



Citizen Engagement in the Digital Era: Case Studies from British Columbia

Public Engagement

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The BC government has quietly established a reputation for innovation in the area of citizen engagement using digital tools. These consultations have generally proceeded under the radar of many observers but should be more broadly acknowledged as an interesting set of practices, perhaps serving as a basis for comparisons with other jurisdictions. This study will map the population of consultations from 2012-2017 listed on the GovTogether portal on the BC government's web site (a population of 242). This paper will report on the evolving mix engagement instruments and assess the extent to which digital tools have been applied to citizen engagement, and whether this varies by policy domain, the degree of sensitivity. Hypotheses will be identified about how the nature of engagement and reporting might have evolved over the years and by policy domain, especially with respect to the take-up and deployment of digital tools.