

Net benefits, Net politique: Assessing the promise of e-democracy

**“Networks for people:
Accessibility, performance, results”
RISQ - Canarie October 23, 2003**

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Director, byDesign-eLab & eCommons/agora**



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Talk Map

1. Intro - (McLuhan and Innis)

Net benefits - accessibility, performance, results

‘Net Politique - political social media dynamics

-- the challenges of e-Democracy

2. From eGovernment to eGovernance - Lessons

3. Citizen engagement in e governance - Lessons

4. Best practices summary for democratic eGovernance

5. **Conclusions** : Keep creating, forge new
partnerships, towards reciprocal democracy and
new balance of powers...



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Welcome to **McLuhan.ca**



McLuhan Sound and Video project by Dave Harkness launched on July 26th, 2003 at the Coach House Renaissance Festival 3.

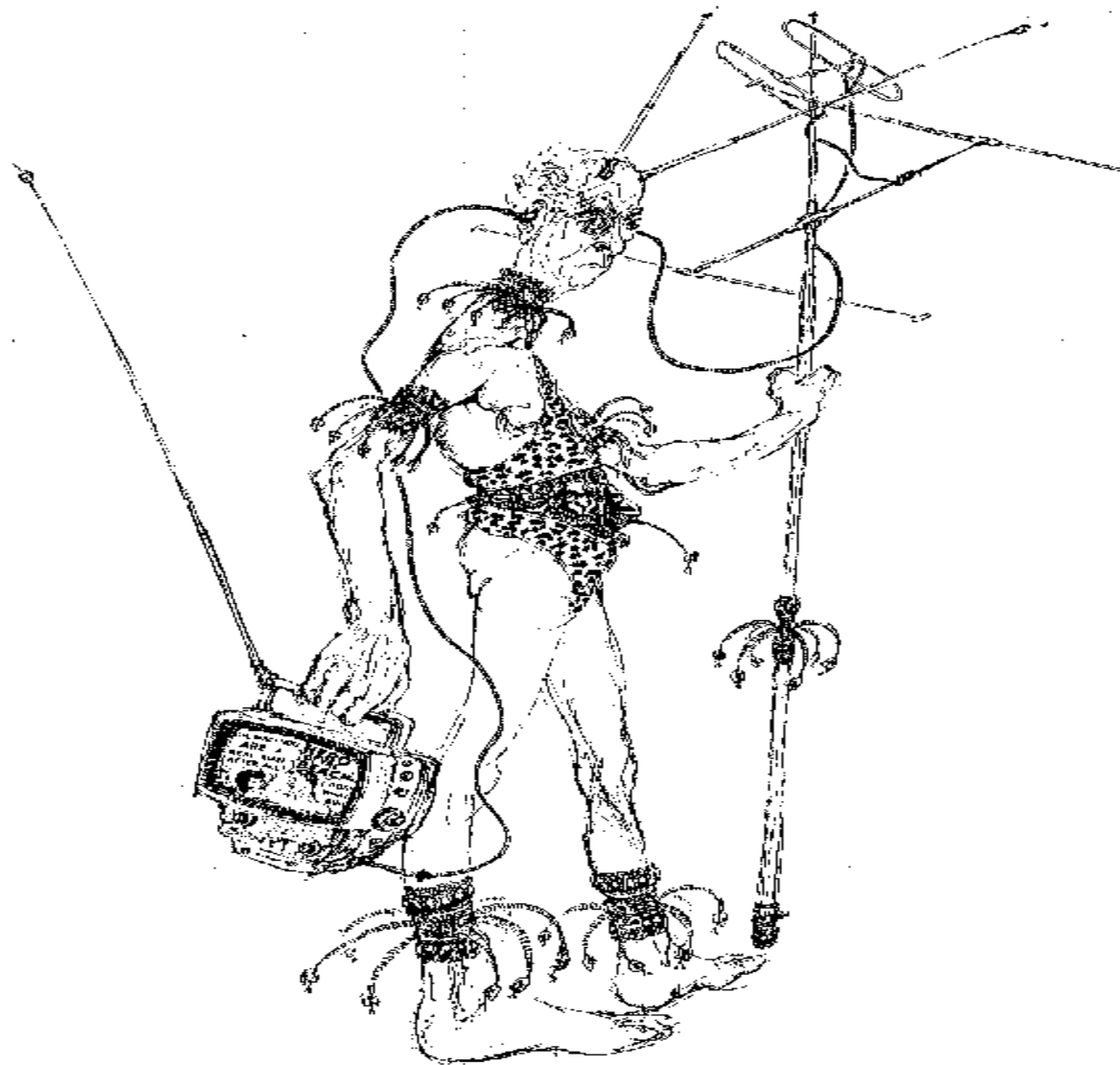
Graduate seminar on Understanding McLuhan and Media starts September 8th - see draft syllabus

Were you looking for the McLuhan Program at the University of Toronto?

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[Www.mcluhan.ca](http://www.mcluhan.ca)



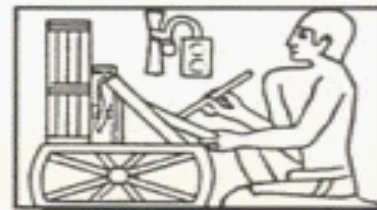
Marshall McLuhan



Harold Innis 1894-1952

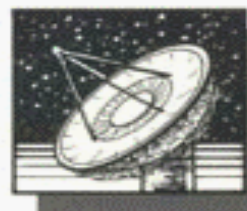
EMPIRE & COMMUNICATIONS

*From the very earliest
Egyptian hieroglyphics
to the invention of*



*of today—a study
communications
in the rise & fall of*

*movable type; from the
first radio signals to
the electronic systems*



*of the roles
media play
civilizations.*

HAROLD A. INNIS

An illustrated edition. Newly edited and with special
introductions and an afterword by **David Godfrey.**

