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Industry News

[Antiquated Duty System Hurts Competition: EBay](#)
[Hacked: The Escalating Arms Race Against Cybercrime](#)

Reports

[Ontario Centre for Excellence - Annual Report](#)
[Why Alberta's SME's Fail to Grow](#)

ITAC Industry Insider

Big data is revolutionizing the way business is done in Canada, but are universities turning out enough of the right kind of graduates to mine the digital data to find commercial gold?

We don't know. The last major international study on the big data talent gap failed to even mention Canada. Experience suggest there is a gap, but we don't know what job skills are in the greatest demand or which sectors are feeling the employment pinch most acutely.

To find those answers, ITAC has joined a new multi-sector research partnership to

Ontario Securities Commission Mandates Better Gender Representation

The Ontario Securities Commission has released new rules which will require most TSX-listed

companies to set targets for women's board and executive committee representation. The move will require non-venture issuers to provide annual disclosure on the representation of women on their boards and representation targets for the future. ITAC partner Catalyst Canada will hold a [panel discussion](#) examining change in the boardroom at the Exchange Tower on November 13.



investigate the problem and fashion strategies that will close the gap and facilitate continued innovation and economic development in Canada.

How can ITAC help your business capitalize on big data opportunities?

- If you are in health care, register for the [Third National Summit on Data Analytics for Healthcare](#) on Dec. 2. ITAC members are entitled to a 20 per cent discount
- Save a Feb 12 on your calendar and plan to attend the ITAC-IDC Tech Trends Breakfast Series : Big Data Analytics and Cognitive Computing
- 3) Complete the [Big Data Talent Gap Survey 2014](#). All survey participants will receive a copy of the thought leadership paper sharing the results from the research. Participation in a one-day summit on the subject is also possible.

Join the Federal Cloud Conversation

The Government of Canada is taking steps to access the potential technological and economic benefits of cloud computing. Specifically, the government is seeking industry input on how to bring business opportunities to tender in a consistent manner while mitigating risks. On **November 13th, 2014** Canada will host a two-hour Industry Engagement Event in the National Capital Region to introduce its cloud consultation process framework. This Industry Engagement Event is the first milestone in a consultation process.

[More](#)



Public Works Minister Finley Talks ICT

Diane Finley, Minister of Public Works and Government Services and Minister Responsible for Shared Services shared her thoughts on the government's digital transformation at an October 29 conference in Ottawa

In her speech she noted:

- The government spends \$5 billion annually on IT.



Best Practices in Contact List Management

A [ITAC/SMA Marketing and Sales Executive Think Tank](#) recently looked at the always challenging issue of contact list management.

It seems everyone is struggling with similar database issues. Keeping lists clean and up-to-date is cumbersome and costly, but the think tank concluded it was worth the effort for both prospects and clients.

To learn some tips and tricks about managing lists, check out the think tank report [Mining for Gold! Best Practices in Contact List Management](#)

Events Worth Attending

ITAC hosts and supports a wide range of industry events each month. Here are three educational and networking opportunities that you might want to consider attending.

Nov. 5 - [Women in Leadership Speakers series](#), Toronto - Sarah Ryerson, Head of Strategy and Sales Operations, Google Canada, will present her personal career journey.

Nov. 12 - [CASL Look Ahead](#), Toronto - Hear from the CRTC on their approach to the computer programming provisions of Canada's anti-spam law (Section 8) that come into effect Jan. 15, 2015.

Nov. 12 - [Ingenious Awards](#), Toronto - The ICT community comes together to celebrate the most innovative projects from across the country.

Quick Links

- Shared Services Canada (SSC) wants to save \$150 million by consolidating contracts and keeping internal overhead low, \$50 million by moving government departments to a single, outsourced email service and \$9 million by consolidating the procurement of workplace technology devices like laptops and printers.
- Before SSC, each of the government's 43 department had its own vehicle for delivering ICT. In the end, there will be one system all departments will share.
- 63 legacy email systems from all across government are being folded into one system. When it's done, she said it will be secure and deliver millions of dollars in savings to taxpayers every year. The system will be secure and much more capable of dealing with issues like cyber-espionage from abroad.
- The government is committed to leveraging Canada's ICT industry capabilities.
- A Data Centre Consolidation project is going to eliminate up to 50 facilities. At the end of the project, the data centre footprint will shrink from 485 to 7.
- Nearly 22,000 phone lines have been removed in favour of cellular and voice-over-IP.
- The government is committed to helping Canadians to be secure online. It has invested \$155 million to hire new staff to reinforce cybersecurity capabilities
- It has established and is now operating the Cyber Threat Evaluation Centre

[Read the full speech](#)

Microsoft Canada Sees Growth in the Cloud

As Microsoft transitions to a cloud-computing and mobile-friendly software company under the leadership of CEO Satya Nadella, the tech heavyweight is setting its sights on Canada's small and medium-sized businesses.

It's a major segment of the Canadian economy which is largely unfamiliar with cloud computing, according to survey results Microsoft released this week.

Microsoft Canada is targeting this pool of potential customers by raising awareness, such as with a \$13-million "technology showcase" at its Mississauga, Ont. headquarters to demonstrate the cloud's potential, and a similar Centre opening in Montreal next week, said Janet Kennedy, the president of Microsoft Canada.

[Read the National Post article](#)

Do you have a story you would like to see featured in the ITAC Insider? Send me an [email](#) and we'll work together to share it with the ICT community.

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