CONTRIBUTORS

Marco Adria is a professor at the University of Alberta, where he directs the graduate program in Communications and Technology. He has served as president of the Canadian Association of Library Trustees and as chair of the Edmonton Public Library Board and is the author of Technology and Nationalism.

Brandi L. Bell is a graduate of the joint PhD program in Communication at Concordia University. Her doctoral research examined the changing perspectives on Canadian youth as participatory citizens between the late 1960s and the present. Her work is inherently interdisciplinary, building upon a background in critical new media and mass media studies but also encompassing sociology, education, and health. She continues to focus on investigating the intersections of youth, socio-political participation, health, and technology and the media in her current role as research coordinator in the Comprehensive School Health Research Group at the University of Prince Edward Island.

Philipp Budka is a social and cultural anthropologist interested in media and communication technologies, indigenous media, transnationalism, social and cultural theory, ethnicity, the production and transfer of knowledge, and ethnographic methods. He is PhD candidate and part-time lecturer with the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology of the University of Vienna. His dissertation investigates indigenous media technology practices in Northwestern Ontario from a sociocultural anthropology perspective.

Nadia Caidi is an associate professor in the Faculty of Information at the University of Toronto. Her primary research interests are information policy and the influence of culture on the production, distribution, and use of information and on its institutions and technologies. Caidi has been exploring the information practices of vulnerable communities and marginalized populations, including newcomers and immigrant groups and Aboriginal communities in Northern Ontario. In addition to her CRACIN research, which focused on the relationships between community networks and public libraries, she has also been involved with other initiatives such as RICTA (Research on ICTs with Aboriginals). Her numerous articles have appeared in venues such as The Information Society, Library and Information Science Research, the Journal of Information Science, The Library Quarterly, and the Government Information Quarterly.

Elise Chien graduated from the University of Toronto’s Master of Information Studies program in 2005 and also holds a graduate certificate from the collaborative program in Knowledge Media Design. Her MA thesis, “Involving and Informing Newcomers Online: Users’ Perspectives of Settlement.Org,” examined the ways in which newcomers to Canada make use of new media technologies in the process of becoming settled. She is currently a consultant with a firm that specializes in health information management, benchmarking, and evaluation and continues to pursue interests in the areas of community networking, library studies, health care, and immigration.

Andrew Clement is a professor in the Faculty of Information at the University of Toronto, where he coordinates the Information Policy Research Program. With a PhD in computer science, he has had long-standing research and teaching interests in the social implications of information and communication technologies and human-centred systems development. In the early 1970s he was the programmer and project leader of the
first online public access community networking service in Canada, based on the model of the Berkeley Community Memory Project. His recent research has focused on public information policy, the role of the Internet in everyday life, privacy, surveillance, digital identity constructions, public participation in the development of the information and communication infrastructure, and community networking. Clement was the principal investigator of the Canadian Research Alliance for Community Innovation and Networking and a co-investigator in the Community Wireless Infrastructure Research Project. Clement is currently a co-investigator in a major research collaboration, The New Transparency: Surveillance and Social Sorting.

Diane Dechief earned her MA at Concordia University and is currently a doctoral candidate in the University of Toronto’s Faculty of Information. Her interests lie with the experiences of immigration and settlement for people who migrate to Canada, particularly their interactions with state-led programs and institutions and use of state-supported information infrastructures. Her current research focuses on the motivations underlying personal name changes among immigrants to Canada. Her MA thesis, "Recent Immigrants as an 'Alternate Civic Core': Providing Internet Services, Gaining Canadian Experiences," examined volunteerism amongst recent immigrants as a means of integration.

Adam Fiser earned his PhD in the Faculty of Information at the University of Toronto and is currently a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council postdoctoral fellow at the Ted Rogers School of Information Technology Management at Ryerson University. His research examines how next generation networks develop in rural, remote, and Aboriginal communities.

Melissa Fritz received her MA from the School of Journalism and Communication at Carleton University and is a doctoral candidate at the University of Toronto’s Faculty of Information. Her interests lie in the area of policy analysis and, in particular, with the politicization and determination of needs in policy discourse. Her research has focused on issues of digital divide, telecommunications policy, gender and technology adoption, and motherhood and child care in Canada.

Michael Gurstein is currently executive director of the Centre for Community Informatics Research, Development and Training in Vancouver, Canada. He is the editor-in-chief of the Journal of Community Informatics and foundation chair of the Community Informatics Research Network. He is an advisor to the EU-funded N4C project, which looks at telecommunications services for underserved and indigenous peoples in Northern and Central Europe. He has served as a consultant to the governments of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Nepal, and Jordan, to the Ford Foundation, the Hewlett Foundation, the UN Development Program, and the European Union, and to Nortel, Mitel, Bell Canada, and Intel, among others. He has been a member of the board of the Global Telecentre Alliance, Telecommunities Canada, the Pacific Community Networking Association, and the Vancouver Community Network and is a member of the High Level Panel of Advisors of the (UN) Global Alliance for ICT for Development. His blog, “Gurstein’s Community Informatics,” can be found at http://gurstein.wordpress.com.