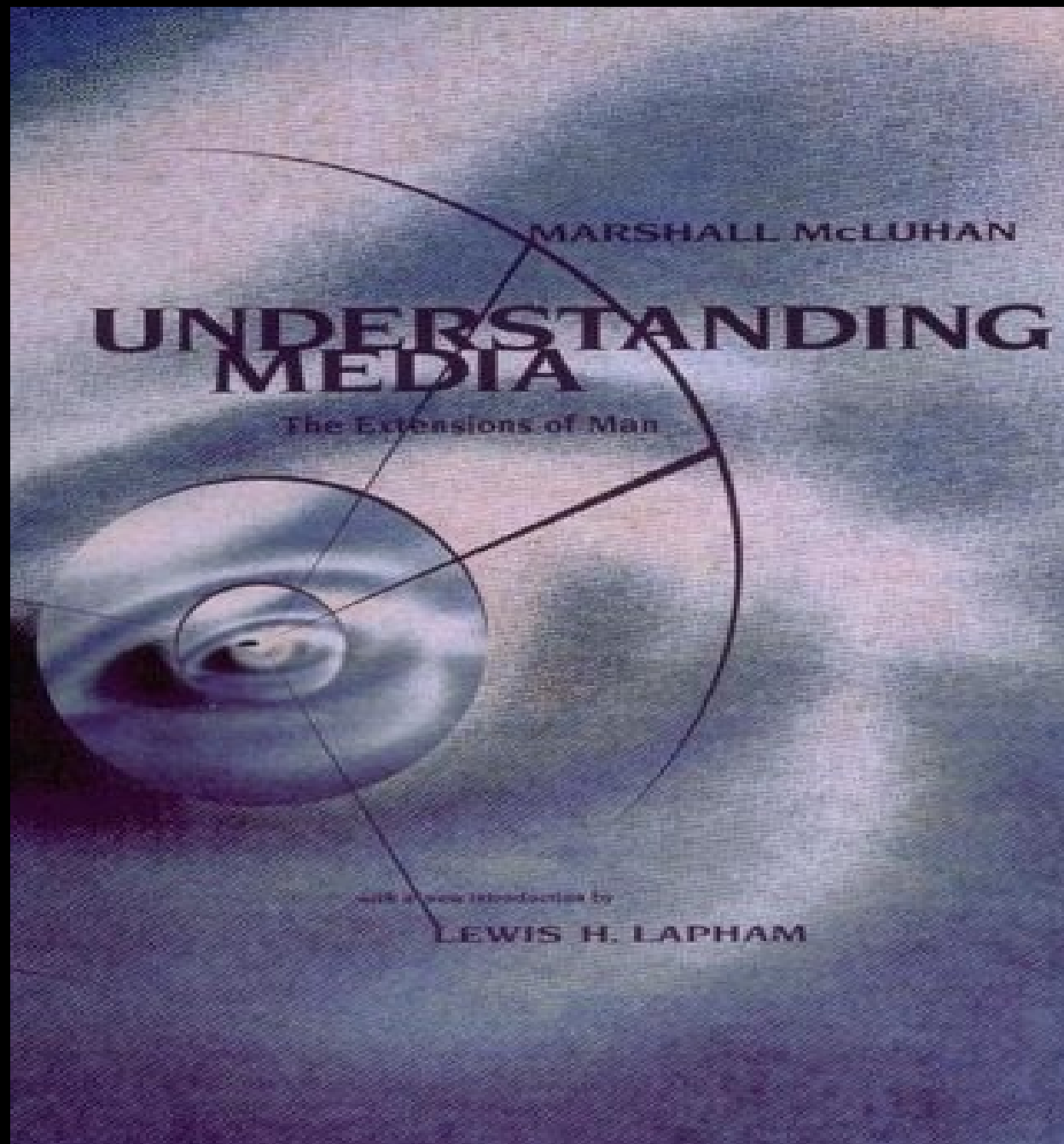


Marshall McLuhan 1911 - 1980

THE INVENTION OF TYPOGRAPHY CONFIRMED AND EXTENDED THE
NEW VISUAL STRESS OF APPLIED KNOWLEDGE, PROVIDING THE
FIRST UNIFORMLY REPEATABLE 'COMMODITY', THE FIRST
ASSEMBLY-LINE, AND THE FIRST PRODUCTION □ UNTIL MORE
THAN TWO CENTURIES AFTER PRINTING NOBODY DISCOVERED
HOW TO MAINTAIN A SINGLE TONE OR ATTITUDE THROUGHOUT
A PROSE COMPOSITION □ THE 'INTERFACE' OF THE RENAISSANCE
WAS THE MEETING OF MEDIEVAL PLURALISM AND MODERN
HOMOGENEITY AND MECHANISM – A FORMULA FOR BLITZ
AND METAMORPHOSIS □ TYPOGRAPHY AS THE FIRST
MECHANIZATION OF HANDICRAFT IS ITSELF THE
PERFECT INSTANCE NOT OF A NEW KNOWLEDGE,
BUT OF APPLIED KNOWLEDGE □ WITH GUTEN
BERG EUROPE ENTERS THE
TECHNOLOGICAL PHASE OF
PROGRESS, WHEN CHANGE
T H E F B E C M E S H E
A C H T P A N O M
F O C I F
T E C F H

THE GUTENBERG GALAXY

MARSHALL
McLUHAN

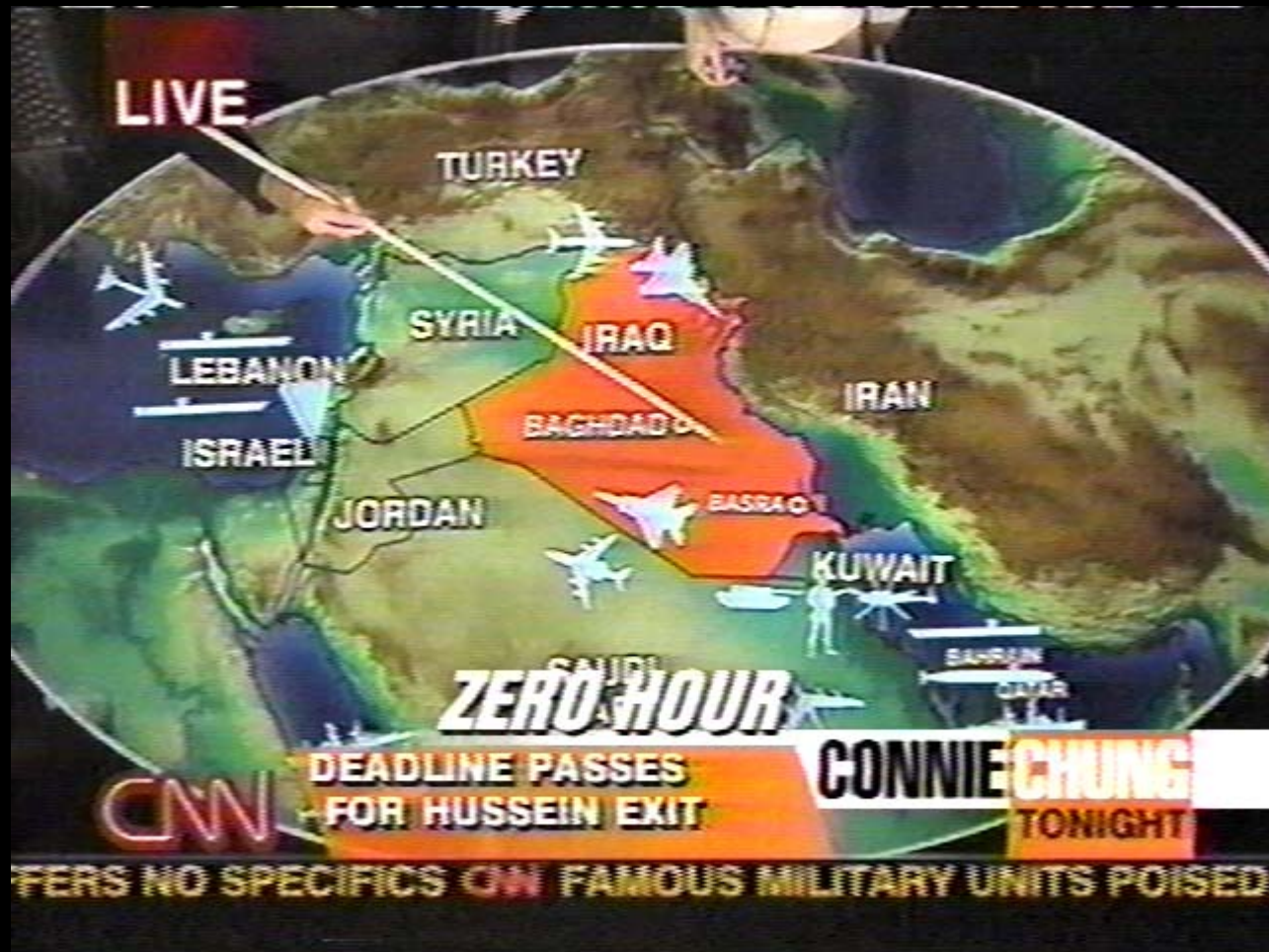


eDemocracy's Challenges:

Attention, Agenda setting

Mobilization

- 1. Internet not inevitably democratic.
 - 2. eDemocracy by design not default.
 - 3. Politics and policies matter, but w/ limits.
 - 4. Paradox: Hyperactive/comatose citizens (info overload, time crunch, instant expectations, Just say NO).
 - 5. Deficit: Legitimacy, credibility, trust...
- Manuel Castells *Information Age Trilogy*;
Stuart Soroka *Agenda-Setting Dynamics in*



Media environments /
ecology





ELECTRONIC COMMONS

an experiment in digital democracy



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Audio & Video Excerpts



The Great Hall of Debate



Virtual Communities

[VRML contest](#) | [SimCanada](#)



Civil Rules



Vox Pop

[Contribute to Open Forums](#)

Counter
environments



News & Highlights

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ELECTRONIC COMMONS

an experiment in digital democracy



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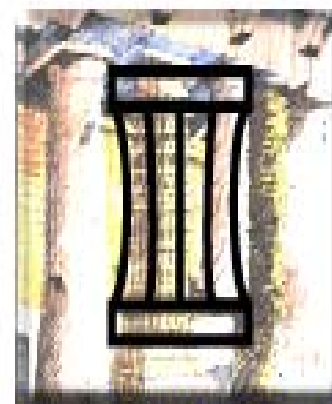


Visionary Speaker Series

[Current Event](#) | [Resources](#)

[he said... she said...](#)

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The Great Hall of Debate

**Welcome to the Electronic Commons:
A public network.**

The panCanadian not for profit public space network that bridges digital divides and contributes to digital democracy by supporting civic engagement, community development and cultural content creation. Come and visit this vital place in virtual space. Watch for developments and subscribe to the NetiZen News. **Enter >>>**



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**Bienvenue à l'Agora Électronique:
Un réseau public.**

Le réseau public pancanadien sans but lucratif qui vise à éliminer le fossé numérique et à soutenir la démocratie en ligne en favorisant l'engagement social, le développement communautaire et la création de contenu à caractère culturel. Venez visiter cet espace vital au cœur du virtuel. Surveillez de près notre évolution et abonnez-vous aux Nouvelles des Netoyens. **Entrez >>>**

forum-nouveau-media

newmedia-forum

Ajoutez votre grain de sel
en ligne!

Make your mark
online!



