Contents

Acknowledgements vii

Introduction: New Challenges to Knowledge in the Public Sphere 1
Richard Hawkins and Michael Keren

PART I • PERSPECTIVES

1 Establishing the Public Legitimacy and Value of Scientific Knowledge in an Information Ether 17
Richard Hawkins

2 Public Intellectuals, Media Intellectuals, and Academic Intellectuals: Comparing the Space of Opinion in Canada and the United States 41
Eleanor Townsley

3 The Eye of the Swarm: Collective Intelligence and the Public Intellectual 69
Jacob G. Foster

4 Creating the Conditions for an Intellectually Active People: What Today’s Public Intellectual Can Learn from Anonymous 91
Liz Pirnie

PART II • CASE STUDIES

5 “Trust Me—I’m a Public Intellectual”: Margaret Atwood’s and David Suzuki’s Social Epistemologies of Climate Science 113
Boaz Miller

6 Engendering a New Generation of Public Intellectuals: Speaking Truth to Power with Grace and Humility 129
Karim-Aly Kassam

7 Reflections on My Dubious Experience as a Public Intellectual 155
Barry Cooper

8 Intellectual Discourse Online 175
Michael Keren

List of Contributors 199
Index 203