

RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES IN CANADA'S ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS LAW

A LAW AND POLICY CONFERENCE BY THE FORUM FOR RESEARCH AND POLICY IN COMMUNICATIONS DESMARAIS HALL, 55 LAURIER AVENUE EAST UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA

In June 2018 the federal government announced the review of Canada's 1993 telecommunications, 1991 broadcasting and 1989 radiocommunications statutes, by a panel of external experts. The Broadcasting and Telecommunications Legislative Review panel is "to engage with the industry, creators, and Canadians – including those from Indigenous and official-language minority communities – in order to ensure that Canada's communications legislation takes full advantage of the benefits that the digital age brings to our country." The #BTLR panel began its consultations in September 2018; written submissions were due in January 2019 (a number are available at http://frpc.net/submissions-to-the-broadcasting-and-telecommunications-legislative-review-panel/). The panel will publish an interim report in June 2019, and a final report by 31 January 2020.

This two-day conference will address the rights and responsibilities that Parliament should (or should not) set out in law. Following six sessions in which expert panelists discuss and debate matters ranging from sovereignty to governance, conference participants will be invited to identify policy objectives that Parliament must prioritize - and protect.

FRIDAY, 10 MAY 2019	SATURDAY, 11 MAY 2019	
The right to sovereign control over communications systems	The responsibility to set a clear mandate for, fund, and distribute a national content provider in the 21st century	
The right to be informed - strengthening democracy in Canada by ensuring the production and distribution of local, national and international news	The responsibility to ensure effective governance of the communications system in Canada's public interest	
The right to universal, affordable access to distribution systems	Which rights and responsibilities matter most? Setting priorities for Canadian communications in law – a moderated discussion for all participants	
The right to sovereign control over audio-visual content, and the responsibility to reflect Canada to all people in Canada	discussion for all participants	

Registration for the conference (https://bit.ly/2QHoKjN) includes electronic access to all materials before, during and after the conference; access to all sessions; morning and afternoon refreshments, and lunch. Special rates for students, public-interest organizations and government. Tickets (for the entire event) must be purchased before the conference.

Special invitation to students to submit papers: Students enrolled in university communications departments and law faculties are invited to submit papers on topics in two areas: whether national sovereignty requires control over content and carriage; and whether the relationship between news and democracy justifies legislative support for the gathering and publication of news. The author of the best paper in each category will be invited to address the conference on Saturday, May 11, 2019 and will receive a \$500 prize, along with tickets to the full conference. See FRPC's website for additional details.

Tickets	Advance registration (to 11 April 2019)	Regular registration (12 April 2019
		on)
Students* (enrolled in the 2018/19 academic year)	\$60.00 + EB fee + GST/HST = \$73.08	\$70.00 + EB fee + GST/HST = \$85.07
Faculty (on sabbatical or teaching in 2018/19 academic year)	\$240.00 + EB fee + GST/HST = \$288.85	\$300.00 + EB fee + GST/HST = \$360.79
Members of not-for-profit organizations	\$240.00 + EB fee + GST/HST = \$288.85	\$300.00 + EB fee + GST/HST = \$480.66
Full- or part-time government employees	\$350.00 + EB fee + GST/HST = \$420.72	\$400.00 + EB fee + GST/HST = \$480.66
Retirees	\$150 + EB fee + GST/HST = \$180.97	\$160 + EB fee + GST/HST = \$192.95
All others	\$400.00 + EB fee + GST/HST = \$480.66	\$450.00 + EB fee + GST/HST = \$540.70
* limited numbers (first come, first served)	Tickets are for the full event, and are not available for individual days or sessions	
Cancellations: Refunds provided for cancellations received before 10 April 2019.		

Updates: See the Forum's website (<u>www.frpc.net</u>) for additional information and updates

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