Français

English

Fall, 1998

Canada

C R T C



Conseil de la radiodiffusion et des
télécommunications canadiennes

Canadian Radio-television and
Telecommunications Commission

C R T C



GOVERNMENT

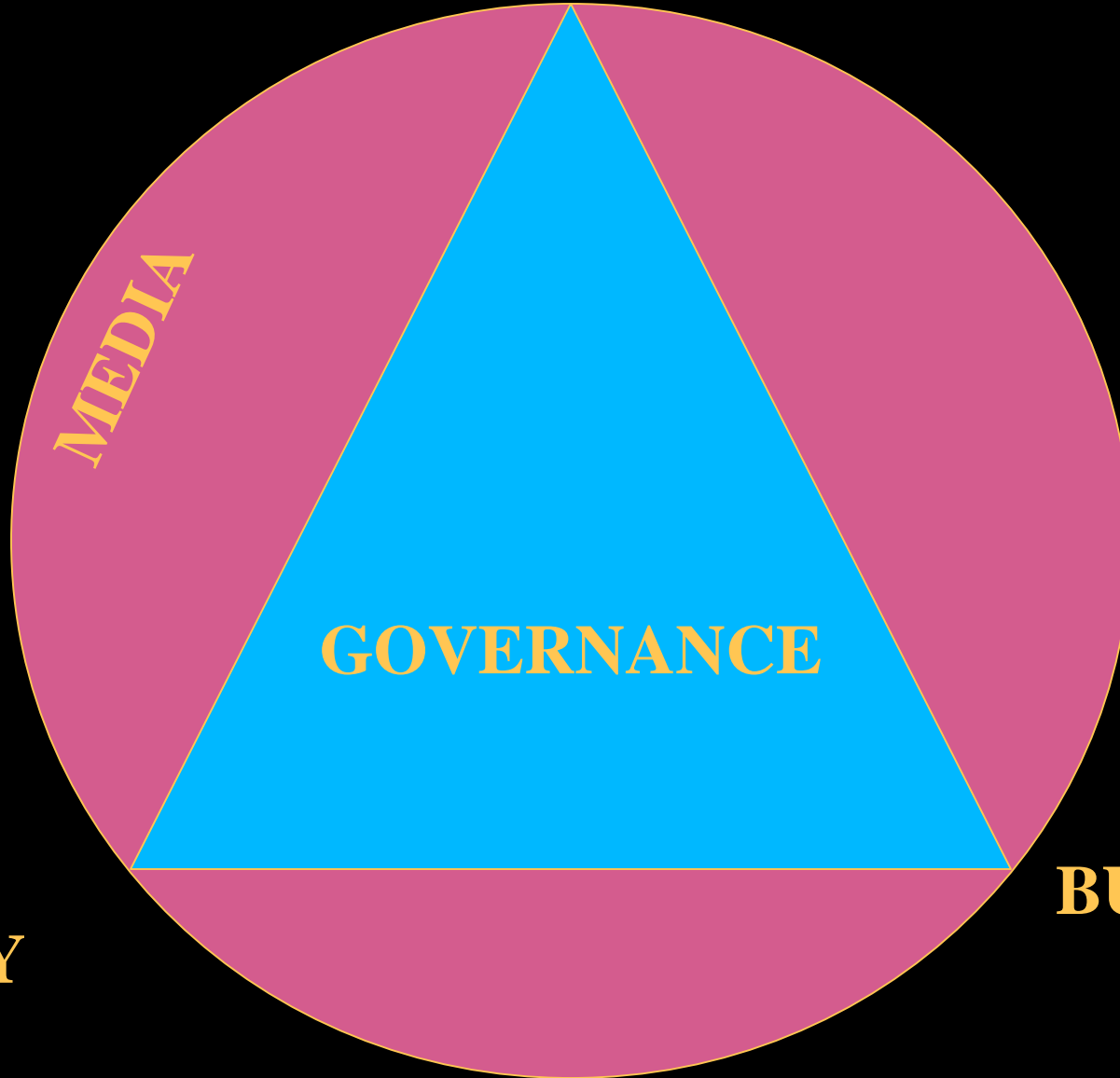
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GOVERNANCE

**CIVIL
SOCIETY**

BUSINESS

CITIZENS



e GOVERNMENT

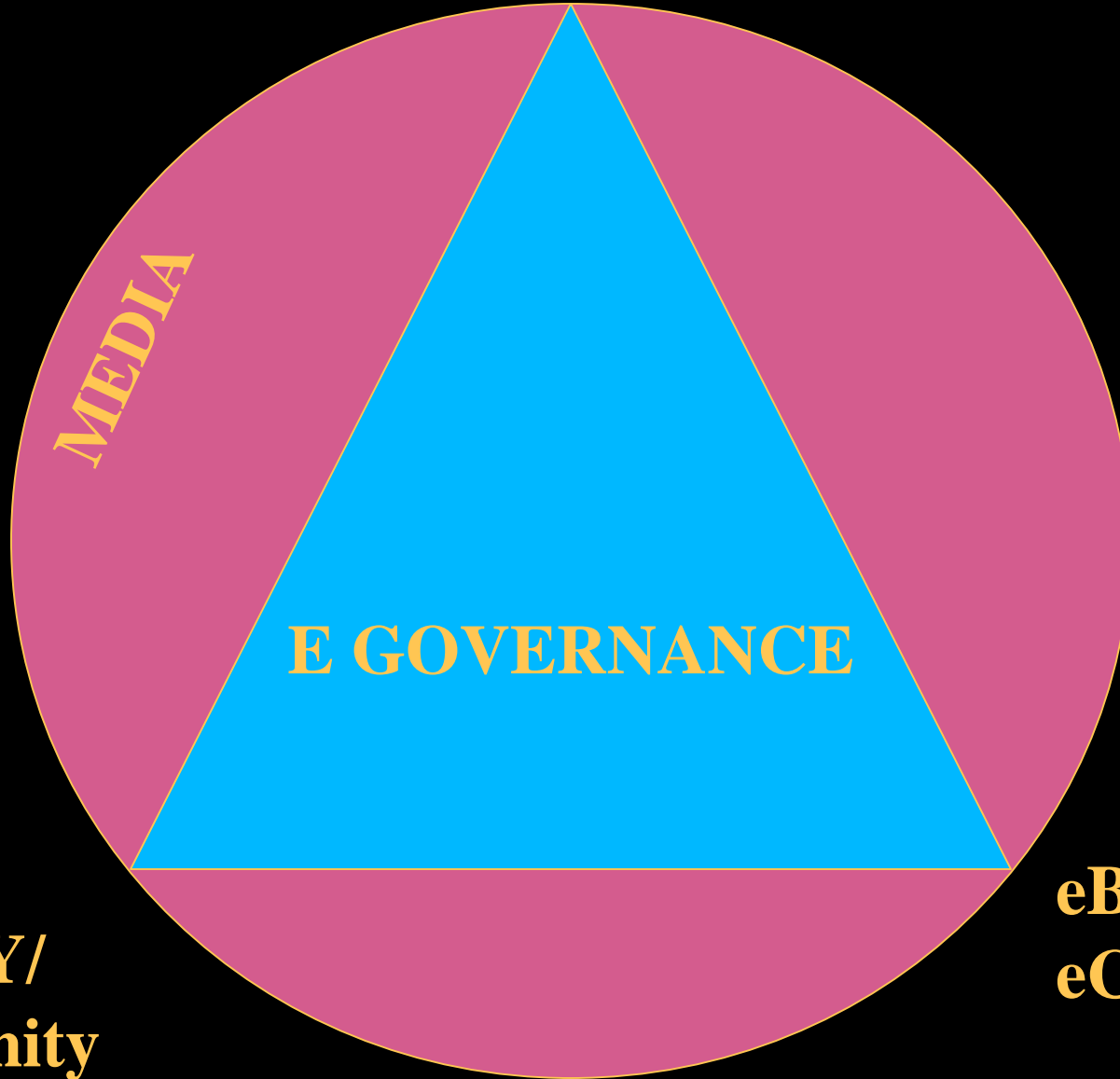
MEDIA

E GOVERNANCE

**E CIVIL
SOCIETY/
eCommunity**

**eBusiness
eCommerce**

eCITIZENS/ Netizens



Democratic eGovernance: by Design not Default

- eGovernance refers to a form of governing, based on changing values, institutional and media relationships, involving partnerships among government, civil society and the corporate sector. Drivers include new ICTs, GOL policies, citizen demand for more participation, concern over citizen apathy, need for new forms of legitimacy to address 'democratic deficit', and the privatization, downloading and uploading of government functions.

Vital Links for a Knowledge Culture: Public access to NICT (ed. Jeffrey, Council of Europe 2001)

Access to nicts = affordable, available, usable = meaningful participation as citizens

Access = necessary, not sufficient, condition for meaningful *democratic participation*

“Knowledge Culture” in a Network Society

Designing Vital Links, platforms, instruments, channels for a Knowledge Culture

as a means to maximize the cultural/ educational/democratic potentials of NICT



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‘Net politique
Net Literate Generation
++ plus Networking
(forms of association, speaking
through collective acts)
= ‘Net politique



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Net politique : networking

- Forms of action online and offline
- g/local village - interdependence of global and local in experience, 7/24
- Forms of association -- social formations - smart mobs, flashmobs, friendster
- Rise of civil society networks, soft power (Nye) Hactivism - act to get attention - to get issues on public agenda
- Collective action - (in)visible mobilization - Internet medium = 'net politique message

Net politique:

- New media are new languages -- content and media forms - “culture of real virtuality”
- Texting - speaking in CODE and symbols - Visual v verbal - capture attention eg. Cul8tr - compression - multitasking -
- Learning online - eclipse traditional media
- Philippines - mobile text activism
- Googling - who are you online - IM - buddies - - Dialogue and its discontents - small groups - public sphericules (Gitlin)



Friendster Beta

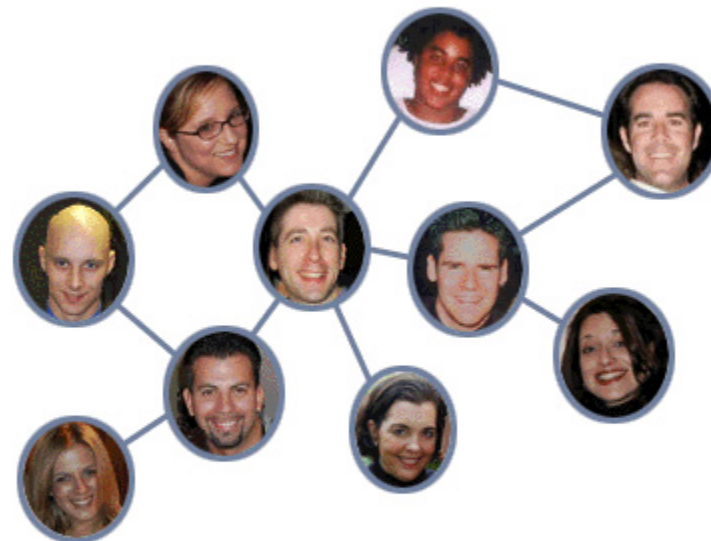
The new way to meet people

Friendster is an online community that connects people through networks of friends for dating or making new friends.

