

Securing an Open Society:

Canada's National Security Policy

Bill Munson, ITAC



Information Technology Association of Canada
www.itac.ca

Information Technology Association of Canada

- ITAC is the voice of the Canadian ICT industry.
- together with its affiliates across the country, we represent 1300 companies
- all sectors - telecom and internet services, ICT consulting, hardware, microelectronics, software and content
- accounts for more than 70 per cent of the 550,000 jobs, \$130 billion in revenue, \$5.2 billion in R&D investment, \$18.7 billion in exports and \$10.8 billion in capital expenditure that the sector contributes annually to the Canadian economy



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ITAC Cyber Security Forum

- an industry-government policy roundtable
- meeting at least quarterly since May 2000, generally co-scheduled with an Standards Council of Canada group, the Canadian Advisory Committee on IT Security
- started out as the Cryptography Advocacy Group to prepare brief to government, then added cyber crime, CIP, network security, authentication ...
- Special May 11 meeting - Alec Attfield of PCO presented *Securing an Open Society: Canada's National Security Policy*, supplemented by PSEP officials



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Core national security interests

- Protecting Canada and the safety and security of Canadians at home and abroad
- Ensuring that Canada is not a base for threats to our allies
- Contributing to international security



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Actions in six key security areas

- Intelligence
- Emergency Planning and Management
- Public Health Emergencies
- Transportation Security
- Border Security
- International Security



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Prominent role for cyber security

- securing critical government information systems
- fully implementing the RCMP Real Time Identification Project
- implementing the Passport Security Strategy, including facial recognition biometric technology
- a National Cyber-security Task Force to develop a National Cyber-Security Strategy
- an Integrated Threat Assessment Centre (ITAC)
- a Critical Infrastructure Protection Strategy



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National Cyber Security Strategy

- "Cyber-security is at the forefront of the trans-border challenge to Canada's critical infrastructure.
- "The threat of cyber-attacks is real, and the consequences of such attacks can be severe.
- "To achieve a more proactive cyber-security posture and to keep pace with the efforts of key allies, the Government will strengthen its capacity to predict and prevent cyber-attacks.
- "To this end, the Government will substantially improve threat and vulnerability analyses for its systems, and strengthen its ability to defend its systems and respond to cyber-incidents."



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National Cyber Security Strategy

- "The Government will also convene a high-level national task force, with public and private representation, to develop the National Cyber-security Strategy to reduce Canada's vulnerability to cyber-attacks and cyber-accidents."
(Securing an Open Society, p26)
 - high-level - CEOs, CTOs, DMs, ADMs ... (10-12)
 - National - representation from across Canada
 - public and private
 - to take 8-12 months to complete
- = relatively few meetings
= reliance on a secretariat of skilled professionals (12-15)



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Stay tuned / get involved

- For more about ITAC and the ITAC Cyber Security Forum:

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Next ITAC Cyber Security Forum meeting - June 22



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