

ICDPPC Global Privacy and Data Protection Awards

2019

Entry Form

Deadline 29 July 2019

To submit an entry to the ICDPPC Global Privacy and Data Protection Awards please complete and email this form to ExCoSecretariat@icdppc.org no later than 29 July 2019.

Note: ICDPPC member authorities can submit as many entries as they wish, but a separate form should be used for each different entry, submitted by the deadline of 29 July. Languages: the conference documentation rule 6.2¹ applies:

1. Contact details for this entry:

- a. Name and email address of person completing this form: [REDACTED]
- b. Name of Data Protection or Privacy Authority: **Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada**

2. Eligibility: By submitting this entry I confirm that:

- a. The Authority is a member of the International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners.
- b. The initiative described in this entry was undertaken since the last edition.
- c. I am aware that the information in the entry (other than the contact details in 1(a) above) will be publicised by the ICDPPC Secretariat.

YES to all.

3. Please indicate which **category you wish to enter (delete those that do not apply; you can enter multiple categories but please use separate forms for each entry):**

- a. **Accountability**

4. Description of the initiative

- a. Please provide a brief summary of the initiative (no more than 75 words):

Guidance for federal political parties on protecting personal information. The Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada (OPC) and the Canadian Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) collaboratively prepared this guidance to assist federal political parties in complying with their new legal obligations relating to privacy policies in anticipation of the October 2019 federal elections in Canada.

- b. Please provide a full description of the initiative (no more than 350 words):

This guidance to federal political parties and all those associated with such parties and federal election campaigns represents the first joint guidance between the OPC and the Chief Electoral Officer. It outlines a number of best privacy practices based on international law standards - which political parties are

¹ 6.2 Conference documents

Without prejudice to section 4.2, conference documents, including accreditation and observer applications may be submitted in English or in another language. In the latter case, the documents shall be accompanied by an English version. Members with the ability and the resources to do so are encouraged to translate proposed resolutions and other conference documents such as the Conference Rules and Procedures.

encouraged to follow - in order to protect the personal information in their care better and help engender trust among Canadians.

With a federal election coming up in Canada, and recent changes to Canada's electoral laws, this was an opportune time to highlight best practices in how political parties are to treat the personal information of voters. As political parties are not covered by any of Canada's federal privacy laws, this guidance responds to a significant regulatory gap. While no enforcement oversight mechanisms exist for political parties' treatment of personal information, the identification of international best practices assist those parties in knowing and upholding these best practices.

- c. Please explain why you think the initiative deserves to be recognised by an award (no more than 200 words)

The guidance was developed, in part, as a response to heightened public concerns over the data practices of political parties and the new legal requirements for federal political parties to publish a privacy policy on their website and submit it to Elections Canada as a condition of registration. It serves to highlight the international best practices around the use of data by political parties, and further highlights the critical link between data protection and maintaining the integrity of the democratic process. The guidance is an important initiative deserving of recognition since:

- (i) It speaks to an important matter of public interest: the use of personal information by political parties;
- (ii) It addresses in a pragmatic and collaborative manner an important regulatory gap since the data practices of political parties are not covered by Canada's federal privacy or electoral laws;
- (iii) It highlights the ability of two independent regulatory bodies – for privacy and for elections – to work together in the service of Canadians; and
- (iv) It responds to an immediate need, with the advent of Canada's federal elections in October of 2019.

- d. Include a photograph or image if you wish (note this will be published with your entry on the ICDPPC website; the image can be pasted into the entry or send as an attachment or a link may be provided):

- e. Please provide the most relevant link on the authority's website to the initiative (if applicable) (The website content does not need to be in English):

In English: https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/privacy-topics/collecting-personal-information/gd_pp_201904/

In French: https://www.priv.gc.ca/fr/sujets-lies-a-la-protection-de-la-vie-privee/collecte-de-renseignements-personnels/gd_pp_201904/

- f. Please provide any other relevant links that you wish that help explain the initiative or its impact or success (e.g. links to news reports or articles):

- News release: [Privacy Commissioner, Chief Electoral Officer of Canada issue guidance to help political parties protect the personal information of Canadians](#)