You can use Friendster to:

- Meet new people to date, through your friends and their friends
- Make new friends
- Help your friends meet new people

Create your own personal and private community, where you can interact with people who are connected to you through networks of mutual friends. It's easy and fun!



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Association as agenda setting: grabbing attention - money, visibility, mobilization



Howard DEAN for America

OFFICIAL BLOG GET LOCAL TELL A FRIEND CONTRIBUTE

- ABOUT HOWARD DEAN
- ON THE ISSUES
- GET INVOLVED
- COALITION GROUPS
- PRESSROOM
- TOOLS & RESOURCES
- EN ESPAÑOL
- CONTACT US
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Find Dean Supporters in your area -- Join [DeanLink!](#)

September to Remember

30 Days That Will Change Politics

Watch the CBC Debate Tonight

September 9, 2003
Howard Dean will join the other eight Democratic candidates for President at the Congressional Black Caucus Debate at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland tonight.

The debate is co-sponsored by Fox News, which will air the 90 minute debate in all markets **beginning at 8 pm ET, 5 pm PT.**



Sleepless Summer Tour in New York, NY. Photo by John Pettitt - DeanForAmerica.com

Fox anchor Brit Hume moderates, along with NPR correspondent Juan Williams, columnist Farai Chideya and journalist Ed Gordon.

Ask your friends to watch the debate; then, call them afterwards and speak with them about Howard Dean. Ask them to [join us](#).



Millions of regular Americans are sleepless over the state of our nation today. More than 3 million jobs have been lost under President Bush, and Americans are worried about their own economic future. It is time to stand up for fiscal responsibility, so that we can have health care for every American, funding for our public schools, and true homeland security. Howard Dean visited nine cities in four days on his [Sleepless Summer Tour...](#) [\[watch the flash animation\]](#)

Date Sleepless in: attendance photos reports a/v

Dean in 2004

Join Now

meetup

100,000!

[*Join Meetup](#)

[*Organize your Meetup](#)

September to Remember

Join the Dean Campaign

E-mail:

Zip Code:

[Sign Up Now!](#)

Activist Communities

Join a Community: African Americans Americans w/ Disabilities Asian-Pacific Americans Environmental Voters Generation Dean Labor Union Members Latino Americans LGBT Americans Native Americans Veterans Women Suggest A Group >>> New Hampshire Iowa State Directors Home

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- > ABOUT HOWARD DEAN
- > ON THE ISSUES
- > GET INVOLVED
- > COALITION GROUPS
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GALLERY

view photos from the campaign trail

view photos

DEAN TV

view video from the campaign trail!

view video

SEARCH SITE

Find Dean Supporters in your area -- Join [DeanLink!](#)

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Date Sleepless in: attendance photos reports a/v



[*Join Meetup](#)
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Contribute
HELP TAKE BACK
OUR COUNTRY

Associational forms - power of networking

Dean in 2004

MEETUP

National Dean in 2004 Meetup Day

in 22 Days

Next Meetup

Profile

Tell Friends

Members

Agenda

Photos

Links

WHAT

Meetup to discuss [Howard Dean's](#) campaign and [happenings](#). Get more involved by joining [The Dean Team](#).

WHO

Dean Supporters Worldwide. So far, **109708** have signed up.

WHEN

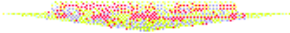
Wednesday, Oct 1 @ 7:00PM
(1st Wednesday of every month.)

AGENDA (NOT FINAL)

- Develop support within the local party to win the caucuses.
- Discuss minority outreach, the next phase of the campaign
- voter registration

[More info.](#)

Join other Dean Supporters near you!



Dean in 2004 Meetups can happen in up to 591 cities worldwide on the same day. Enter your location to find the one near you:

US Residents, enter your **5-digit Zip Code:**


Non-US Residents, select your **city:**

continue

OR-

[Browse all cities](#)

Associational forms - power of networking



Topic Search

[Browse all topics](#)

Top Topics

Politics & Activism

1. [Dean in 2004](#) (>109,700 members)
2. [Clark in 2004](#) (>12,900)
3. [Kucinich in 2004](#) (>12,300)

[see more](#)

Books

1. [Bookcrossing](#) (>24,100)
2. [Harry Potter](#) (>3,100)
3. [Sci-Fi/Fantasy](#) (>1,600)

[see more](#)

Film/TV

[My Account](#)

Meetup organizes local interest groups.


What? Meetup is a free service that organizes local gatherings about anything, anywhere.

Who? **617,207** people have already signed up for Meetups about **1904** topics.

Where? Meetups happen at local cafes (and other places) in **591** cities across **44** countries.

Why? Because there are people like you in your town.

How? [Find your topic](#), sign up, show up! That's it.



[Bookcrossing, London, England](#)

Upcoming Meetups

- [Jonathan Miller Supporters, Louisville, KY](#) in 0h:25m.
- [Jonathan Miller Supporters, Lexington, KY](#) in 0h:25m.
- [BookCrossers, Syracuse, NY](#) in 1h:25m.
- [BookCrossers, Washington, DC](#) in 1h:25m.
- [Japanese Students & Teachers, New York City](#) in 1h:25m.
- [BookCrossers, Norfolk-VA Beach, VA](#) in 1h:25m.
- [BookCrossers, Cleveland, OH](#) in 1h:25m.

Featured Meetups

["New In Town"](#) - Your boxes are unpacked. The cable is turned on. You're in your new home. Now, how about meeting some neighbors?

[Diabetes](#) - A local support group to talk about life with Diabetes.

[Single Moms](#) - Get together with other Single Moms in your area. Bring the kids. Or not.

[Californians Against The Costly Recall](#) - Meetup with other local Californians dedicated to defeating the costly recall of Governor Gray Davis. [sponsored]

[Join Arnold](#) - Meetup with other local supporters of Arnold Schwarzenegger to help in his bid to become the Governor of California. [sponsored]

FIND YOUR CITY

US Residents, enter your **5-digit Zip Code:**

Non-US Residents, select your **city:**

--Select Your City--

[Browse all cities](#)

TOP CITIES

1. [New York City](#)
2. [Washington, DC](#)
3. [Chicago, IL](#)
4. [Boston, MA](#)
5. [Houston, TX](#)
6. [Seattle, WA](#)
7. [Toronto, ON](#)
8. [London, England](#)
9. [San Diego, CA](#)
10. [Philadelphia, PA](#)

[see more](#)

e GOVERNMENT

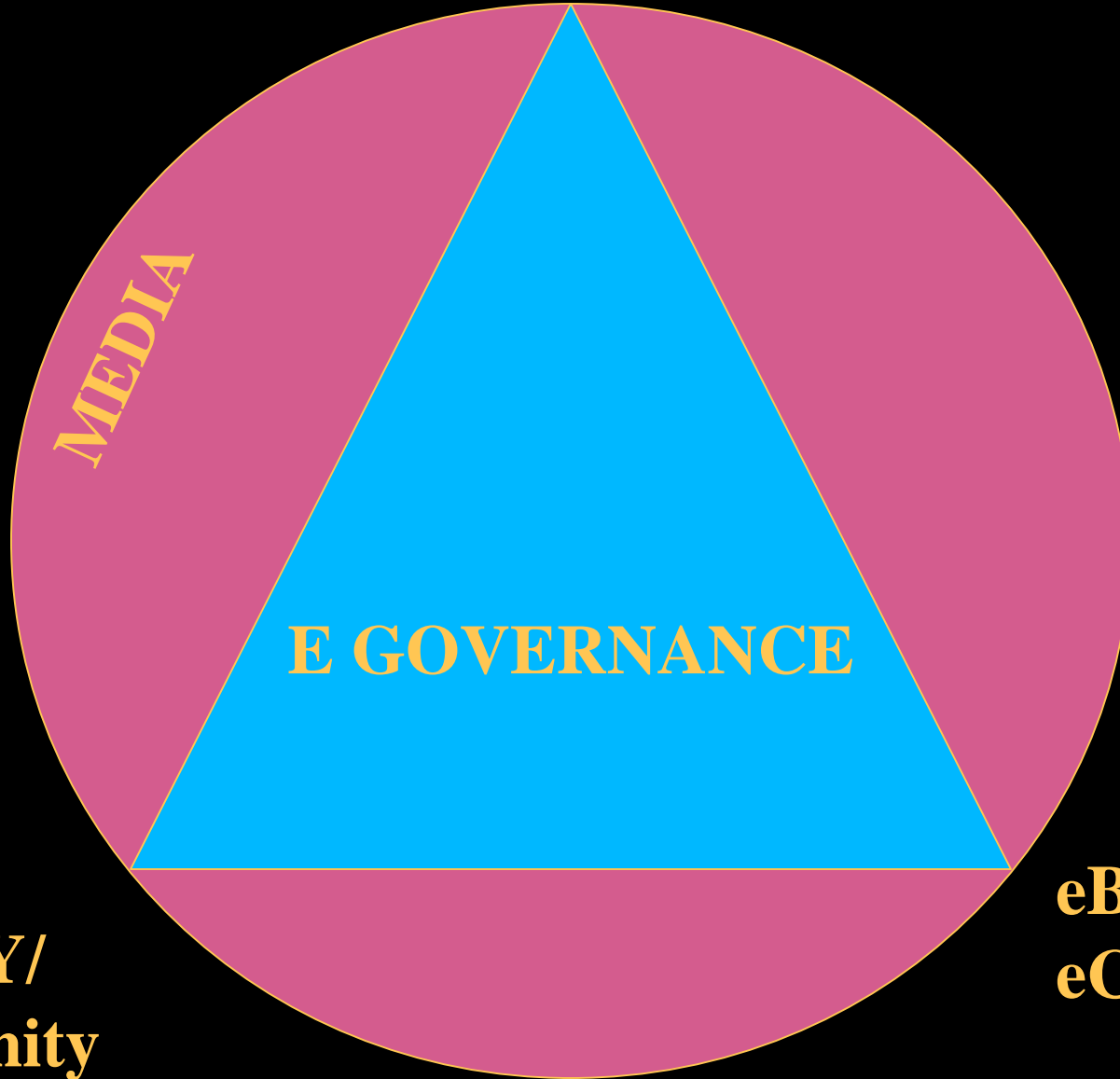
MEDIA

E GOVERNANCE

**E CIVIL
SOCIETY/
eCommunity**

**eBusiness
eCommerce**

eCITIZENS/ Netizens



Democracy's challenges: civil society paradox

- high expectations/demands
- low participation/ cynicism
- polarization – no space for non aligned deliberation
- need for effective channels of communication among citizens and with government

Informed and engaged citizenry with *meaningful access* to diverse, relevant, high quality information – civic literacies - full participation in policy formation



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[Other Links](#)

[MAIN DAMN WEBSITE](#)

Special thanks
to Jay at
encoding.com for
hosting our video
file, and to Gian
Nicola for the
webpage design!

