Report on the Fourth Canadian Internet Forum

Montreal, Quebec

September 18, 2013

Overview:

- Full-day event held in Montreal, September 18, 2013.

- 229 in attendance (139 in-person, 90 via webcast).

- Second CIF in 2013, not a 'stand-alone' CIF; held in conjunction with CIRA's Annual General Meeting.

- English/French with simultaneous translation.

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Social activity:

- 512 tweets with the #CIRAif hashtag.
- Potential reach of 1,177,063.

Topics:

1. International Internet governance (presentation).
2. Domestic Internet governance (panel)
3. Update on CIF activity (presentation).
4. Cyber-security policy and implementation (panel).

International Internet governance:

Paul Brigner (Internet Society)

- Brigner provided an overview of the global Internet ecosystem with a particular focus on the institutions and process:
  - ICANN, ISOC, IGF, ITU.
- Brigner also identified current challenges, using the WCIT-12 as an example:
  - The growth of Internet in developing world.
  - The need to maintain multi-stakeholder model.

Panel 1: Domestic Internet governance:

Tim Denton (industry expert), Heather Dryden (Industry Canada), Michael Geist (University of Ottawa), Sylvie LaPerrierre (Google), Mark Raymond (CIGI).

- Panel discussed the domestic Canadian Internet governance ecosystem.
- Panellists highlighted the differences between and challenges of international and domestic international governance.
- Discussed the difference between governing how the Internet works (technical) versus how the Internet is used.

Panel 1: Domestic Internet governance (cont'd):

- In Canada, the Internet is not regulated as a broadcast medium.
- Most urgent domestic issues, according to panellists:
  - The Internet must be accessible and affordable.
  - The need to protect the freedom to publish online; the freedom to innovate.
  - Avoiding the temptation to use technology to solve the problems of human behaviour.
  - Digital copyright, including international treaties and the need to update Canada's existing copyright laws.
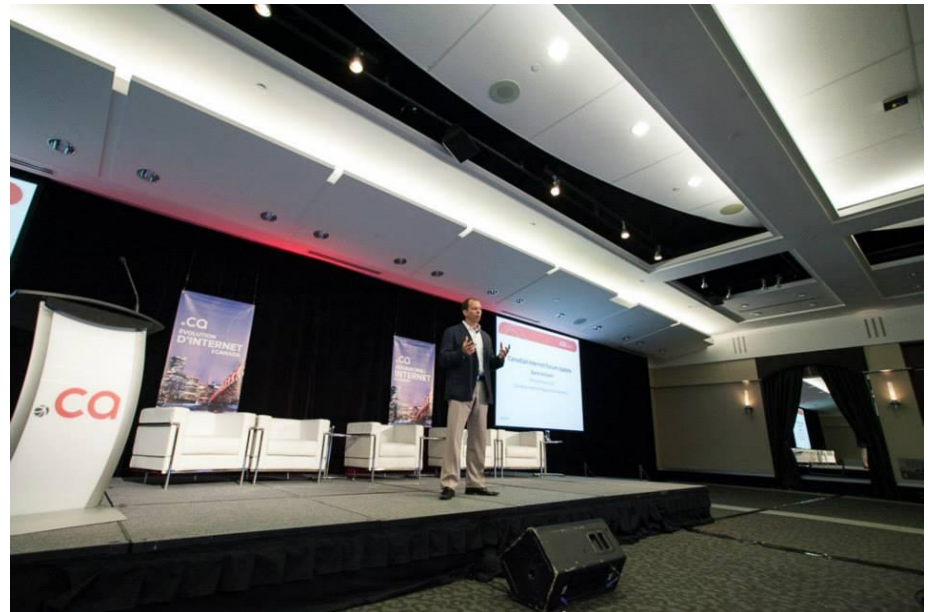
Panel 1: Domestic Internet governance (cont'd):

- Challenges for domestic Internet governance:
  - Content is multi-jurisdictional – created in one nation, hosted in another on a TLD from a third nation.
  - Governing technology could affect global interoperablity of the Internet.
  - Implementing multi-stakeholder model domestically, bringing all stakeholders together.
  - Engaging all stakeholders; ensuring public scrutiny of policy development.
- Full video of the panel is available here: http://youtu.be/yvJFeTGCCVk?list=PLDYMYNytZVGwVDowdfm4lMSmgxQtfVyM1

Canadian Internet Forum update:
Byron Holland, President and CEO (CIRA)

- Holland provided an update on Internet governance activities since the last CIF (February 2013), including WCIT-12.
- Highlighted the revelations of the extent of online surveillance on behalf of governments, particularly the United States, and why it matters to Canadians.
- Holland identified the conflict between the U.S.'s support for a free and open Internet and their surveillance activities.

Canadian Internet Forum update (cont'd):

- While the threats to the multi-stakeholder model were clear at WCIT-12, the U.S.'s credibility to defend the multi-stakeholder model has been diminished.
- This fact leaves the multi-stakeholder model vulnerable to future attack.
- Holland also presented CIRA's research on Canadians opinions on online surveillance (research available here: link).
- Concluded his presentation with a call for Canadians to get informed and get involved in governance issues.
- Full presentation is available here: http://youtu.be/5uUjfP9Ez5c?list=PLDYMYNytZVGwVDowdfm4lMSmgxQtfVyM1

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Panel 2: Cyber-security policy and implementation:

Ron Deibert (CitizenLab), Frederick Gaudreau (Surete du Quebec), Matthew Johnson (MediaSmarts), Michel Vanier (RISQ).

- Panellists discussed what is at stake for Canadians with regard to cyber-security.
- Weak cyber-security points in Canada:
    - Daily, persistent attacks on private sector.
    - Coordination between actors is difficult.
    - Confusion over roles and responsibilities.
    - Little accountability of government agencies.
    - Lack of public and private investments in digital literacy.

Panel 2: Cyber-security policy and implementation (cont'd):

- Youth was the demographic identified as most at risk, but also where the biggest difference can be made.

- Education is key (for all Canadians).

- The need for a foreign policy position on the Internet seen as important as most users are in the Global South, therefore most threats are from the developing world.

- Full video of the panel is available here: http://youtu.be/7GHzZ4lxem8?list=PLDYMYNytZVGwVDowdfm4lMSmgxQtfVyM1