



GPA Global Privacy and Data Protection Awards 2025

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 16 June 2025**.

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: Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario (IPC)

Person completing this form: Patricia Kosseim
First name *Last name*

Job title: Commissioner

Email address: commissioner.ipc@ipc.on.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 before 16 June 2025.
- ☒ 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 72 words)

In 2024, the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario unveiled its second [Transparency Showcase](#) with an inspiring display of transparency initiatives. The 3D [virtual gallery](#) spotlights innovative projects that support government transparency, promote civic engagement, and demonstrate the positive impacts of open data on the day to day lives of Ontarians. In this year's challenge, we called for innovative ways that institutions are being transparent about their privacy policies and information management practices.

b. Please provide a full description of the initiative (no more than 300 words)

The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario launched the [Transparency Challenge](#) to encourage government openness and provide a unique and creative forum for institutions to showcase their innovative projects that advance open data and government transparency in ways that improve Ontarians' lives.

This year's showcase focuses on model ways that government institutions are building trust with their citizens by balancing privacy and transparency in the way they collect, use, and disclose personal information.

The [exhibits](#) are each represented by a unique piece of artwork. This collection has been specially curated to shine a light on best-in-class efforts in transparency and access to government information for the benefit of Ontarians.

The IPC's Transparency Showcase illustrates the importance of access rights, transparency and open government. The virtual gallery offers visitors a chance to browse the projects through captivating audio and video, graphics, and descriptions that bring the initiatives to life.

The breadth and quality of exhibits from across Ontario's public institutions, including, provincial ministries, municipalities, schools, universities, and police services, provide inspiring models for other institutions to follow.

Featured exhibits include:

- **City of Toronto's** [Public Walking Tour](#) educates the community on sensor technology and privacy implications through an interactive walk in the Entertainment District.
- **Town of Innisfil's** [Technology in Public Spaces](#) provides interactive signage to inform residents about technology embedded in public spaces, such as sensors in park waste bins.
- **McMaster University's** ["AI Dialogues" podcast](#) series explores the ethical and practical questions of generative artificial intelligence (AI) in higher education, complementing consultations that are shaping new guidance.

Today, more than 30 projects are featured in two virtual galleries, providing a remarkable range of initiatives aimed at increasing understanding and appreciation for open data and access to government information. The goal is to inspire others towards greater transparency as well.

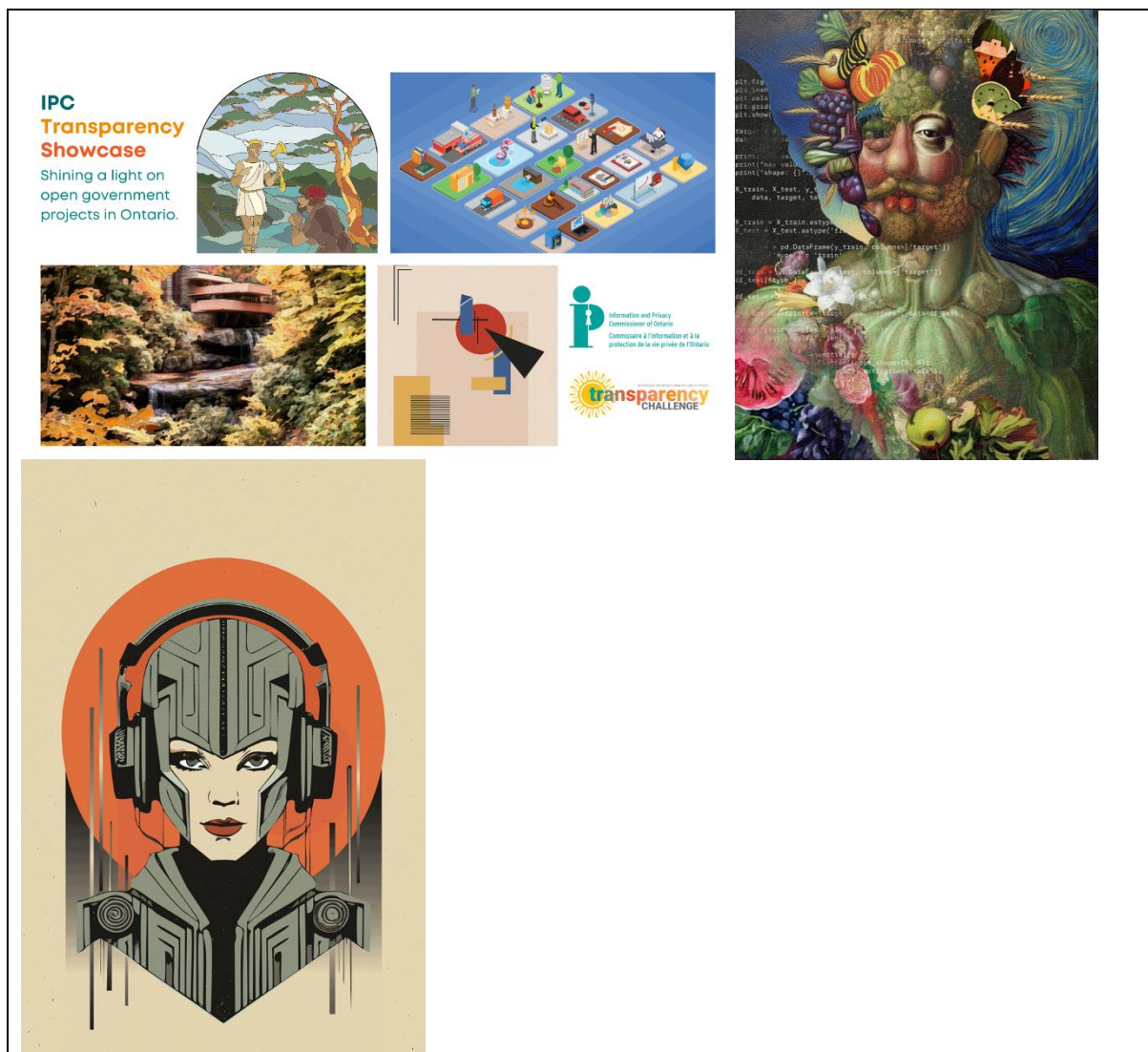
c. Please explain why you think the initiative deserves to be recognised by an award
(no more than 200 words)

Transparency is about empowerment and helps build public trust. It equips people with the information they need to participate meaningfully in the democratic process, engage in constructive discourse, and hold their governments accountable. It's the bedrock that democracy is built on, inspiring public trust and providing trustworthy, evidence-based information to shape public policies, programs, and services that improve peoples' lives.

As data protection regulators, our role is not only to sanction bad behaviour, but to encourage good behaviour too. The IPC's Transparency Showcase celebrates the beauty and benefits of government transparency and open data for the day-to-day lives of Ontarians, inspiring other institutions towards greater transparency too. Ultimately, we believe this unique initiative builds a culture of compliance and underscores just how important transparency is to a healthy democracy.

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)





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*)

Resources:

- [IPC Transparency Challenge](#)
- [IPC Transparency Showcase](#)
- [Info Matters episode: The beauty and benefits of transparency: Ontario's public institutions rise to the challenge with innovative projects](#)

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*):

The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario:

[IPC 2024 Transparency Showcase Unveiled with Municipal Exhibitors](#)

Municipal World:

[Transparency Showcase 2.0 continues to champion open data](#)

International Association of Privacy Professionals:

[Ontario IPC's Transparency Challenge submissions showcase personal data utilization](#)