

BUILDING A **SAFE AND RESILIENT CANADA**



## The Development of *Canada's Cyber Security Strategy* and Lessons Learned

September 11, 2013

Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum

Workshop on Cyber Security

Canada 

# *The Evolution of Cyber Security as an Issue*



BUILDING A **SAFE AND RESILIENT CANADA**

- Computer security in the late 1980s and 1990s was viewed primarily as a technical issue.
  - Managed by IT departments and only exceptional cases referred to law enforcement.
  - Malware seen as a nuisance, but not a serious security issue to be addressed by governments.
- Developments in the late 1990s and early 2000s change this.
  - The Y2K scare and its impact on national critical infrastructure.
  - The ILOVEYOU and other worms.
- The landscape becomes much more complex in the mid 2000s
  - Espionage and cybercrime become commonplace
  - The Internet becomes a critical tool that underpins economic and social prosperity

# Developing the Strategy



BUILDING A **SAFE AND RESILIENT CANADA**

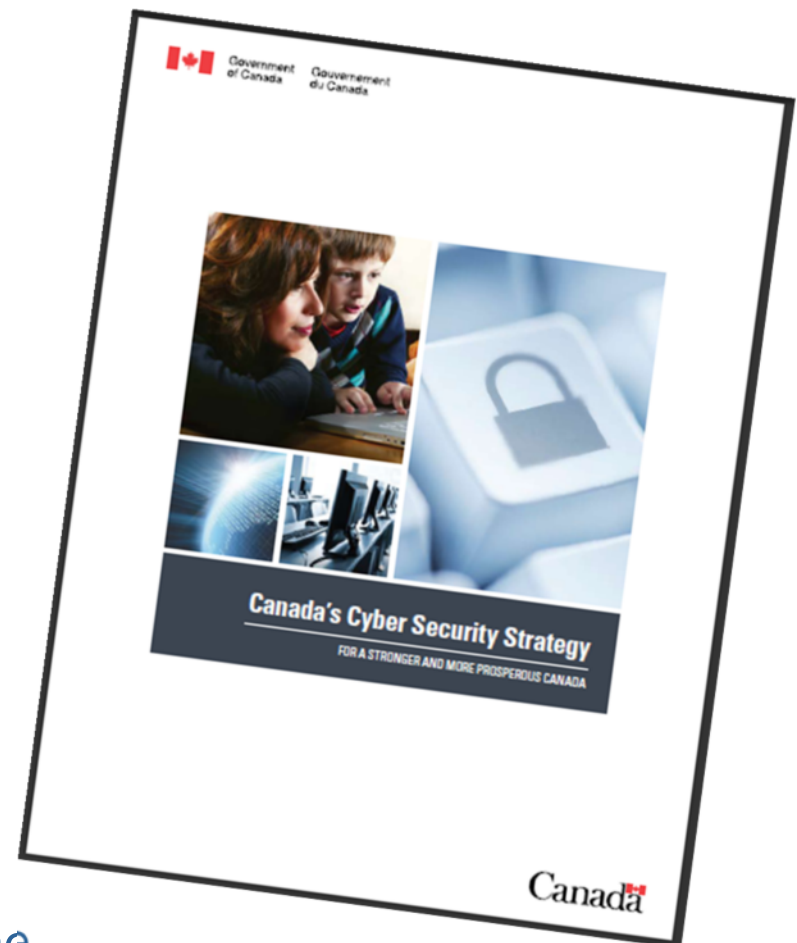
- Private sector
  - Early engagement
  - Call for central point of contact
  
- Government
  - Develop a highly classified threat assessment for senior officials
  - Identify a lead agency and obtain senior level commitment
  - Formal and consistent inter-departmental steering committee
  
- Challenges
  - Limited empirical data on the impact of cyber crime
  - Cyber is “silent” – stigma of coming forward
  - Perception this is only a technical issue
  - Describing the precise nature of the threat is difficult
  - Identifying and bundling a solution is complex

# Canada's Cyber Security Strategy



BUILDING A **SAFE AND RESILIENT CANADA**

- Launched in October 2010.
- Signals cyber security as a priority for the Government of Canada.
- Coordinates and unifies domestic and international action.
- Built on three pillars:
  1. Secure Government systems.
  2. Partner to secure systems outside the Government of Canada.
  3. Help Canadians to be secure online.



