



# CANON | Canadian Anonymization Network

Quarterly Newsletter – July 2020

## CANON hosts its first mini-summit

On June 17<sup>th</sup>, CANON hosted its first event – a mini-summit examining how privacy-enhancing technologies can be used to support automated contract tracing and exposure notification for COVID-19. This event, which hosted speakers from 5 countries across 3 continents and saw well over 300 registrations, was a successful way of both educating the public and bringing attention to our flourishing network. Materials and recordings can be accessed at [deidentify.ca/activities/](https://deidentify.ca/activities/). We look forward to creating more community building opportunities!

## OPC Contributions Programs Funding

CANON is proud to announce that it has received funding under the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada's [Contributions Program](#) for a project titled "**Case Studies and Design Patterns – The Practical Application of De-Identification.**" In this project, we will be setting out multiple use cases for de-identification and similar privacy-enhancing technologies, each accompanied by case studies from member organizations. We intend to release deliverables related to this project as they are completed between now and March 2021, and will engage our membership on their development. For more information, or to identify potential case studies, please contact us at [info@deidentify.ca](mailto:info@deidentify.ca)!

## Quebec Privacy Amendments

As many of you will know, the Quebec government has introduced Bill C-64, which amends its private sector privacy legislation. This Bill speaks to de-identification and anonymization in multiple ways, including providing definitions of key terms, clarifying organizations' ability to de-identify data, and creating an offence related to re-identification. The Bill also creates a role for "Generally Accepted Best Practices," and area in which CANON can play a significant role. It could have significant impact, particularly if it serves as a model for Federal legislation.

CANON has undertaken an initial analysis of this Bill and will be developing a number of discussion points and potential amendments; we will also participate in any consultation process that takes place.

## Resource Worth a Read:

*Gilad Rosner,*  
*["De-Identification as Public Policy"](#)*

Commissioned by the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada as part of their PIPEDA reform process, the report "addresses terminology, definitions, key debates and policy in other jurisdictions. It recommends legal reform, specific regulatory actions, and investigation of emerging policy strategies and lists remaining open questions for the development of a national Canadian de-identification policy."

Of note for this group, Dr. Rosner recommends that the OPC engage with CANON, and "connect development of official guidelines with CANON activities." We are happy to make that a reality!

Thank you to our Steering Group:

