



October 1st, 2019

October is “[Cybersecurity awareness](#)” Month

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Ontario Provincial Police open new cybercrime centre 

<https://mobilesyrup.com/2019/09/30/ontario-provincial-police-cybercrime-centre/>

On September 30th, the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) opened a new cybercrime centre to focus on new age crimes that involve the internet.

This includes things like cyberbullying, child sexual exploitation, human trafficking, hacking, identity theft, online fraud and ransomware, according to a Government of Ontario press release.

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BlackBerry launches BlackBerry Labs to develop cybersecurity solutions 

<https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/blackberry-launches-blackberry-labs-to-develop-cybersecurity-solutions/422321>

BlackBerry Ltd. is looking to ramp up its cybersecurity research and development by today announcing the launch of a new business unit entitled BlackBerry Advanced Technology Development Labs (BlackBerry Labs).

The unit will be headed by BlackBerry's chief technology officer, Charles Eagan, and will include a team of over 120 software developers, architects, researchers, product leads and security experts.

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Ontario privacy commissioner worries about lack of data oversight in proposed Sidewalk Labs plan

<https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/ontario-privacy-commissioner-worries-about-lack-of-data-oversight-in-proposed-sidewalk-labs-plan/422258>

Ontario's privacy commissioner has added his voice to those raising objections to Sidewalk Labs' proposed digital governance regime for Toronto's planned data-driven lakefront Quayside project.

A lack of independent public oversight, a cumbersome mandate that overlaps with provincial and federal watchdogs and an insufficient role for the city are the main objections of commissioner Brian Beamish.

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Forbes: Data Breach Warning For 200 Million Android And iOS Gamers.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/daveywinder/2019/09/30/data-breach-warning-for-200-million-android-and-ios-gamers/>

Social gaming, like most things to do with smartphones, is big business. Zynga (NASDAQ:ZNGA) is one of the more prominent players in this market sector. Online gaming revenues at Zynga were \$671 million (£541 million) in 2018 and are expected to grow to \$920 million (£747 million) in 2019. When one of the big social gaming players with a market capitalization of \$5.499 billion (£4.468 billion) and more than a billion players gets hacked, then it's big news.

[Click link above to read more](#)

Cyber Security Awareness Month: Attackers are hungrier than defenders

<https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/cyber-security-awareness-month-attackers-are-hungrier-than-defenders/422305>

It's probably safe to say most organizations in Canada know a little about cyber security. There have been regular reports of major data breaches in the mainstream media for at least two decades, and most firms have at least rudimentary IT controls.

More firms regularly remind staff of dos and don'ts. Bigger firms — governments, banks, large retailers, telcos — are investing more in cyber defences. Ottawa regularly reminds the top 10 infrastructure sector of their responsibilities. To make things easier just over a year ago it consolidated much of its public advisory resources into the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security.

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Canadian government data is getting cloudier, signaling a 'massive leap of faith' in public cloud, says Microsoft

<https://vancouver.sun.com/technology/tech-news/canadian-government-data-is-getting-cloudier-signaling-a-massive-leap-of-faith-in-public-cloud-says-microsoft/wcm/ca190b69-e2be-43ae-a3fc-a265c9fadbd2>

The Canadian government's ongoing effort to adopt the public cloud took another step forward this summer with the help of Microsoft and AWS, representing a "massive leap of faith" in cloud security, according to Peter Melanson, director of federal sales at Microsoft Canada.

"We're talking about internal workloads of government data...things like human resources systems and financial systems," he said, referring to the types of workloads the federal government is moving to public cloud.

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Former Yahoo engineer admits using his access to steal users' sexual images

<https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2019/10/former-yahoo-engineer-admits-he-hacked-user-accounts-in-search-of-sexual-images/>

A former Yahoo software engineer has pleaded guilty to hacking into thousands of users' accounts in search of sexually explicit images and videos and other types of private data.

Reyes Daniel Ruiz on Monday admitted to using his access as a Yahoo engineer to compromise about 6,000 user accounts, federal prosecutors said. The engineer, now 34, cracked user passwords and accessed internal Yahoo systems to access the accounts. He told prosecutors he targeted accounts belonging to younger women, including personal friends and work colleagues.

[Click link above to read more](#)

Ransomware forces 3 hospitals to turn away all but the most critical patients

<https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2019/10/hamstrung-by-ransomware-10-hospitals-are-turning-away-some-patients/>

Ten hospitals—three in Alabama and seven in Australia—have been hit with paralyzing ransomware attacks that are affecting their ability to take new patients, it was widely reported on Tuesday.

All three hospitals that make up the DCH Health System in Alabama were closed to new patients on Tuesday as officials there coped with an attack that paralyzed the health network's computer system. The hospitals—DCH Regional Medical Center in Tuscaloosa, Northport Medical Center, and Fayette Medical Center—are turning away "all but the most critical new patients" at the time this post was going live. Local ambulances were being instructed to take patients to other hospitals when possible. Patients coming to DCH emergency rooms faced the possibility of being transferred to another hospital once they were stabilized.

[Click link above to read more](#)

German police seize "bulletproof" hosting data center in former NATO bunker

<https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2019/09/german-police-seize-bulletproof-hosting-data-center-in-former-nato-bunker/>

On September 26, a data center in a former NATO military bunker in the town of Traben-Trarbach, Germany, was raided by police, according to a report by the Associated Press. Set up by a man whom authorities describe as a 59-year-old Dutchman, the "CyberBunker" offered "bulletproof" hosting services—promising to keep hosted sites secure from law enforcement actions and operational regardless of legal demands.

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