Heather E. Hudson is director of the Institute of Social and Economic Research and professor of public policy at the University of Alaska Anchorage and was founding director of the Telecommunications Management and Policy program at the University of San Francisco. She has planned and evaluated communication projects in northern Canada, Alaska,
and more than fifty developing countries. Her work focuses on applications of ICTs for socio-economic development, on regulation and policy issues, including universal access, and on policies and strategies designed to extend affordable access to new technologies and services, particularly to rural and remote areas.

Nicolas Lecomte currently teaches in the sociology program at Champlain Regional College–Lennoxville, in Sherbrooke, Québec. At the time the CRACIN research was conducted, he was a graduate student at the Université du Québec à Montréal. Since 2005, he has been part of Serge Proulx’s LabCMO research group, working on the Communautique case study and participating in related research activities, and is the co-author of several academic papers that focus on Québec’s community organizations in the context of the “information society.” He has also been involved in projects related to the use of distance learning, particularly e-learning, in post-secondary institutional settings.

Graham Longford was the CRACIN postdoctoral research fellow in community informatics in the Faculty of Information Studies at the University of Toronto from 2004 to 2007. His research and published work have focused on the social and political implications of new ICTs, e-governance, and telecommunications policy in Canada. In addition to his postdoctoral work with CRACIN, Longford was a co-investigator with the Community Wireless Infrastructure Research Project and held a Canada Research Chair Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in citizenship studies at York University. He holds a PhD in political science from York University and has taught at Trent University, York University, and Wilfred Laurier University.

Susan MacDonald was trained as a librarian and is currently a doctoral candidate in the University of Toronto’s Faculty of Information. Her dissertation research involves a case study of the Library Settlement Partnerships (LSP), through which she explores partnerships with public libraries and community-based organizations in immigrant settlement service provision in Ontario and examines government interest in partnerships designed to accelerate immigrant settlement and integration processes.

Marita Moll is a freelance writer and public policy researcher in the field of telecommunications policy. She is a research associate with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA), a non-partisan research institute concerned with issues of social and economic justice, as well as a board member of Telecommunities Canada, a Canadian alliance of community networking practitioners. She lectures at Carleton University in the Department of Technology, Society and Environment Studies and was a co-investigator in the CRACIN project. Together with Leslie Regan Shade, she has edited a number of collections on telecom policy published by the CCPA.

Katrina Peddle holds a PhD in communication from Concordia University. Her research interests include rural youth cultures and sexualities, Métis identities and ICTs, and the rights of prisoners in Canada. She has worked extensively in community-based research in rural areas throughout eastern Canada and as a researcher in Cree territory for the James Bay Cree Public Health Department. Currently studying law at McGill University, Peddle has interned at the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network and has worked as a legal information coordinator at the Centre for Community Organizations in Montréal.

Alison Powell is LSE Fellow in Media and Communications at the London School of Economics and Political Science and a research associate at the Oxford Internet Institute, where she held a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council postdoctoral fellowship. Her
research explores digital media policy “from the bottom up,” examining how technical activism and digital advocacy influence the structure, function, and policy environment of the Internet. She also studies open source production cultures, teaches communication and social theory, and writes at http://www.alisonpowell.ca.

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**Christian Sandvig** is an associate professor in communication and media at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, as well as a faculty associate at the Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University. His research investigates the development of new communication technology infrastructures, particularly the role of public policy in that process. Sandvig was previously named a “next-generation leader in science and technology policy” in a junior faculty competition organized by the American Association for the Advancement of Science and has received a Faculty Early Career Development Award from the US National Science Foundation in the area of human-centered computing.

**Leslie Regan Shade** is an associate professor in the Department of Communication Studies at Concordia University. Her research focuses on the social and policy aspects of ICTs, with particular emphasis on issues of gender, youth, and political economy. She is the co-editor (with Katharine Sarikakis) of *Feminist Interventions in International Communication*, the two volumes of *Communications in the Public Interest* (with Marita Moll), and *For Sale to the Highest Bidder: Telecom Policy in Canada* (also with Moll), as well as the editor of *Mediascapes: New Patterns in Canadian Communication*.

**Frank Winter** is a PhD candidate in the Faculty of Information at the University of Toronto. His dissertation research focuses on discourses surrounding the deployment of ICTs in the service of the knowledge-based economy and society, with particular reference to the goal of universal broadband access in northern Saskatchewan. He has held a number of positions at the University of Windsor Library and the University of Saskatchewan Library, including two terms as director of the latter, where he is currently employed. Winter was also a member of the Health Canada Advisory Council on Health InfoStructure and was involved in the development of information policy for the Canadian Association of Research Libraries and the Association of Research Libraries.

**Matthew Wong** was a research associate with CRACIN while working on his MA thesis in the Faculty of Information at the University of Toronto. He is currently working toward his PhD in business administration at the Richard Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario. His research focuses on issues related to organizational culture and the role of the founder in small businesses and entrepreneurship.