GPA Global Privacy and Data Protection Awards 2023

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 9 June 2023.

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 6.2¹ applies.

1. CONTACT DETAILS FOR THIS ENTRY

Privacy/Data Protection Authority: Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada

Lacey Batalov

Person completing this form: Lacey Batalov

Job title: Director

Email address: Lacey.batalov@priv.gc.ca

2. ELIGIBILITY

By submitting this entry, I confirm that (please tick all boxes to confirm):

☒ The Authority is a member of the Global Privacy Assembly
☒ The initiative described in this entry was undertaken since January 2022.
☒ 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.

3. CATEGORIES

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
□ Accountability
□ Dispute Resolution and Enforcement
□ Innovation
□ People’s Choice

¹ GPA Rules and Procedures, 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.
4. DESCRIPTION OF THE INITIATIVE

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

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada (OPC) spearheaded the planning, writing, and delivery of an engaging and informative panel discussion.

The bilingual event titled, “Privacy Awareness Week 2023: What Is Public May Still Be Personal,” reached 877 Canadian public servants, with hundreds more viewing a recording of the event.

The event resulted in increased privacy awareness and knowledge throughout the Canadian public service and allowed the OPC to further promote its advisory role.

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

The OPC’s Government Advisory Directorate spearheaded an outreach initiative in collaboration with the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS)’s Privacy and Responsible Data Division and the Canada School of Public Service (CSPS). Led by a moderator, two executive panellists discussed the definitions of publicly available personal information, improper or unauthorized collection, accuracy of information, and privacy impact assessments.

The discussion explored how Canadian federal public sector institutions that collect, use and disclose publicly available personal information can help ensure their activities are conducted in accordance with legal and policy requirements. Participants learned practical measures to identify and manage privacy risks, promote accountability and transparency when collecting and handling publicly available personal information.

The 45-minute moderated panel discussion included two case studies to help keep participants engaged and to link principles to practice. The case studies also allowed for brief explorations of more complex situations to help participants appreciate the wide scope of privacy risks and possible mitigations related to publicly available personal information. For example, one case study was regarding the inadvertent overcollection of third-party information, allowing panellists to also talk briefly about privacy breach management.

The question period following the initial discussion was active, with questions ranging from topics including employee surveillance, artificial intelligence and the OPC’s complaints process.

The event was open to all public servants and the OPC made great efforts to ensure that the contents of the speaking notes were pertinent and interesting, but also accessible to privacy professionals and non-privacy professionals alike.

c. Please explain why you think the initiative deserves to be recognised by an award (no more than 200 words)
Since its first Privacy Awareness Week event presented in collaboration with the CSPS in 2021, the OPC has increasing audience size and engagement year-over-year with 1330 registrants enrolled for this year’s event (well past the 750-registrants goal).

The 2023 event included partnering with TBS for the first time, an important step to show the Government of Canada community that the OPC as regulator, and TBS as the Government of Canada institution charged with producing privacy policy and guidance, can present a united front on complex matters for the benefit of privacy protection.

The OPC suggested the discussion topic purposefully to help promote timely Government of Canada guidance on publicly available information. The OPC also took additional steps to ensure a successful event, including acting as liaison with CSPS and taking the lead on writing speaking notes to ensure a unified presentation.

Due to this year’s success, going forward, CSPS will reserve bi-annual events for the OPC and TBS, one during Data Privacy Week and the other during Privacy Awareness Week. This past year’s event was not only successful in and of itself but also the start of a legacy of events promoting privacy protection widely across the Government of Canada.

d. 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)

N/A

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)

This is the most relevant link on the OPC’s website:

However, this is likely the better link to highlight the initiative (on a partner website):

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

Of the participants who responded to the post-event survey, where overall satisfaction was rated on a scale of 1 to 10 (1 = “very dissatisfied,” and 10 = “very satisfied”), over 23% of respondents rated the event 10/10, with another 44% of respondents rating the event as 7 or 8 out of 10. The mean was 7.95, with a standard deviation of 1.91 and variance of 3.63.