**GPA Global Privacy and Data Protection Awards 2022**

**Entry Form**

To submit an entry to the GPA Global Privacy and Data Protection Awards please complete and email this form to secretariat@globalprivacyassembly.org **no later** **than 17 June 2022.**

Note: GPA 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 above.

Languages: The GPA documentation Rule 6.2[[1]](#footnote-2) applies.

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| 1. **CONTACT DETAILS FOR THIS ENTRY**
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| Privacy/Data Protection Authority: | Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada |
| Person completing this form: | Gabe  | Ménard |
|  | *First name* | *Last name* |
| Job title: | Policy and Research Analyst |
| Email address: | Gabe.Menard@priv.gc.ca  |

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| 1. **ELIGIBILITY**
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| By submitting this entry, I confirm that (*please tick all boxes to confirm)*:  |
|[x]  The Authority is a member of the Global Privacy Assembly |
|[x]  The initiative described in this entry was undertaken since January 2020. |
|[x]  I am aware that the information in the entry (other than the contact details in 1(a) above) will be publicised by the GPA Secretariat. |

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| 1. **CATEGORIES**
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| Please indicate which category you wish to enter.*Please tick* ***one;*** *please use a separate form for each category you wish to enter:* |
|[ ]  Education and Public Awareness |
|[x]  Accountability |
|[ ]  Dispute Resolution and Enforcement |
|[ ]  Innovation |
|[ ]  People’s Choice |
| 1. **DESCRIPTION OF THE INITIATIVE**
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| 1. **Please provide a brief summary of the initiative** *(no more than 75 words)*
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| In May 2022, the heads of Canada’s privacy protection authorities released joint guidance for police use of facial recognition technology. The guidance is based on the application of internationally recognized privacy principles, and is intended to help police agencies ensure any use of the technology complies with the law, minimizes risks, and respects privacy rights. It was developed collaboratively across national and sub-national privacy authorities in Canada, in consultation with key stakeholder groups. |

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| 1. **Please provide a full description of the initiative** *(no more than 350 words)*
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| In May 2022, the heads of Canada’s privacy protection authorities released joint guidance for police use of facial recognition technology (FRT). The guidance promotes accountability among police agencies by helping them to ensure any use of the technology complies with the law, minimizes risks, and respects privacy rights. The guidance is the product of a collaborative initiative among Canadian privacy authorities to clarify expectations and obligations for police use of FRT. It is based on the application of internationally recognized privacy principles, and outlines both general privacy considerations relating to police use of the technology, as well as specific recommendations to help ensure principles are operationalized effectively in practice. Key issues include the accuracy of FRT systems and reduction of bias, lawful authority for police use of FRT, accountability for FRT initiatives, and retention of faceprints and other data. The guidance also discusses various risks associated with police use of FRT, including risks to the exercise of fundamental rights and freedoms, and emphasizes the need to account for such risks when planning for proposed FRT deployments. To help ensure the guidance is both practical and privacy protective, the heads of Canada’s privacy protection authorities conducted a public consultation on an initial draft of the guidance from June to December 2021. During that period, our offices met with law enforcement agencies, civil society groups, organizations representing marginalized communities and equity seeking groups, as well as federal, provincial and territorial human rights commissioners. We also received 29 written submissions from stakeholders representing civil society, academia, government, police, legal and industry sectors, and individuals. This input resulted in numerous revisions to the guidance, including improvements to the clarity of explanations and greater specificity of recommendations.  |

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| 1. **Please explain why you think the initiative deserves to be recognised by an award***(no more than 200 words)*
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| The guidance outlines key measures to help police ensure accountability for any use of FRT. This includes not only organizational mechanisms internal to police agencies (e.g. compliance audits), but also measures to facilitate accountability to the public (e.g. publication of key program documentation) and ensuring accountability among third parties, especially FRT vendors. Further, the guidance clarifies and explains how key legal obligations and privacy principles apply to police use of FRT, and recommends specific measures to help police comply with these in practice. This also provides stakeholders and oversight bodies with common benchmarks that can be used to hold police agencies accountable for their use of the technology.These contributions come at a crucial time in the evolution of FRT as a policing technology. While deployment is ongoing, and risks to privacy and other rights can be extremely high, appropriate measures for mitigating risks and ensuring legal compliance are not always apparent on the surface. The guidance is thus particularly commendable for its work in advancing a clear and comprehensive set of expectations, informed by a wide range of stakeholder views and consistent across national and sub-national jurisdictions, for responsible use of this technology. |

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| 1. **Please include a photograph or image, if you wish***(This will be published with your entry on the GPA website. The image can be pasted into the box below, be sent as an attachment or a link may be provided)*
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| 1. **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)*
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| Privacy guidance on facial recognition for police agencies: <https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/privacy-topics/surveillance/police-and-public-safety/gd_fr_202205/> |

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| 1. **Please provide any other relevant links that help explain the initiative or its impact or success***(e.g. links to news reports or articles):*
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| What We Heard - Background on our consultation on draft guidance and a future legal framework for police agencies’ use of facial recognition: <https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/opc-actions-and-decisions/advice-to-parliament/2022/s-d_prov_20220502/#heard> |

1. [GPA Rules and Procedures](https://globalprivacyassembly.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/GPA-Rules-and-Procedures-October-2020.pdf), Rule 6.2 ‘Assembly documents’:

Without prejudice to section 4.2, Assembly 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 Assembly documents such as the Assembly Rules and Procedures. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)