

Internet Society Canada Chapter
Nominating Committee
Board Candidate Questionnaire

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1. Provide a statement of up to 500 words in length indicating:
 - Why you should be elected as an ISCC Director;
 - The specific skills and experiences that make you a suitable candidate for the ISCC Board; and
 - Any relevant biographical information.

As a member of ISCC and a contributor to its policy committee, I've worked for several years in collaboration with this diligent and progressive community of netizens to ensure that users are represented in policy development related to all things internet.

For more than a decade, I've been working to promote competition in Canada's telecommunication markets, to ensure Canadian network neutrality rules are strong and enduring, and I've been pushing back against efforts to turn the internet into a broadcasting-style walled garden. I've done this on my own, first as a Master's student at the University of Manitoba, where I wrote a thesis on mobile competition that turned into a successful challenge of Bell's anti-competitive mobile TV service at the CRTC, and now as a PhD student regularly contributing to the public discourse around Canadian internet policy development.

I've worked as part of a team, with the ISCC, and also as a senior research associate for the Canadian Media Concentration Research Project, to improve publicly-available data on Canadian internet performance, and to bring this information before numerous regulatory and policy proceedings that affect internet users across the country. As a self-employed consultant, I've had the benefit of working for a broad range of public-interest-oriented groups concerned with keeping the internet free and open, such as Openmedia, the First Mile Connectivity Consortium, the Consumers' Association of Canada Manitoba Branch, the Aboriginal Council of Winnipeg, and Winnipeg Harvest, to bring these groups' diverse range of views into consideration on numerous important internet-related issues.

Through these experiences, I've developed a network of colleagues who are similarly committed to fighting for a better internet for everyone, and have worked hard to develop the kind of hands-on skills and capabilities necessary for making a successful impact on Canadian internet policy. As a director of ISCC, I will continue

to leverage this experience to help ISCC in its goal of developing its members' policy positions on the key issues of the day and in communicating these positions to relevant stakeholders.

2. Are you seeking a one-year or two-year term as Director? (Please bear in mind that you may not necessarily be appointed to your preferred term.)

Two-year term.

3. What do you consider to be the top three challenges and opportunities facing the Canadian Internet Community in the next three to five years? What specific actions do you propose to address one or more of these challenges and opportunities?

The number one challenge facing the Canadian Internet community in Canada now and for the foreseeable future is the wave of damaging law and regulation being forwarded by the present government. These include Bill C-11, a pending law which seeks to transform the Internet into a closed broadcasting system designed not for the maximum benefit of society but to enrich special interest groups; Bill C-18, another pending law which seeks to do something similar with respect to news organizations: specifically, it threatens to impose a "link tax" which would undermine the fundamental open nature of the internet by creating costs for linking to information that should be freely available; and the "Online Harms Legislation", which proposes to create a regime of government censorship reaching across the internet with as-yet undefined restrictions on speech and expression.

Competition issues continue to remain a challenge to affordable access to modern technologies; continued concentration represented by such threats as the Rogers-Shaw merger and the CRTC's retrograde turn toward favouring large, incumbent telecommunication companies over smaller competitors threaten to restrict access to the internet for many people and communities across the country.

Finally, as next-generation fibre optic and 5G networks are rolled out and made commercially available across the country, vertically-integrated communication conglomerates continue to test the boundaries of existing rules and regulations that are in place to protect users' open and unfettered access to internet content and services. Ensuring that the Internet remains a neutral public space will remain a central concern going forward in the face of efforts by these companies to control internet behaviour for their own benefit.

4. If elected as a Director, will you make the required time commitment to contribute significantly to ISCC in accordance with what is generally expected of Directors?

Yes.

5. Do you agree to abide by the ISCC process for candidate nominations for the election of Directors that has been described to you?

Yes.

Question 2 is a two-word answer. Questions 4 and 5 are yes or no answers. Candidates are reminded that brevity is a virtue.

Please note that if elected as a Director, you will be required to abide by the ISCC Articles of Continuance, Bylaws, Board Resolutions and Policies as amended from-time-to-time.

Please forward your responses to this questionnaire to Timothy Denton, Chair, Nominating Committee at tim@tmdenton.com **before the close of business May 13, 2022**