

## **POLICY FORUM:** **Solutions for Canadian Digital Policy and Legislation**

November 25, 2024  
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM - *Networking Reception to Follow*  
Rideau Club, 99 Bank St, Ottawa, Ontario

### **SPEAKER BIOS**

#### **Franca Palazzo, Executive Director, The Canadian Internet Society**



Franca Palazzo brings over 20 years of experience in business and program development, driving brand success through tailored strategies.

As Executive Director of The Canadian Internet Society (TCIS), she oversees partnerships, sponsorships, events, membership growth, communications, and research and policy initiatives. Previously, Franca served as Partnership and Engagement Lead for CAPAM, Program Manager for the Institute on Governance, and Vice President of Business Relations for a Toronto arbitration center. She has also consulted for the legal and medical sectors, fostering key professional connections.

Franca holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from McMaster University.

#### **Tim Denton, Chair, The Canadian Internet Society**



Tim Denton is a lawyer specializing in technology issues, including internet governance, domain names, and 9-1-1 policy matters. From 2008 to 2013, he served as a National Commissioner of the CRTC, Canada's broadcast and telecom regulator. During his tenure, he played a key role in rejecting proposals to regulate the internet under the Broadcasting Act and contributed to shaping policies on internet traffic management that balanced the rights of network owners with user access and innovation.

Tim is the Chair of The Canadian Internet Society (TCIS), advocating for an open, accessible, and affordable internet. He also served on the Board of Trustees for the American Registry of Internet Numbers (ARIN) from 2009 to 2017, including as Chairman from 2011 to 2013.

His work includes advancing Canada's transition to IP-based 9-1-1 and public alerting systems. Throughout his career, Tim has remained committed to ensuring individuals and businesses have the freedom to access, use, and innovate on networks without unnecessary restrictions.

## **Philip Palmer, Vice President, The Canadian Internet Society**



Philip Palmer is an Ottawa lawyer practicing Internet and Telecommunications law in Ottawa. Formerly a Senior General Counsel at the Department of Justice, Philip led the provision of legal services to and was a member of the Executive Committees of the Departments of Communications, Indian Affairs, and Northern Development, the Immigration and Refugee Board, and the Competition Bureau. Among the highlights of his career were his work on the Broadcasting, Radiocommunication, and Telecommunications Acts, as well as Canada's

Anti-Spam Legislation. Philip has spoken widely at legal education forums, often appearing as a witness before Parliamentary Committees.

He successfully represented the individual respondents in the Federal Court of Appeal in *Bell Mobility Inc. v. Ben Klass et al.*, a case that confirmed that the CRTC could prohibit zero rating by telecommunications carriers as an unjust discrimination.

## **Mark Schaan, Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet - Artificial Intelligence, Privy Council Office of Canada**



Mark Schaan was appointed Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet – Artificial Intelligence in July of 2024. In this role, he supports the overall AI agenda, seeking to position Canada for leadership in its responsible development and use.

Prior to this, Mark served as Senior Assistant Deputy Minister for Strategy and Innovation Policy at the Department of Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED). In this role he led on the overall micro-economic and innovation agenda, including supporting the development of the department's horizontal policy and strategic priorities, including in international affairs, telecommunications, economic security, and all aspects of marketplace frameworks.

Mark's career has been highlighted by this cross-cutting policy and framework effort, including leading major consultations and reforms, including for telecommunications, investment review, intellectual property, bankruptcy, and insolvency, privacy, and AI. Mark's public service career has included roles across the policy spectrum, as well as leading on revitalizing the public service through innovative recruitment models.

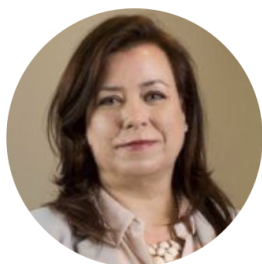
Mark earned his BA (Honours) from the University of Waterloo in Political Science with an Honours Option in Peace and Conflict Studies in 2002, where he studied as a Loran Scholar. Mark earned his MPhil in Comparative Social Policy, conferred in 2004, and his DPhil in Social Policy, conferred in 2010 from the University of Oxford, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar. Mark is also actively involved in his community: chairing the board of the Ottawa Art Gallery, continued involvement with the Loran Scholars Foundation, and previous leadership at the Ten Oaks Project for 2SLGBTQ+ youth and families.

