great strides during 2014 in building the CIIPS Advisory Board. This vital body of volunteers will advise the Institute on every aspect of mission, management, and operations, including research and educational programming, project evaluation, and peer review. Our Advisors are some of the leading thinkers in Canada on Access to Information, privacy, open government, and open data issues. The Advisory Board will grow continuously through 2015, and other committees will be established as we grow.

Building identity – Logo, design and website

We would like to thank members for their input into the choice of our new logo. Our surveys found that members preferred two quite different design approaches and we had several tie votes. Repeated polling and discussion finally resolved in the choice of the colourful logo atop this document.

The CIIPS website was developed throughout the year and launched in February 2015 – go to <https://infoandprivacy.ca>

Many thanks to Nelson Agustin, our graphic and web designer, for his ongoing work on our logo, graphic design, and website. And thanks also to our friends at Retrix Hosting for their generous donation of free web hosting and email services.

Building membership

Membership continued to grow, although, without a web presence until 2015, it has been largely through invitation. Membership in the CIIPS Society is free for the time being to anyone who supports our purposes, so please spread the word to interested parties.

Financial Report for 2014

We launched our first fundraising campaign in December 2014, asking for \$1,000 donations to help kick-start the Institute. Those who donate \$1,000 during this campaign become members of the CIIPS **Founders Circle**, with permanent recognition, a lifetime membership in the Society and, of course, a charitable tax receipt.

The campaign's late start in the year meant we had only two weeks to do actual fundraising in 2014, resulting in total income of \$5,200 for the year.

Introducing our Founders Circle

Please meet the first members of the Founders Circle on the next two pages of this report. These are the members who pledged support during 2014, but the campaign continues through 2015, so it's not too late to join this elite group of Access to Information and privacy leaders, thinkers, academics, lawyers, activists, and organizations.

If you'd like to discuss financial arrangements for joining the Circle, easy terms are available; Please contact Darrell Evans (Darrell@ciips.ca) or Gareth Kirkby (gareth@ciips.ca).

The Founders Circle

Members of the “Founders Circle” have made substantial donations to ensure the success of the Canadian Institute for Information and Privacy Studies at the vulnerable early stages of the organization. We thank them for their support, confidence, and generosity.

Dr Ian Scott Cornell
West Vancouver, BC



Scott Cornell is a surgical pathologist at Royal Columbian Hospital in Vancouver region. He has a longstanding interest in privacy issues related to health information. He sees a role for CIIPS in providing sensible guidance to the public and private sectors. Scott has served on the board of the [BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association](#) (FIPA), and has been a privacy officer for Excelleris and Dr CJ Coady Associates.

Canadian Taxpayers Federation
Represented by Troy Lanigan

Troy Lanigan was appointed president and CEO of the [Canadian Taxpayers Federation](#) in 2009, after serving the organization in various capacities since 1992. Troy was a founding director of voting reform advocacy groups both in British Columbia and nationally. He is a board director of the Stockholm Sweden-based World Taxpayers Association and has spoken at conferences internationally. Troy has a degree in economics and political science from the University of Victoria



Philippa Lawson
Whitehorse, YK



Philippa Lawson is a Canadian lawyer with 19 years experience practicing telecommunications, privacy, and consumer protection law from a public interest perspective. She was founding Executive Director of the Samuelson-Glushko [Canadian Internet Policy and Public Interest Clinic](#) (CIPPIC), a technology law clinic based at the University of Ottawa. She is a member of the recently-formed Civil Society Information Society Advisory Committee (CSISAC) of the OECD, and continues to work with civil society groups both individually and as an Associate of CIPPIC.

David Loukidelis, QC
Edmonton, AB



David Loukidelis served as [BC's Information & Privacy Commissioner](#) for 11 years. Prior to that, he was a founding member of the [BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association](#) (FIPA). David was the main author of *Information Rights for British Columbia* which played a key role in the enactment of BC's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act in 1993. In 1998, David was awarded FIPA's Information Rights Award in recognition of his "major contribution to information rights in Canada."

Alasdair Roberts
Boston, MA, USA

Alasdair Roberts is a law professor and the former Jerome L Rappaport Professor of Law and Public Policy at Suffolk University Law School in Boston, MA. Alasdair's acclaimed 2007 book, [Blacked Out: Government Secrecy in the Information Age](#), quickly became a must-read for those interested in freedom of information, and received four major academic awards. Alasdair is published and quoted widely on issues of administrative law, public policy, government secrecy, governmental reform, dissent, and the crisis in democracy.



Valerie Steeves
Ottawa, Ontario



Professor Valerie Steeves' main area of research is human rights and technology issues. She has written and spoken extensively on privacy from a human rights perspective, and is currently a researcher with the New Transparency project at Queen's University, which is examining surveillance as a technology of governance. Valerie is the author of a number of award-winning educational games designed to teach children how to protect their human rights in cyberspace. In 2004, Professor Steeves was awarded the Labelle Lectureship at McMaster University.

Micheal Vonn
Vancouver, BC

Micheal Vonn is a lawyer and has been the Policy Director of the [BC Civil Liberties Association](#) (BCCLA) since 2004. Micheal has been an Adjunct Professor at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in the Faculty of Law and in the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies where she has taught civil liberties and information ethics. She was honoured as a recipient of the 2010 AccolAIDS award for social and political advocacy benefitting communities affected by HIV/AIDS. She is an Advisory Board Member of Privacy International.



DIRECTORS AND ADVISORS

We would like to thank the following key people in the CIIPS support team for their contribution during 2014.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014-2015

President:	Darrell Evans, former Executive Director, BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association 1991-2011
Vice President & Secretary:	Gareth Kirkby, Communications Consultant
Treasurer:	Stuart MacInnes, CA, Director of Finance, RF Binnie & Associates Lindsey Bertrand, Communications Officer, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives BC Kris Constable, Principal, PrivaSecTech Tom Crean, President, Kearney Funeral Services Charlotte Kingston, Director of Community Engagement, BC Civil Liberties Association Richard Rosenberg, Professor Emeritus, Department of Computer Science, University of British Columbia

BOARD OF ADVISORS

Gary Dickson	Former Information & Privacy Commissioner of Saskatchewan
Terry Eastwood	Professor Emeritus, School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, University of British Columbia
Sean Holman	Assistant Professor of Journalism, Mount Royal University
Herb Lainchbury	CEO, Dynamic Solutions Inc President, Open Data Society of BC
Pippa Lawson	Barrister & Solicitor Associate, Canadian Internet Policy and Public Interest Clinic, University of Ottawa
David Loukidelis	Chair, Law Enforcement Review Board of Alberta; Former Information and Privacy Commissioner of BC
Sharon Polsky	President, Amina Corp President, Privacy and Access Council of Canada
Alasdair Roberts	Professor, Suffolk University Law School, Boston Fellow, National Academy of Public Administration
Jim Quail	Partner, Quail Worth & Allevato Barristers and Solicitors
Kevin Scott	President, On The Ground Strategies Inc.
Valerie Steeves	Associate Professor, Department of Criminology, University of Ottawa
Micheal Vonn	Policy Director, BC Civil Liberties Association; Member, Advisory Board, Privacy International

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