

two interns at the McLuhan Program, one of whom (fluent in Spanish and the new digital language) has already been approached about the prospects of work in Latin America to cement relations in the PanAm project. The byDesign E Lab and the McLuhan Program look forward to conversations with CCFPD on plans to extend the PanAm byDesign project within Canada (as part of the initiatives to build citizen forums on policies for the Americas), and also as part of helping civil society discussion throughout the Americas. It is already apparent from our recent cyber experiences in PanAm that some travel will be required, as trust is not easily won from citizens of societies that lack certain legitimate dimensions of the traditions of civil society, such as organized peaceful citizen discussion and action. It is also apparent that some direct sharing of skills in social technologies (e.g., both how to conduct a forum technically and in practical terms of arriving at a useful outcome) is required on an urgent basis, and that Canada (and the CCFPD) could further develop its focus on research, development and export of these skills and social technologies. The byDesign E Lab at the McLuhan Program University of Toronto hopes to engage further with CCFPD to discuss the findings, improve our initial collaborative web sites and advance these objectives. Meanwhile, we are very grateful for the opportunity to work with the CCFPD and celebrate your farsightedness and willingness to go outside the routine.