## **Hannah Daley, The Wire Report**



A Maritimer who landed in Ottawa through a series of fortunate events, Hannah Daley is editor of The Wire Report. She previously held the position of deputy editor in 2021. With a background in business, regulatory, and court reporting in New Brunswick, plus experience as breaking news editor and arts editor with the Ottawa Citizen, she re-joined The Wire Report in June 2024.

## **Michele Austin, Vice-President, Public Affairs, Bell Canada**



Michele Austin is a global leader in public policy who currently serves as the Vice President of Public Affairs at Bell Canada. Previously, Michele was the Director of Public Policy (U.S. and Canada) at Twitter Inc. She held two chief of staff roles under Stephen Harper's government.

## **Sue Gardner, Founder & CEO, Tiny Ventures**



Sue Gardner is an internet innovator. Sue is the former longtime head of the Wikimedia Foundation, the San Francisco-based nonprofit that operates Wikipedia. Before that, she ran [CBC.CA](#), the English-language website of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Today, Sue is a consultant, board member, and advisor for a variety of nonprofits and startups, mostly in the realm of technology, media, and digital freedoms.

She is a board member of Privacy International, the Canadian Anti-Hate Network, Wiki Education, and the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP). Sue has an honorary doctorate of laws from Ryerson University, was named a Technology Pioneer for the World Economic Forum at Davos, has been ranked by Forbes magazine as the world's 70th most powerful woman, was the inaugural recipient of the Knight Foundation's Innovation Award, has received the Cultural Humanist of the Year award from the Harvard Humanist Association, and is a proud recipient of the Nyan Cat Medal of Internet Awesomeness for Defending Internet Freedom. She has been a fellow at the Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University, and the McConnell Professor of Practice at the Max Bell School of Public Policy at McGill University.

## **Matthew Gamble, Founder, Int13 Consulting Inc., Vice Chair, The Canadian Internet Society**



Matthew Gamble is a passionate technologist and innovator with a rich history of over 25 years in the Service Provider industry. His career is a testament to his dedication to advancing telecommunications, internet services, and regulatory initiatives.

Throughout his illustrious career, Mr. Gamble has worked for various Canadian telecommunications providers, where he occupied senior technical leadership roles, significantly impacting the industry. Beyond his professional endeavors, Mr. Gamble is deeply committed to contributing to the development and governance of the Internet.

His involvement with CIRA, The Canadian Internet Society, and the ARIN Advisory Council demonstrates his dedication to supporting initiatives that ensure the Internet remains a robust, equitable, and accessible resource for all.

## **Rodrigo Rosales-List, Senior Director, Service Modernization & Digital Transformation, Indigenous Services Canada**



Rodrigo Rosales-List is a senior executive in the Canadian federal public service, but more importantly, an intrapreneur who has transformed departments into dynamic ecosystems, reflecting the spirit of modern startups.

From the founding of Public Safety Canada to leading digital transformation and AI adoption at Indigenous Services Canada, his journey demonstrates how an intrapreneur can successfully drive innovative projects within the federal public service. Born in Mexico and moving permanently to Gatineau, Canada, at the age of 14, Rod (as his friends call him) is passionate about good management practices and has a broad range of experiences, including strategic policy, risk management, human resources, finance, and information technology.

Outside of work, Rodrigo is the father of two wonderful children, a 10-year-old son and a 7-year-old daughter. A car enthusiast, he shares his adventures with new cars on his blog: [Essai-Auto.com](http://Essai-Auto.com). He also enjoys jogging long distances, skiing, and mountain biking with his family.

## **Jesse Hirsh, Futurist Farmer, Knowledge Professional, Public Speaker, and Punk**



Jesse is a futurist, speaker, consultant, and goatherd who brings an outsider's perspective and literal critical distance, operating from his farm in rural Eastern Ontario. Yet this is no ordinary farm. Wired up with high-speed fibre optic Internet, the Academy of the Impossible engages in a wide range of research regarding agriculture, media, technology, and culture.

With almost 30 years of professional experience as a public speaker, facilitator, and broadcaster, Jesse can perform in any media environment, stage, office, or virtual world. His passion for media extends into the world of technology, and he is best known for his knack for translating the bleeding edge of tech into the practical world of business and civil society.

Jesse has an infectious energy that lifts spirits and enables creative thinking. He's always learning, sharing, and helping others to do the same.