A first-person account and analysis of the week of
demonstrations in Seattle.

From the Seattle Independent Media Center.

[More...](#)



Police Fire Pepper Gas

11/30/99

Something Greater Has to Come

by David Bacon

12/06/99

What do the Seattle protests mean for
progressives?

[More](#)

A Whiff of Democracy in Seattle

by Russell Mokhiber and Robert Weiss

12/06/99

The protests brought some much-needed
democracy to the WTO.

From Focus on the Corporation (via the
Independent Media Center)

[More](#)

Indigenous Peoples' Declaration of

by the Indigenous Peoples' Caucus

Demands brought by the world's indige
peoples to the WTO meeting.

From the Seattle Independent Media Center




the society we want

civil society
in the world summit on the information society

français

español

© FdD 2001 - Executive Secretariat - Civil Society Division - Updated: 22/05/2003 - webmaster@geneva2003.org

The Summit's Relationship Management is powered by  **Commence**

- **basic information**
- **preparatory process**
- **first phase: Geneva**
- **documents**
- **how to participate**
- **newsroom**
- **background material**
- **links**
- **funding of WSIS**
- **host country secretariat**
- **WSIS related websites**



ICT Success Story

WSIS: THE WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY FIRST PHASE: GENEVA, 10-12 DECEMBER 2003

The World Summit on the Information Society will be held in two phases. The first phase of WSIS will take place in Geneva hosted by the Government of Switzerland from 10 to 12 December 2003. The second phase will take place in Tunis hosted by the Government of Tunisia, from 16 to 18 November 2005.

- [All the information](#) about the first phase of WSIS
- On-line registration **[New]** for the Geneva Phase is now available
- Accommodation: on-line reservation of hotel rooms for the Summit
- Fellowships **[New]**: fellowships available for Governments, Business entities, and Civil Society entities
- Documents
- WSIS Poster Contest 2003
- Basic information about WSIS

WSIS PREPCom-3

The Preparatory Committee for WSIS (PrepCom-3) met in Geneva (Switzerland) from 15 to 26 September 2003. A Resumed session of PrepCom-3 will take place from 10 to 14 November 2003. More information on this session will be posted as available.

- [All the information](#) about PrepCom-3 (September session and Resumed session)
- Draft Declaration of Principles (latest version - 26 September 2003). [Click here](#) for previous versions
- Draft Plan of Action (latest version - 26 September 2003). [Click here](#) for previous versions
- Draft Rules of procedure of the WSIS

WSIS PAST EVENTS

- 1-5 July 2002, Geneva (Switzerland)
PrepCom-1
- 16-18 September 2002, Geneva (Switzerland)
Informal Meeting on Content and Themes
- 17-28 February 2003, Geneva (Switzerland)
PrepCom-2
- 15-18 July 2003, Paris (France)
WSIS Interseasonal Meeting
- 15-26 September 2003, Geneva (Switzerland)
PrepCom-3

WSIS REGIONAL CONFERENCES

Five regional preparatory conferences for Geneva's phase of the Summit took place in each of the regions of the world before PrepCom-2. The Regional Conferences addressed the specific concerns, needs and priorities of the various regions.

- 25-30 May 2002, Bamako (Mali)
African Regional Conference
- 7-9 November 2002, Bucharest (Romania)
Pan European Regional Conference
- 13-15 January 2003, Tokyo (Japan)
Asia-Pacific Regional Conference
- 29-31 January 2003, Bávaro (Dominican Republic)
Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Conference

Key Dates

- **1 October 2003**
Online Registration is available
- **25 October 2003**
Deadline for fellowship requests for Civil Society entities
- **1 November 2003**
Deadline for fellowship requests for Governments and Business entities
- **10-14 November 2003**
Resumed Session of PrepCom-3
- Other important key dates and events of the Summit process

News

- **17 October 2003**
Telecom Forum: Special Session on WSIS
This session brought together representatives from governments, inter-governmental organizations, civil society, the private sector and the media to debate the potential outcomes of the first phase of WSIS



‘Net Politique is on the agenda for eGovernance
- new balance of power emerging - not
determined by any technology - but arising
under specific techno-cultural conditions, where
attention has become the prime target, where
new instruments and platforms are available to
diverse actors and sectors, for collective and
consequential action (mobilization) , and where
getting onto the agenda, and setting the agenda
has never been such a significant, volatile and
NOT YET reciprocally shared responsibility.
Outcome is unknown, for better or worse...



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Recent lessons: Shift from eGovernment to e Governance is uneven

1. Consultation fatigue - beyond experiments there are significant challenges (EKOS)
 - Government ill equipped (see civil service job descriptions, critiques of White House, MP web sites)
 - risk averse culture problematic - openness fine in theory, but in practice?
2. Effectiveness (and value) of citizen engagement not yet clear to all parties - risks increasing cynicism - (Romanow)
 - How to get attention in the info-clutter?
3. Calls for improved integration of online and offline services
4. Elected reps asking where are we in this picture??
5. “Executive direct democracy” risks engendering cynicism (e.g. Ontario budget)
6. Problem of direct democracy and minority rights (B.C. land claims)



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eGovernance components

- E Administration – enhance services and management (business and customer centric)
- E Voting, Referenda, Recall (direct)
- E Participation (MP, MPP/MLA and party sites, forums, e dialogues)
- E Infrastructure (tools for collaboration)
- E Deliberation (policy development - open, transparent, accountable, legitimacy beyond opinion polls, agenda setting?) NEW
Reciprocal democracy

Common Online Consultation Tools

Q&A - citizen e-mail & decision-maker/administrative responses

Document/Policy comments - sharing public comments

Online guests/Panel discussion - experts on a virtual stage

Online conference – conferences reflected online

Communities of interest – representative/focus groups

Live chat events – Q&A with politicians

Live multimedia events – guest speakers and/or events on the Internet

Online polls & surveys – quick & easy online polls

Comment forms – multiple choice and check list questions with an open-ended space

Web forums & e-mail lists – ongoing discussions & threaded forums
(Clift, 2000)

eConsultation - use of online media to engage citizens in governance

- PR: Window dressing (**Cynical**)
- Participatory democracy (governments set agenda, consult citizens, act ...) (**Sceptical**)
- Reciprocal democracy (mutual shaping of the policy agenda -- beyond public opinion polls, citizen engagement in e-governance) (**Visionary Pragmatism/ Qualified Optimism**)

Canadian examples of citizen engagement

- Experiments in all sectors:
- CRTC New media forum/ Forum nouveau media (1998)
- Romanow Commission (2002)
- St John, N.B. Budget (2002)
- B.C. Referendum on land claims (2002)
- Foreign Policy Dialogue / Dialogue Politique Etrangere (2003)



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A Dialogue on Foreign Policy

Welcome to our electronic consultation.

On January 22, 2003, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bill Graham, asked Canadians to help shape the direction, priorities and choices for Canada in the world. The ideas and views of many citizens are now online. Please read the [Minister's letter](#) and [dialogue paper](#).

The interactive web site closed on May 1, 2003. This means that you may no longer submit answers to the Dialogue questionnaire nor post to the discussion forum. You may read the answers and all postings that have already been submitted.

The Minister's report will appear on this web site once it is released.

To help you consider foreign policy issues you will find [short interviews](#) with a wide range of Canadian and international experts. These interviews provide some of the latest thinking on important issues in foreign policy.

What will happen to my contribution?

All those contributions made by May 1, 2003, including answers to questions, emails, briefs, Town Halls, MP Town Halls, and comments in the discussion forums are being carefully considered. They have become the reference material for the final dialogue report to be presented to Canadians by Minister Graham in June.

A Dialogue on Foreign Policy

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Dialogue ends May 1

Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham invited all Canadians to participate

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S'abonner aux nouvelles:

Un dialogue sur la politique étrangère

Bienvenue à notre consultation électronique.

Le 22 janvier 2003, le ministre des Affaires étrangères, Bill Graham, invitait les Canadiennes et les Canadiens à participer à l'élaboration des orientations, des priorités et des choix du Canada dans le contexte mondial actuel. Les idées et opinions de nombreux citoyens sont maintenant en ligne. Nous vous encourageons à lire la [lettre du Ministre](#) et le document de réflexion qui a servi de point de départ à ce [Dialogue sur la politique étrangère](#).