# ***Pillar 1: Secure government systems***



BUILDING A **SAFE AND RESILIENT CANADA**

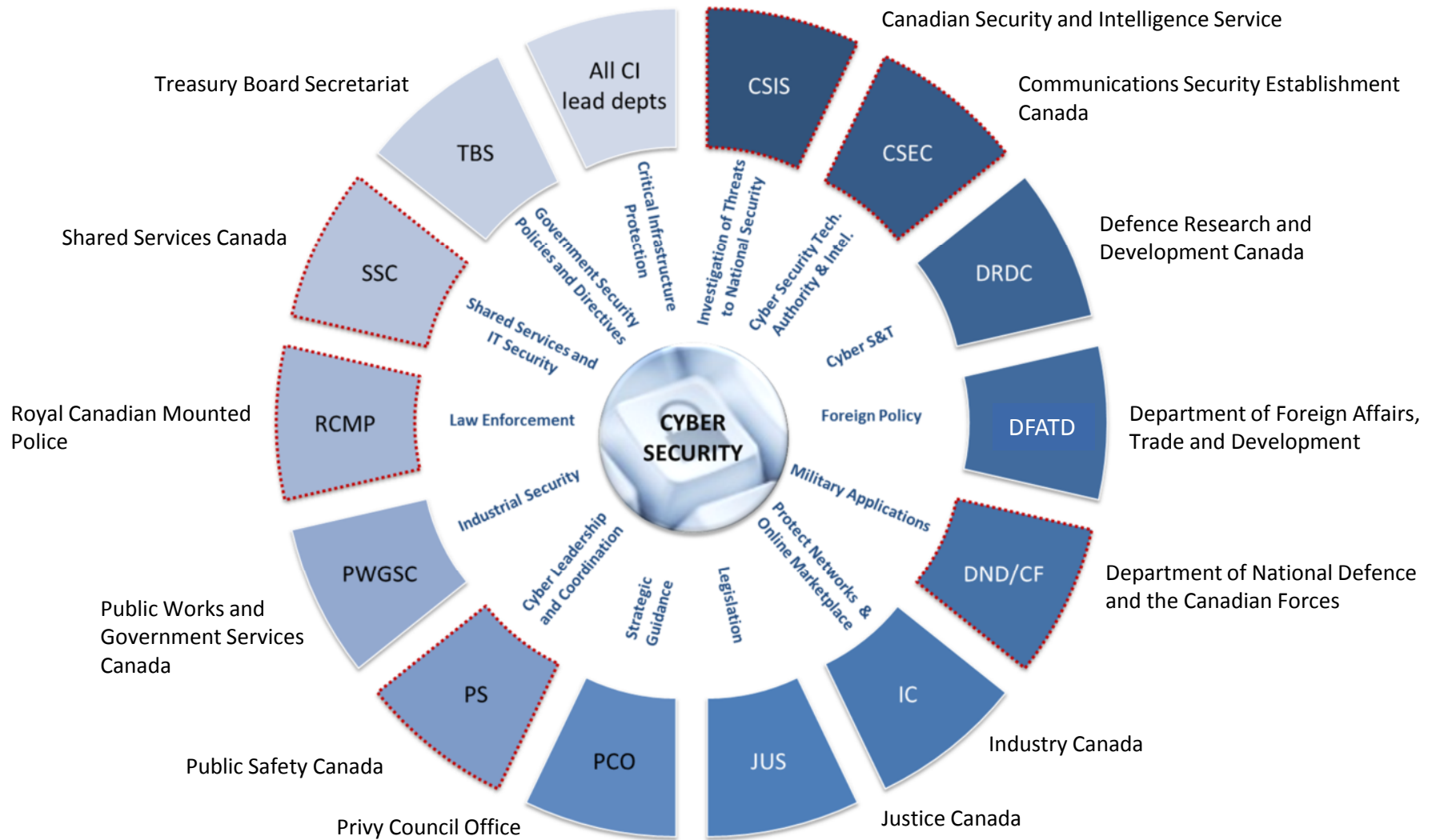
- Establish clear federal roles and responsibilities.
  - Refine government departments' responsibilities for cyber security incidents affecting government networks.
  
- Strengthen security of federal information and systems.
  - Improve cyber hygiene throughout government.
  
- Strengthen international cyber security activities.
  - Deeper engagement with allies and partners.
  - Focused engagement at international forums to promote cyber security best practices and norms.

# A whole of government approach



BUILDING A **SAFE AND RESILIENT CANADA**

## Roles and responsibilities with respect to cyber security



# Creation of Shared Services Canada



BUILDING A **SAFE AND RESILIENT CANADA**

- On August 4, 2011, the Government began to streamline and consolidate its IT architecture in the areas of email, data centres and networks.
- Once complete, this will produce savings and reduce the Government's footprint; strengthen security and the safety of Government data to ensure Canadians are protected; and realize economies of scale and make it more cost-effective to modernize these IT services.
- All resources associated with the delivery of email, data centre and network services are being transferred from 44 of the more IT-intensive departments to a new entity called Shared Services Canada.