As a Futurist Jesse has had the privilege of working with and across a wide range of sectors and industries. This has involved working with senior sectoral leadership and companies, helping them

understand the opportunities and challenges they face, while also helping them articulate their vision and value proposition moving forward. Jesse has spent time researching the future of these industries while collaborating with individuals and organizations that are transforming them.

## **Yana Lukashev, Senior Principal, Public Policy, AWS Canada**



Yana Lukashev leads the Federal and Quebec public policy mandate for AWS in Canada. In this role, she focuses on issues related to digital transformation, government procurement, economic development, data protection and privacy, energy and infrastructure policy, trade as well as workforce development.

Prior to joining AWS, Yana was Vice-President of Government Affairs and Business Development at SAP Canada. She also was Manager of Government Affairs at Bombardier.

Yana spent over 15 years in the public service, at the federal, provincial, and municipal levels in Canada.

## **Jeanette Patell, Director of Government Affairs & Public Policy, Google**



Jeanette Patell is the Director of Government Affairs and Public Policy for Google in Canada, leading Google's engagement with Canadian governments and external stakeholders on policy issues impacting the company, its users, and partners. Previously, she was Head of Government Affairs & Public Policy for YouTube in Canada.

Jeanette began her career as a diplomat with Global Affairs Canada. Her career in the Canadian Foreign Service focused on international trade policy, including investment treaty negotiations and postings to the Embassy of Canada in Washington D.C. and the Mission of Canada to the European Union.

Prior to joining YouTube, Jeanette led government affairs for General Electric Canada.

She is bilingual (English & French) and is a graduate of Mount Allison University with a B.A. (Hons.) in International Relations.

## **Shannon Lundquist, Vice Chair, Federal Account Leader, Deloitte**



Shannon Lundquist is vice chair and federal account leader at Deloitte Canada. With over 30 years of experience working in public sector transformation, she promotes a culture of optimism and well-being within her teams. She has worked with numerous public and private sector organizations to achieve success and deliver value in areas of program management, governance, business and technology sourcing, shared services, operations management, systems implementation, and change leadership.

## **Anil Arora, Chief Statistician of Canada (Ret'd), Global Digital Consultant, World Bank**



Anil Arora has dedicated his professional career to partnering with the business sector, academia, internationally, and with all three levels of government, building a culture of innovation, successfully delivering complex and transformational digital solutions, strengthened consumer and citizen trust, and increased organizational relevance and impact. Anil was appointed as the Chief Statistician of Canada in September 2016, overseeing the country's preeminent data agency, where he led modernizing its digital governance, technical, and data infrastructure. He co-authored and helped steer the Government of Canada's data strategy.

With significant experience in the private and public sectors, as well as leading influential international forums in the OECD and the United Nations, Anil has helped shape the data and digital landscape domestically and globally. He currently provides consultative services globally with the World Bank, helping countries build robust data and digital strategies. Anil has advised CEOs, Prime Ministers, Cabinet Ministers, Premiers, and Deputy Ministers, and led Business Missions internationally. Anil has authored several papers, is a regular keynote speaker and lecturer, and a sought-after thought leader. He is an adjunct lecturer at Harvard Kennedy School, teaching digital governance and leadership in the public sector.

Anil has led large and complex organizations with multi-billion dollar budgets and tens of thousands of employees. Anil's leadership spans senior strategic, science, policy, program delivery, and regulatory roles in the oil and gas sector, mining and critical minerals, forestry, nuclear, public health, drug safety, food, medical devices, and natural health products. Anil has earned numerous accolades, including being named Outstanding Innovator (2023), One of the Top 25 Immigrants in Canada (2022), and Policy Maker (2022), as well as receiving several Leadership Awards by the Business Community and the Association of Professional Executives of the Public Service of Canada (2009-2024).

## **Valérie Gervais, Founder & CEO, RKESTRA Communications**



Valérie Gervais is a strategic communications professional with 20+ years of leadership experience in communications, issues management, and public affairs.

A Franco-Ontarian by heritage and fully bilingual, she has led high-profile campaigns in public affairs, stakeholder engagement, workforce adjustments, and media relations.

With experience at Rideau Hall, the House of Commons, and the Ottawa Hospital, Valérie has advised leaders in high-stakes environments and high-profile clients in the private, public, and non-profit sectors as a consultant.

She holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Ottawa and continues to call Ottawa home.