Le volet interactif du présent site web a été fermé le 1^{er} mai 2003, de sorte qu'il n'est plus possible de répondre aux questions posées dans le Document de réflexion ou de participer aux forums de discussion. On peut cependant consulter les réponses soumises et les commentaires affichés avant cette date.

Le rapport du Ministre sera affiché sur le site lorsqu'il sera rendu public.

En guise de point de départ pour une réflexion plus poussée sur les grands thèmes de la politique étrangère, vous trouverez ici de [brèves entrevues](#) avec divers experts canadiens et étrangers. Ces entrevues présentent certaines des opinions les plus actuelles sur ces questions importantes.

Que va-t-il advenir de ma contribution au Dialogue ?

Toutes les contributions, y compris les réponses aux questions, les messages électroniques, les mémoires, les débats qui ont marqué les assemblées publiques et les commentaires formulés dans le cadre des forums de discussion, font l'objet d'un examen attentif. Elles représentent le matériel de référence qui servira à la rédaction du rapport final sur le Dialogue, que le ministre Graham présentera à la population en juin.

Un dialogue sur la politique étrangère

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POINTS SAILLANTS

Dialogue prend fin

Le ministre des Affaires étrangères, M. Bill Graham, a invité tous les Canadiens

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A Dialogue on Foreign Policy

Background

- Speech from the Throne
- Gov't to engage Canadians in discussion re: “long term international policy objectives”

Contexte

- Discours du Trône
- Engagement du gouvernement de faire participer les Canadiens à un débat sur les objectifs à long terme de la politique internationale

A Dialogue on Foreign Policy

When, Where

- Jan. 22 – May 1, 2003
- Across Canada

Moment et lieu

- 22 janv. au 1^{er} mai 2003
- D'un bout à l'autre du Canada

A Dialogue on Foreign Policy

Goals:

- Public Policy advice on Canada's role in the world: Directions, Priorities, Choices
- Minister's visibility & leadership
- Link between citizens and foreign policy
- Open policy making

Buts

- Conseils, en matière de politique gouvernementale, sur le rôle du Canada dans le monde : orientations, priorités, choix
- Visibilité et leadership du Ministre
- Lien entre les citoyens et la politique étrangère
- Transparence du processus d'élaboration des politiques

Media ecology: A Dialogue on Foreign Policy

What

- Discussion Paper & 13 Questions
- Interactive Web site (paper, questions, discussion groups)
- Ministers Townhall Meetings (15) all provinces and the north
- SCFAIT
- Provinces and Territories (CFP - consultations)
- National Forum Youth
- Expert meetings (19)
- MP constituency meetings
- Interest Group Briefs

Quoi

- Document de réflexion et 13 questions
- Site Web interactif (document, questions, groupe de discussion)
- Assemblées publiques du ministre (15) dans toutes les provinces et le Nord
- CPAECI
- Provinces et territoires (PEC - tables rondes)
- Forum national des jeunes
- Réunions d'experts (19)
- Assemblées tenues par les députés
- Commentaires des groupes d'intérêt



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Who is behind this web site?

The electronic consultation is a partnership initiative between the [Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development](#) (in the [Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade](#)) and the [byDesign eLab](#) and its associates.

Why a partnership?

In order to take into account a broad spectrum of Canadian opinion in an innovative and in depth manner, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (Dfait) decided to engage in a dialogue with Canadians on how our values should be expressed in foreign policy. The Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development has been working since 1998 with the byDesign eLab (and partners at the McLuhan Program, University of Toronto and the eCommons/Agora project) on the uses of new technologies for citizen engagement and participation in foreign policy making.

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The *by*Design - eLAB



A Dialogue on Foreign Policy: Backstage

Create civil society community of learning and practice
design, develop, evaluate an eDialogue platform, custom
deploying open source software

design workflow for operation of eDialogue “channel”

test instruments including analysis - impact of input

support citizen and civil society engagement in e-governance

contribute to Reciprocal Democracy - access, agenda,

& to media ecology/ communications history research and theo



[Welcome](#)[Message from the Minister](#)[Dialogue Paper](#)[Answer Questions](#)[View Answers](#)[Expert Interviews](#)[More Resources](#)[Discussion Forum](#)[News](#)**Subscribe to news:****Message from the Minister****A Message from the Honourable Bill Graham, Minister of Foreign Affairs**

In the Speech from the Throne of last September, the Government pledged to engage Canadians in discussion about Canada's place in the world. As Minister of Foreign Affairs, I am pleased to follow up on that pledge by inviting you to read this paper, consider the questions it poses, and share your views. Whether you choose to participate through our Internet forum, by sending a letter or by joining in public discussions, I am interested in hearing your comments.

The past months have been particularly challenging for the international community, and doubtless the next months will be so as well. Yet even as we deal with urgent matters, the Government must continue to address broad longer-term issues of concern to Canadians. I hope that as you follow daily events at home and abroad, you will help us engage in the vital task of reflecting on choices and priorities for the future.

In addition to conducting this dialogue, the Government is working to strengthen Canada's foreign policy capacities by improving planning and coordination among the many departments whose work extends to international affairs. From agriculture and immigration to trade, environment and health, there is scarcely any corner of our national affairs that does not affect, and become affected by, what happens beyond our borders. We take seriously our responsibility to ensure that all branches of government work together in promoting the values and interests of Canadians, both at home and abroad.

Your help is critical to this larger task. By sharing your views, you can make our country's foreign policy truly representative of Canadian values and interests. As the Government assesses foreign policy priorities and directions, we are committed to ensuring that public input and partnerships are central to the process. It is for this reason that the consultation will be carried out on many fronts - not only through the traditional means of public meetings and expert input, but also through an Internet discussion forum that is designed to be informative, interactive and readily accessible. Since I intend to report to Canadians in June on the response generated by this discussion, I ask for your views by May 1.

I have invited all Members of Parliament to join in this dialogue, and am asking them to hold community meetings about foreign policy issues. The House and Senate Standing Committees are reviewing aspects of our foreign policy, and their reports will form part of this process. I will also be conducting public meetings around the country to discuss the questions posed in this paper. Canadians with Internet access are invited to take part in an ongoing electronic discussion at www.foreign-policy-dialogue.ca. You can also send written comments to:

A Dialogue on Foreign Policy
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
125 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

The Honourable Bill Graham
Minister of Foreign Affairs

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Dialogue Paper

A Dialogue on Foreign Policy

This paper seeks to engage Canadians in a dialogue on our foreign policy priorities in the face of new global realities. Long-standing goals that have shaped Canadian foreign policy over the years remain central: protecting the security of our nation and contributing to global security; increasing prosperity in Canada and expanding global prosperity; and promoting the values and culture that Canadians cherish, to help make a better Canada and a better world. Yet even as these goals remain, significant changes in the world make it important for the citizens and Government of Canada to reflect on some critical issues. Global changes are creating challenges and opportunities that call for a renewed assessment of how Canada should pursue its foreign policy goals. Since we cannot be everywhere and do all things internationally, we must be prepared to make choices about how our efforts and resources can best promote Canadian values and interests.

You are invited to use this paper as a springboard for reflection and discussion. Its purpose is to provide an overview of some areas of Canadian foreign policy in which recent changes have made new thinking particularly important. Beginning with general comments on Canada's current approach to foreign policy and its relation to a changing world, the paper proceeds to identify some major topics on which we would like to hear your views. Some background information is provided to highlight challenges and opportunities; and some examples are given of recent Canadian foreign policy commitments and initiatives in these areas. Of course, the paper does not provide all of the facts and perspectives that will inform your reflections. We know that Canadians will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to these matters, and we encourage you to consult the extensive information resources available on our Internet site (www.foreign-policy-dialogue.ca). We hope that you will respond, as fully as you choose, to the questions posed throughout the paper. By contributing your perspectives, you will help us to ensure that Canadian foreign policy truly represents the views of Canadians.

A Dialogue on Foreign Policy

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Canada and North America

Globalizing prosperity

Canadian prosperity and global vision

A Better Canada, a Better World

A better world might look like a better Canada: a place of shared security and prosperity, of tolerance and respect for diversity, of democracy and the realization of human rights, of opportunity and equal justice for all. In an increasingly integrated world, there are new possibilities for Canada to make a difference through our influence and our actions. It is equally true that events abroad affect our lives here at home ever more directly, shaping the choices Canadians make. The world confronts many dangers and uncertainties, from endemic poverty, disease and climate change to organized crime and terrorism. In all this, Canadians recognize that doing what is right for others is most often in our own long-term self-interest. A cleaner, safer and healthier world will contribute to a cleaner, safer and healthier Canada. An open and prosperous global community will create new opportunities for Canadians. Our future is inextricably linked to the future of others beyond our borders.

Success in foreign policy depends in large part on how countries conduct themselves and how they are perceived abroad. In this respect, Canada's foreign policy has a wealth of assets to draw on. Canadians are welcomed around the world because of who we are and what we represent. We are a democratic, bilingual, multicultural, free and open society that respects and celebrates its diversity. We are a country that strives for the universal realization of human rights and a high standard of living for all. Canada's federal system is one in which, by and large, our levels of government cooperate successfully.

This effort to update Canada's foreign policy demands a focus on challenges as well as opportunities before us. The Government is committed to doing what is right for Canadians in managing our national policies and resources. Often this is best done by joining forces with other nations. Many problems are too large for any one country to tackle by itself: poverty, environmental degradation, infectious disease, and the threat of international terrorism and organized crime, to name a few. Global interdependence makes it imperative that Canada work with other nations in strong multilateral institutions capable of promoting our collective interests.