## ***Pillar 2: Partner to secure systems outside the Government of Canada***



BUILDING A **SAFE AND RESILIENT CANADA**

- Strengthened the Canadian Cyber Incident Response Team (CCIRC), Canada's national Computer Emergency Response Team.
  - Extended hours of operation.
  - Hired more staff.
  - Created a malware lab and Industrial Controls System test centre.
- Partner with provinces, territories, and critical infrastructure sectors.
  - Initial focus on three sectors: energy, telecommunications, and finance.
  - Develop and publish a Cyber Incident Management Framework.
- Develop leading edge cyber security science and technology.
  - Leverage existing research networks to strengthen research and development.



## ***Pillar 3: Help Canadians to be secure online***



BUILDING A **SAFE AND RESILIENT CANADA**

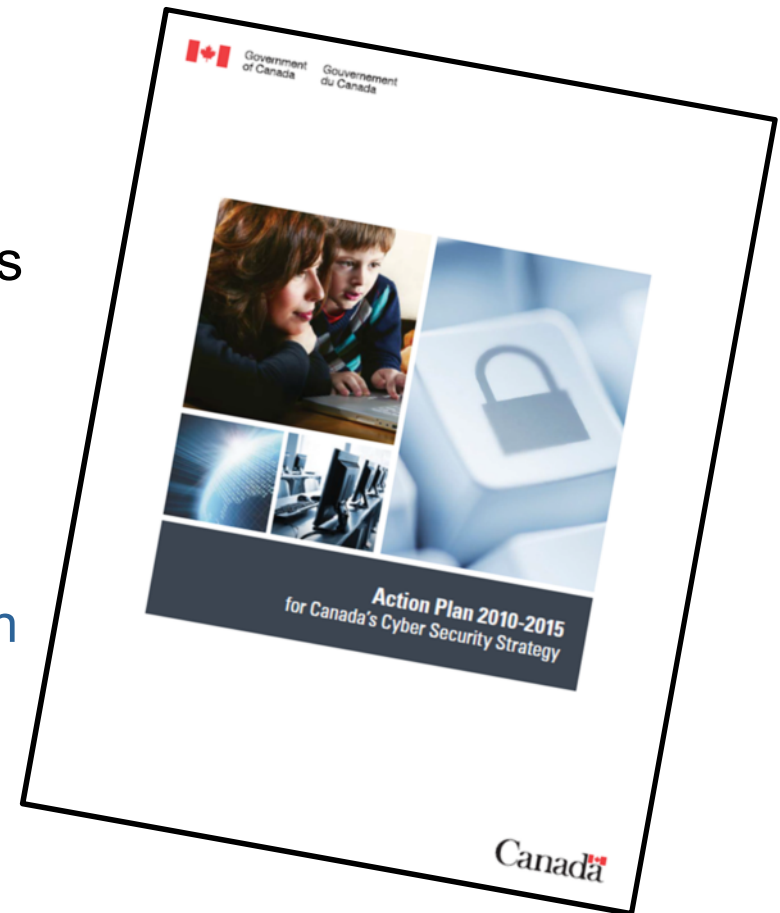
- Promote public awareness, education, and engagement.
  - Launch of the GetCyberSafe.ca campaign.
  - Partnership with Stop.Think.Connect.
- Strengthen legislative framework to address cyber crime.
  - Drafting legislation to permit the ratification of the Budapest Convention.
- Enhance law enforcement capabilities.
  - Established a Cyber Crime Fusion Center at the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to improve cyber crime statistics.

# Action Plan 2010-2015 for Canada's Cyber Security Strategy



BUILDING A **SAFE AND RESILIENT CANADA**

- Launched in April 2013.
- Outlines progress made across all three pillars and identifies initiatives until 2015.
- Focus on domestic and international efforts:
  - Greater Canadian engagement in international forums
  - Working with cross-border partners to enhance operational collaboration



# What We Learned



BUILDING A **SAFE AND RESILIENT CANADA**

- Adopting and implementing a strategy needs to be a whole of government effort.
  - Clarifying the roles and responsibilities of various players is critical.
- Outreach to other levels of government and the private sector in the early stages and throughout the process.
- Cyber is not just a technology issue, it's also about people and policy.
- Early development and promulgation of threat briefs and a simple story to describe the proposed approach.
- International engagement and promoting norms for cyberspace is essential.
  - United Nations Group of Government Experts
  - Meridian Conference on Critical Information Infrastructure Protection
  - Budapest Convention

BUILDING A **SAFE AND RESILIENT CANADA**



[www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cyber](http://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cyber)