



National
Capital
FreeNet

Libertel
de la Capitale
Nationale

What Free Really Means:

Understanding how you pay for free online services with your personal data

This handout is a companion piece to the panel discussion we hosted at the Ottawa Public Library Main Branch on June 26, 2019. It is part of NCF's larger "Saved with a Click" project, funded by the City of Ottawa's Community Economic Development Program.

Panellists:

- **Jane Bailey** is a Professor of Law at the University of Ottawa where she researches and teaches about the intersections of law, technology and equality.
- **Daphne Guerrero** led engagement and outreach efforts for Canada's privacy commissioner for eight years.
- **Tamir Israel** works for the Centre for Internet Policy and Public Interest Clinic (CIPPIC), leading its privacy, net neutrality, electronic surveillance and telecommunications regulation activities.
- **Tracey P. Lauriault** is Assistant Professor of Critical Media and Big Data. She is Cross Appointed to the MA in Digital Humanities and Faculty of the Institute for Data Science at Carleton University.
- Moderated by **John Lawford**, Executive Director and General Counsel of the Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC).

We cannot provide you with a "step-by-step" guide to how to protect your privacy online once and forever because it isn't possible.

Internet tools and services change too quickly. But more importantly, online privacy and the use of personal data is a complex interrelated ecosystem, and despite the voices that say it is YOUR responsibility to protect yourself online, we hope our discussion showed that this is not a battle that can (or should) be fought individually.

Together we need to demand that appropriate protections and standards be developed and enforced. Our rights – human rights, consumer protection, and rights to dignity and autonomy – must be upheld rather than becoming subordinate to commerce and innovation.

That is why we have we have started this resource sheet with ways you can engage as a citizen and educate yourself, following up with more specific digital literacy resources and tools to protect your privacy and personal information.

What Can You Do?

Citizen Engagement:

Read the Government's Digital Charter:

https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/062.nsf/eng/h_00108.html

Contact the [Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development](#) to voice your concerns and opinions

Follow the work of the [Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics \(ETHI\)](#)

Watch corporate testimony before the [International Grand Committee on Big Data, Privacy and Democracy](#)

[Contact and/or visit your MP](#) to find out their position on these issues and voice your concerns

Contact the Privacy Commissioner: <https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/>

Educate Yourself and Stay Current:

CBC Spark: <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/spark>

CIPPIC: <https://cippic.ca/>, also see Data Brokers Project - <https://databrokers.cippic.ca/>

PIAC: <https://www.piac.ca/>

eQuality Project: <http://www.equalityproject.ca/>

Critical Data Studies Course Outlines: <https://github.com/TraceyLauriault?tab=repositories>

Data Power 2017 Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCybVJmsCVEuFUSOwoJJ-Dzw>

Smart Cities:

Open Smart City Guide: <https://www.opennorth.ca/publications/#open-smart-cities-guide>

Programmable City Seminar Series and Workshop Videos:

<http://progcity.maynoothuniversity.ie/videos/>

Personalization & Behavioural Psychology:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/06/24/technology/e-commerce-dark-patterns-psychology.html>

<https://webtransparency.cs.princeton.edu/dark-patterns/assets/dark-patterns.pdf>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OjmMdfcliq4>

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Ethics:

<https://www.scu.edu/ethics/all-about-ethics/artificial-intelligence-and-ethics/>

<https://www.scu.edu/ethics/internet-ethics-blog/readings-in-ai-ethics/>

<https://www.fastcompany.com/90356295/the-rush-toward-ethical-ai-is-leaving-many-of-us-behind>

Digital Literacy Resources

Wired Privacy on FB: <https://www.wired.com/story/facebook-privacy-apps-ads-friends-delete-account/>

NPR Privacy Paradox: <https://project.wnyc.org/privacy-paradox/>

eQuality Resources: <http://www.equalityproject.ca/resources/school-community-resources/>

OIPC Digital Literacy Resources: <https://www.ipc.on.ca/new-lesson-plans-for-educators->

[privacy-rights-digital-literacy-and-online-safety/](#)

MediaSmarts: <https://mediasmarts.ca/digital-media-literacy>

Teach Privacy: <https://teachprivacy.com/>

Tools:

DuckDuck Go: <https://duckduckgo.com/>

Privacy Badger: <https://www.eff.org/privacybadger>

Adblock: <https://adblockplus.org/>

Ghostery: <https://www.ghostery.com/>

HTTPS Everywhere: <https://www.eff.org/https-everywhere>

Windows Privacy Settings: <https://pixelprivacy.com/resources/windows-privacy-settings/>

EFF Tools: <https://www.eff.org/pages/tools>

Citizen Lab Tools: <https://citizenlab.ca/category/research/tools-resources/>

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@ncfottawa

About National Capital FreeNet (www.ncf.ca):

National Capital FreeNet is a local, not-for-profit alternative to commercial internet service providers. Since 1992 we have connected more than 100,000 members and currently serve more than 5000 members.

We believe that everyone in Canada's National Capital Region should have access to the internet, meaning they can afford a high-quality connection, understand how to use it, and feel safe online. As a social enterprise, we invest in bandwidth and community services, keeping prices as low as we can while staying sustainable.

We sell high speed DSL up to 50 mbps speed with unlimited usage, offer free locally-hosted email, basic web hosting, digital literacy workshops and events, and more. In addition to our staff support, we have an award-winning volunteer-driven Help Desk so our members can ask questions about a range of internet and computer-related issues.

In 2017 we launched our Community Access Fund, including a low-cost unlimited usage internet package available to 32,000 Ottawa Community Housing tenants.