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Town Halls in Atlantic Provinces upcoming in early March

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This section allows citizens to view the answers of participants in the electronic dialogue to the questions raised in the Minister's discussion paper. To read the answers, please click on the number listed beside each question.

English answers are grouped together; click on [Français](#) to read the French answers to questions.

Some messages contained in totals are private, and thus not displayed.

	QUESTIONS	ANSWERS	LAST ANSWER
THE 1995 POLICY REVIEW AND SINCE			
1	Which values and interests bear most fundamentally on Canada's foreign policy? How can Canada's foreign policy better reflect the concerns and priorities of Canadians?	142	2003-03-16 13:56:52
2	Amid recent global changes, should Canada continue to endorse a balanced 'three pillar' approach to its foreign policy objectives, or should the current balance be adjusted?	78	2003-03-16 13:58:55
3	Canada is a member of many international organizations, including the G8, NATO, the Commonwealth, La Francophonie, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum (APEC), the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Arctic Council.	76	2003-03-15 22:44:51

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QUESTIONS		ANSWERS	LAST ANSWER
THE 1995 POLICY REVIEW AND SINCE			
1	Which values and interests bear most fundamentally on Canada's foreign policy? How can Canada's foreign policy better reflect the concerns and priorities of Canadians?	442	2003-05-02 02:55:23
2	Amid recent global changes, should Canada continue to endorse a balanced 'three pillar' approach to its foreign policy objectives, or should the current balance be adjusted?	243	2003-05-02 01:13:01
3	Canada is a member of many international organizations, including the G8, NATO, the Commonwealth, La Francophonie, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum (APEC), the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Arctic Council. Should our participation in any of these be strengthened, or adjusted?	265	2003-05-02 01:13:53
SECURITY			
4	In promoting the security of Canadians, where should our priorities lie? Should Canada give a higher priority to military combat operations? To sectors such as intelligence gathering and analysis? Or should we focus on broader security measures, such as combatting environmental degradation and the spread of infectious disease? What should be our distinctive role in promoting global security?	384	2003-05-02 01:14:25
5	How does the military best serve Canada's foreign policy objectives: though national and continental defence; combat missions in support of international coalitions; peacekeeping; all of the above?	321	2003-05-02 01:14:53
6	Should Canada do more to address conditions giving rise to conflict and insecurity beyond our borders? If so, where?	260	2003-05-02 02:34:56
PROSPERITY			
7	How should Canada take advantage of its location in North America to increase prosperity while promoting our distinctive identity?	202	2003-05-02 03:07:27



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PROSPERITY			
7	How should Canada take advantage of its location in North America to increase prosperity while promoting our distinctive identity?	202	2003-05-02 03:07:27
8	What should Canada do to help make the benefits of globalization more widely shared within and among all countries?	200	2003-05-02 02:55:37
9	Should Canada focus on cultivating new economic partnerships with emerging powers such as China, India, Mexico and Brazil?	247	2003-05-02 01:17:20
VALUES AND CULTURE			
10	Are values such as human rights, democracy, respect for diversity and gender equality ones that Canada should continue to advocate in all parts of the world? If so, what are the best ways of doing this?	241	2003-05-02 01:17:51
11	Should Canada seek out opportunities for fostering global intercultural dialogue and interfaith understanding?	175	2003-05-02 01:18:23
12	What are the best means for Canada to make its culture and experience known abroad?	194	2003-05-02 01:19:06
CONCLUSION			
13	Please respond to the paper as a whole.	253	2003-05-02 03:00:59

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Answer this question: What are the best means for Canada to make its culture and experience known abroad?



Make your response public? ☒ yes ☐ no

Values and Culture

Canada's foreign policy agenda must reflect the nation we are: a multicultural, bilingual society that is free, open, prosperous and democratic. The experiences of immigrants from around the world and the cultures of Aboriginal peoples are woven into the fabric of our national identity. Respect for equality and diversity runs through the religious, racial, cultural and linguistic strands forming our communities.

Who we are matters in foreign affairs because Canada's place in the world is shaped not only by relationships between national governments. As global interconnections grow ever more varied and pervasive, exchanges and relationships have multiplied between groups and individuals across national boundaries. This public diplomacy has become an integral part of how we promote our values, share our experience and influence others abroad.

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Security	2003-03-18 04:56:52 NEW	657
Prosperity	2003-03-14 00:21:40	40
Values and Culture	2003-03-17 15:22:50 NEW	97
Conclusion: The World We Want	2003-03-18 04:45:31 NEW	116

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2. Contributors to this electronic consultation are solely and entirely responsible for their messages, particularly with regard to any information and data that may be exchanged.
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- anyone
- coordinator
- cybrarian
- editor
- facilitator
- host
- member
- moderator
- netcaster
- observer
- producer
- researcher
- scribe
- tech_support
- translator
- No Role

	EXCERPT	CONTRIBUTOR	DATE
	Summary: Question 12 Contributors to this question advocated several ideas: -Promote Canadian artists and cultural figures -Foster social, political and technological exchange programs -Increase our trade relationships ...	scribe	2003-01-30 12:02:56
view	Maybe we should just wait until someone asks.	1941	2003-05-02 01:18:36
view	The restoration of true democracy in Canada may not be "Foreign Policy", but it is vital if we are to implement the above suggestions and obtain a Foreign Policy that reflects the values of Canadians, not corporations. This will require several changes in the way we select and run our gover	1935	2003-05-01 22:27:32
view	Actions ultimately speak louder than words. The Government of Canada cannot pay lip service to fundamental aspects of Canadian culture, such as the goals of poverty eradication and improved universal health care and at the same time support multilateral trade arrangements that contribute to defeatin	CCIC	2003-05-01 21:50:53
view	I suppoort many of the initiaves outlined in this section. I would like to see more mutuality of exchanges, for example Canadian students going abroad to learn from other countires, so that there is not just one direction. Canaada should also be aware of signing "trade" agreemetns that limit our abi	annag	2003-05-01 21:09:04
view	THE LUTHERAN OFFICE FOR PUBLIC POLICY A Ministry of Public Witness of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada Waterloo Lutheran Seminary w Waterloo, Ontario w N2L 3C5 Ph: 519-884-0710 ext 3907 w fax 519-725-2434 w email dpfrimme@wlu.ca The Hon. Bill Graham Minister of Foreign Affairs	1920	2003-05-01 21:08:48

eDialogue Consultation: Weekly summaries

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Dialogue on Foreign Policy - Weekly Report

February 18- February 25, 2003

[Available as PDF](#)

[Sign-up to receive "Dialogue" news alerts.](#)

Minister Graham launched a Dialogue on Foreign Policy on Wednesday January 22, 2003 with the release of a discussion paper. The Dialogue seeks to engage Canadians in discussions about Canada's foreign policy.

This report summarizes comments and recommendations received between February 18, 2003 and February 25, 2003. Contributions included are the result of: Minister's Townhalls and expert roundtables, correspondence sent to the Department, and electronic discussions (coordinated by the [byDesign eLab](#) and [eCommons/Agora](#) project).

Internet Responses to the Minister's Discussion Paper

Electronic activities to date

Replies to Questions: 831

Discussion Group Messages: 708

Registered participants: 813

Site Visits: 23,827

Minister's Townhalls:

Start Pegasus... aa. Salyn on... Microsoft... The Ca... Foreign... Paint Sh... Internet

11:24 AM

Quadrus: Project_f4

File Sources Codes Tools Editors Help

sec4_topic952.txt

Code Script QTools Find

List View Object View

sec4_topic952.txt

User: 536
Subject: 51st State
UserName: cfallon
Language: en
PostDate: 2003-01-31 11:52:00

Canada will never be the 51st state.
We would never enter as 1 complete state. We would enter at least as 5 - 10 states with 3 territories. If 10 states, then we would add 20% more senators, while adding 10% more population. The US would balk at this, and we would enter as something closer to 5 states. (Quebec would never join except as its own state).

Anti-Americans like to downplay the impact on the US such annexation would have. But the tenor of US politics would change considerably and a great disruption of their 2 party system would result. They would never accept it.

THE US DOESN'T WANT CANADA.

dialogue - ca
Identity
Quebec
U.S.
culture
U.S.
U.S.

Code editor

File Edit View Help

Identity
Immigration
intelligence gathering
interest
Interfaith understanding
international organizations
Iraq
Islam
justice
media
Middle East
military
new technology
peace keeping
person
place
Prosperity
Quebec
Rename this code

Code details Links Generated summary

Name: Quebec Article:
☐ Plural

Description: not described in detail

Synonyms: Bilingualism French language Montreal

A/V template

Attribute	Value

ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES CAN BE ASSIGNED TO CODED SEGMENTS TO INDICATE INTERESTS AND STRENGTH OF OPINIONS

Question 11- Analysis Report (project_q11):

Jeremy Shtern April 30, 2003

1) Response Overview

1.1 Response rate

Number of Answers:

Visible/private	4
hidden/public	0
hidden/private	0
visible/public	96
<hr/>	
total	100

1.2 Cohort duration

earliest submission date: 2003-01-22 22:14:13 (user 212- visible/private)

latest submission date: 2003-04-21 01:50:13 (user 1489- visible/public)

2) Question focus: Should Canada seek out opportunities for fostering global intercultural dialogue and interfaith understanding?

2.1) major themes/trends:





Department of Foreign Affairs
and International Trade

Ministère des Affaires étrangères
et du Commerce international

Canada

A Dialogue on Foreign Policy Report to Canadians





A Dialogue on Foreign Policy

This contributor comments upon the
lack of media coverage of the Dialogue.

