

**DATA-DRIVEN ELECTIONS:  
IMPLICATIONS AND CHALLENGES FOR DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES  
APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>-30<sup>TH</sup>**

OFFICE OF THE INFORMATION & PRIVACY COMMISSIONER FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA,  
947 FORT STREET, VICTORIA, BC

**MONDAY, APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>**

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8:30 – 9:00am **REGISTRATION**

9:00 – 9:15am **WELCOMES**

Michael McEvoy, Information and Privacy Commissioner for BC  
Colin Bennett, University of Victoria  
David Lyon, Queen's University

9:15 – 10:45am

**DATA-DRIVEN ELECTIONS AND PRIVACY:  
PERSPECTIVES FROM CANADIAN REGULATORS**

Chair: David Loukidelis, David Loukidelis QC Law Corporation

Michael McEvoy, Information and Privacy Commissioner for  
British Columbia

Gregory Smolyneec, Deputy Commissioner, Office of the Privacy  
Commissioner of Canada

Aidan Brand, Director, Voter Services, Elections BC

Thomas Forget, Élections Québec

10:45 – 11:15am Tea/Coffee

11:15 – 12:30pm **DATA-DRIVEN ELECTIONS:  
GLOBAL TRENDS AND COMPARISONS**

Chair: David Murakami Wood, Queen's University

Daniel Kreiss and Bridget Barrett, University of North Carolina at  
Chapel Hill, NC, USA

*Facebook and Google as Global Democratic Infrastructures:  
A Preliminary Five Country Comparative Analysis of  
Platforms, Paid Political Speech, and Data*

Katharine Dommett, University of Sheffield, UK  
*Data-Driven Campaigns in Practice: Understanding and Regulating Diverse Data-Driven Campaigns*

12:30 – 1:30pm

**LUNCH**

1:30 – 3:00PM

**THE POLITICAL TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY**

Chair: Kirstie Ball, University of St. Andrews, UK

Varoon Bashyakarla, Tactical Technology Collective, Germany  
*Personal Data: Political Persuasion, Inside the Influence Industry*

Jeff Chester, Center for Digital Democracy, Washington D.C., USA, and Kathryn Montgomery, American University/Center for Digital Democracy, Washington D.C., USA  
*Follow the Tech: Emerging Digital Practices in the 2020 Election*

Fenwick McKelvey, Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec  
*Apolitical Political Technologies? Nonpartisanship and the Acceptable Use of Political Technologies*

3:00 – 3:30pm

Tea/Coffee

3:30 – 5:00pm

**DISCRIMINATION, DISINFORMATION AND PROPAGANDA**

Chair: Valerie Steeves, University of Ottawa

Samantha Bradshaw, University of Oxford, UK  
*Disinformation Optimized: Gaming Technological Infrastructure to Amplify Junk News*

Young Mie Kim, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI, USA  
*Targeted Political Advertising and Inequality in Political Involvement*

5:00 – 5:15pm

Summaries and Announcements

7:00PM

**DINNER**

VISTA 18, CHATEAU VICTORIA

## **TUESDAY, APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup>**

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8:45 – 9:00am      **INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME BACK**

9:00 – 10:30am    **DIGITAL CAMPAIGNING IN CONTEXT:  
MYTHS AND REALITIES**

Chair: Andrew Clement, University of Toronto

Jessica Baldwin-Phillippi, Fordham University, NY, USA  
*Building the Myth of the Data Campaign—Data Ops, Oracles,  
and Outsiders*

Rafael Evangelista, State University of Campinas – Unicamp,  
Brazil and Fernanda Bruno, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro –  
UFRJ, Brazil  
*WhatsApp and Political Instability in Brazil: Targeted  
Messages and Political Radicalization*

Éric Montigny, Thierry Giasson, and Philippe Dubois, Université  
Laval, Québec  
*Wild, Wild Country. The Institutional Context of Digital Data  
Use by Provincial Parties in Quebec*

10:30 – 11:00am    Tea/Coffee

11:00 – 12:30pm   **REGULATING POLITICAL MICRO-TARGETING AND  
MANIPULATION**

Chair: Bradley Weldon, OIPC BC

Iva Nenadic, Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom,  
European University Institute, Italy  
*Meet the New Boss, Same as the Old Boss: A European  
Approach to Tackling Challenges of Disinformation and  
Political Manipulation*

Frederik Zuiderveen Borgesius, University of Amsterdam,  
Netherlands  
*The Regulation of Online Political Microtargeting in Europe*

Jacquelyn Burkell, University of Western Ontario, Canada  
and Priscilla M. Regan, George Mason University, VA, USA  
*Voter Preferences, Voter Manipulation, Voter Analytics:  
Policy Options for Less Surveillance and More Autonomy*

- 12:30 – 1:30pm      **LUNCH (STUDENT POSTER SESSIONS)**
- 1:30 – 3:00pm      **DATA-DRIVEN ELECTIONS:  
PERSPECTIVES FROM CIVIL SOCIETY**  
Chair: Nathan Eliot, OIPC BC
- Micheal Vonn, British Columbia Civil Liberties Association
- Laura Tribe, Open Media
- Jeff Chester, Center for Digital Democracy
- Varoon Bashyakarla, Tactical tech
- Sara Neuert, Freedom of Information and Privacy Association,  
BC
- 3:00 – 3:15pm      Tea/Coffee
- 3:15 – 4:00pm      **SUMMARIES, THANKS AND DISCUSSION OF  
PUBLICATION PLANS**  
Michael McEvoy, Colin Bennett and David Lyon
- 4:45pm              TRANSPORTATION TO UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA FROM  
CHATEAU VICTORIA HOTEL
- 6:00 – 7:30PM      **PUBLIC DISCUSSION:  
*BREXIT, FACEBOOK AND CAMBRIDGE ANALYTICA: THE  
REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION OF A SCANDAL***
- CAROLE CADWALLADR (THE GUARDIAN AND THE  
OBSERVER)**  
**IN CONVERSATION WITH  
MICHAEL MCEVOY (INFORMATION AND PRIVACY  
COMMISSIONER FOR BC)**
- FRASER BUILDING, ROOM 159  
UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA, BC
- 7:30 – 9:30pm      **FINAL DINNER**  
UNIVERSITY CLUB, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA