



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA



ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE  
DE LA TECHNOLOGIE DE L'INFORMATION

*ITAC Industry Insider Newsletter*

February 5, 2019

## Still waiting: ISED Data Strategy Report

The Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) launched a national consultation on digital and data transformation in June 2018 to better understand how Canada can drive innovation, prepare Canadians for the future of work, and ensure they have trust and confidence in how their data is used. ITAC participated in this – hosting its own engagement session and attended five sessions, receiving feedback directly from members. This included the *ITAC - Federal Government Consultation on National Data Strategy* event last September, which welcomed one representative from each member organization to attend. Each attendee had the opportunity to contribute on each of the thematic groups. ISED also had digital innovation leads in attendance and reached out to Finance, the Treasury Board Secretariat, Employment and Social Development Canada, and Public Safety Canada to take part as well to listen and hear industry feedback.

Dr. Ann Cavoukian played an important role in this discussion. As a reminder, Dr. Cavoukian is recognized as one of the world's leading privacy experts and is presently the Distinguished Expert-in-Residence, leading the Privacy by Design Centre of Excellence and is also a Senior Fellow of the Ted Rogers Leadership Centre at Ryerson University. She is also the former Information and Privacy Commissioner for Ontario, serving from 1997 to 2014.

ISED's Data Strategy Report re: "what we heard" based on these consultations is expected to be released imminently.

### ITAC's Data Strategy Report

As a reminder, ITAC launched a **report** in July of last year that addresses the immediate need for a collaborative, modern, national data-driven strategy, and highlights unique opportunity for Canada to be a global leader.

The Report, developed in consultation with the Canadian information, communications and technology (ITC) industry, calls on the federal government to develop a balanced framework to data governance, one that establishes a value framework for data, encourages sharing and collaboration, and incentivizes innovation. ITAC recommends a principles-based approach, to develop a data-driven digital economy that maximizes the value of data for organizations and identifies priority areas for development in unlocking data to meet current and future needs.

In the Report, ITAC provides considerations for Government in developing a national strategy, including: Artificial Intelligence (AI), 5G networks, trans-border data flows, quantum computing, digital identities, data ownership; protectionism; and security and privacy.

In response, The Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of **Innovation, Science and Economic Development** said "Unlocking the economic opportunities from digital transformation will help Canada's competitiveness, attract

investment and create middle-class jobs from coast to coast to coast. I look forward to a national dialogue with ITAC and other organizations over the coming months as part of our National Consultation on Digital and Data Transformation where we will work with Canadians to ensure our success in a data-driven economy.”