



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA



ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE
DE LA TECHNOLOGIE DE L'INFORMATION

ITAC Industry Insider Newsletter

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Hill Day: Standing together for a stronger tech sector in Canada

On Monday, May 28th, members of ITAC's senior executive team, along with members of our national Board of Directors and other industry leaders descended on Parliament Hill to educate and inform Federal Members of Parliament about the importance of creating a world-leading digital infrastructure, and the need for government to facilitate the broader adoption of technology to help drive the industry forward as part of our annual *Hill Day*. Participants also had a chance to gain insights from political party insiders and policy leaders.



This year, ITAC facilitated 16 meetings with federal legislators, Members of Parliament, opposition party leaders and critics, including: the Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Harjit Sajjan; the Honourable Bardish Chagger, Minister of Small Business and Tourism; the office of Minister Bains, Innovation, Science and Economic Development; the Privy Council Office; the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Canada; Public Safety Canada; Infrastructure Canada; Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada; the Office of the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour; and Pamela Goldsmith Jones, MP, Parliamentary Secretary to Minister for International Trade.



The key areas of focus this year were: **cyber security, the adoption of technology, and talent and diversity**. ITAC also pressed the importance of diversity in the sector. The meetings were productive and informative, and helped us to push the strategic priorities of our industry forward in a comprehensive way.

ITAC's *Hill Day* is timely; giving ITAC an opportunity to follow-up with our Government's leadership to discuss the policies and programs announced in the 2018 Budget. It's also important to note that this will be the second last *Hill Day* before the 2019 election, and legislators have started to focus on hearing from the technology sector in their communities.

Overall, the advocacy day remains a crucial opportunity for senior technology leaders to continue building relationships and awareness of our sector with the Federal Government. Afterwards, participants visited the historical Centre Block, where an additional 120 party leaders, industry leaders and government officials gathered to network and to learn more about how together, we can advance the growth and prosperity of the entire sector, and work more closely with government.