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Contributor:

1689

Date:

2003-04-27 23:22:03

Answer:

I think this is a wonderful opportunity. I only found out about it today, however, and feel there should be an extension of the May 1st deadline, combined with a stronger media campaign (was there one?) to inform more Canadians about this opportunity in a way that would have the replies flocking in as a result.

[Thanks from the civil society partnership (we moderate this web site, which we also designed with our partners at the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development at DFAIT). There is not likely to be an extension of the deadline past May 1st - to be exact, 12 midnight Pacific Time, in honour of our west coasters. The Minister has done his best, with Town Halls from coast to coast, but you are right, the media campaign and coverage have been very low key. Thanks to you, and thanks to all citizens who have taken and who will take part in this important engagement in democracy online and offline. We will do our best to report on the substance of your views on how Canada's foreign policy should be shaped. - Keep those replies flocking in, The moderators]

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The *byDesign* - eLAB



A Dialogue on Foreign Policy

Web Site Statistics

Hits 1,496,515 +

Site visitors: 62,647 +

- Registered participants: 1,848
- Replies to questions: 3,878
- Discussion group messages: 2,116
- Downloads of Minister's Paper (PDF): 28,670
- E-mails suggestions@ : 480
- Citizen Briefs: 21
- Group Briefs: 44

- "Representational Total" 430,583

e GOVERNMENT

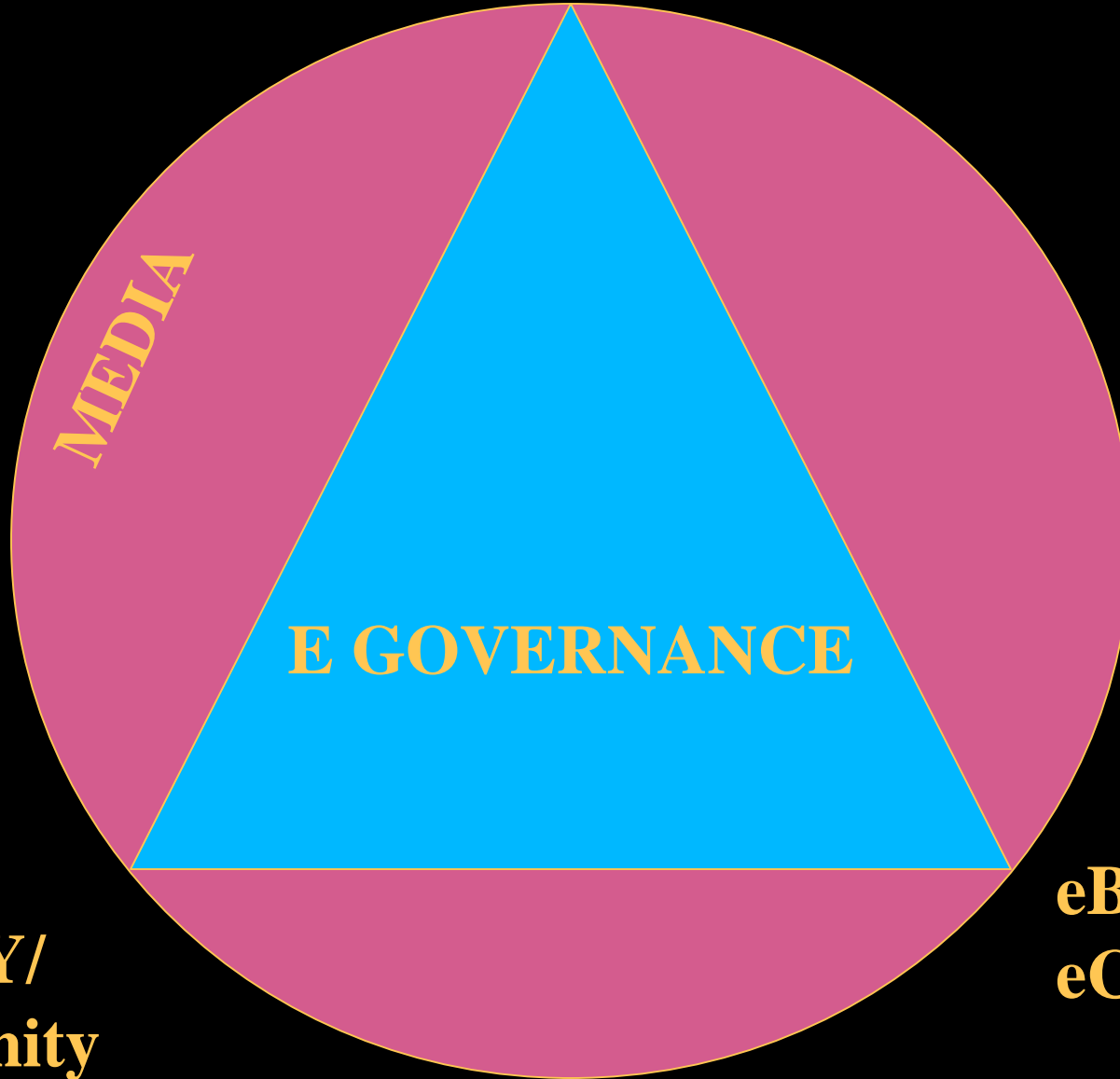
MEDIA

E GOVERNANCE

**E CIVIL
SOCIETY/
eCommunity**

**eBusiness
eCommerce**

eCITIZENS/ Netizens





A Dialogue on Foreign Policy

“...the emergence of new media driven by a technologically inherent propensity towards interactivity has inspired hope of providing a channel for the revivification of the public sphere congenial to the democratic process.”

- (Coleman 1999; p. 69).

OECD Model - TOOLS FOR ONLINE ENGAGEMENT AT DIFFERENT STAGES

STAGE IN POLICY-MAKING CYCLE	INFORMATION	CONSULTATION	PARTICIPATION
Agenda-setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Site-specific search engines •E-mail alerts for new policy issues •Translation support for several languages •Style checkers to remove jargon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Online surveys and opinion polls •Discussion forums •Monitoring e-mails •Bulletin boards •FAQs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •e-communities •e-petitions •e-referenda
Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Translation support for ethnic languages •Style checkers to remove jargon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Evidence-managed facilities •Expert profiling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Electronic citizen juries •e-communities
Formulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Advanced style checking to help interpret technical and legal terms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Discussion forums •Online citizen juries •e-community tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •e-petitions •e-referenda amending legislation
Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Natural language style checkers •e-mail newsletters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Discussion forums •Online citizen juries •e-community tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •e-mail distribution lists for target groups
Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Online feedback •Online publication of annual reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Online surveys and opinion polls •Discussion forums •Monitoring e-mails •Bulletin boards •FAQs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •e-petitions •e-referenda

EVALUATING ONLINE ENGAGEMENT – OECD Model

Evaluation Issues	How to address the issues
Was the e-Consultation process conducted in line with best practices?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Assess stakeholder satisfaction with process •Assess adequacy of resources •Assess appropriateness of chosen online tool
Were the consultation objectives and what was expected of the citizens made clear?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Assess if participants understand what is being asked •Assess appropriateness of contributions
Did the consultation reach the target audience?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Assess adequacy of promotion •Assess degree target audience is identifiable
Was the information provided appropriate and relevant?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Assess how easy info was to access •Assess whether participant contributions were informed by info
Were the contributions informed and appropriate?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Assess extent degree contributions addressed issues •Assess how easy participants could access others contributions
Was feedback provided both during and after the consultation?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Assess feedback levels and relevance of feedback to contributions
Was there an impact on policy content? OECD Observer, Mar 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Assess extent contributions are reflected in policy

e-Consultation Evaluation – Common Best Practice Measures

- Political support required – civil society partnerships
- State purpose, share context – manage participant expectations, how will info be used
- Build an audience – outreach & communication plan key
- Choose your model and elements carefully & reflectively
- Create structure – a timeline, beginning & an end
- Provide facilitation & guidelines – moderation is key
- Disseminate content and results – make event seem real
- Access to decision-makers & staff required – Q&A responsiveness
- Promote civic education – re-use content
- Tools are the enabler – citizen online experience is important outcome (Clift, 2002)

More factors which have added to the complexity of evaluations

Jeffrey

- Discussing complex issues and those related to values, often proves difficult over the Internet.
- e-Dialogue/e-Consultations are multiperspective socio-technical systems being implemented within complex environments.
- Successful experiments also consider human behavior and the larger knowledge media ecology that online citizen consultation processes tend to be embedded and deployed within.

META Strategies Literature Review on Online Consultation & Engagement

- e-Consultations need a multidisciplinary approach to be successful. Tools and technology are the enablers.
- Current use of tools are far from exploiting their potential capacity
- Confusion between consultation and collaboration
- No standard methods or tools exist when it comes to e-Consultations
- *Evaluation is nebulous and there is a real need to develop approaches*

Canadian basic lessons

- Need evaluation
- Need to pool knowledge - call for networked centres of expertise
- Need partnerships
- One size does not fit all
- Accessibility (not representative)
- Meaningful deliberation - results not chatter
- summaries and analysis
- Champions - taking risks ...more dialogue
(French/English, other)

“Nothing is inevitable provided we are prepared to pay attention”. - McLuhan

Let's partner. Thanks for your attention!

Liss Jeffrey, PhD

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University of Toronto

Director, eCommons/agora & byDesign eLab

www.ecommons.net



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Let's partner. Thanks for your attention!



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