

# Changing Canadian Media Landscape: Communications for Social Change in a Changing Society

**Ian Capstick**

**May 12, 2016**

**9:00am – 4:30pm**

Exploring the academic and popular analysis of the 2015 election we will explore the current progressive landscape in Canada and articulate the "path to victory" for Canada's social democratic ideas like proportional representation, childcare and economic fairness.

Progressives can use communications tactics to help move forward their movement.

This workshop will encourage passionate debate and learning brass tacks tactics you can use. We'll use design thinking to explore issues and pair them with tactics and strategy. Academically we'll be exploring how theories of "public sphere" and "communicative rationality" have a direct impact on how grassroots can have a meaningful impact on Canadian democracy.

## **Outline**

The day is structured to explore the intersection of political academic theory and the practical implementation of politics.

AM: Review of relevant theory and mapping the progressive ecosystem in Canada

PM: Practice and tactical communications lessons on consultation and collaboration

**Required Reading List** (find these readings on course reserve\*: <http://reserves.concordia.ca/>)

**Watch:** Moderated by Paul Wells from Maclean's Magazine and co-sponsored by Concordia's Workshops on Social Science Research (WSSR) and the Department of Political Science, this post-election panel will draw on the expertise of a variety of prominent pundits and seasoned specialists of Canadian politics. <http://www.cpac.ca/en/programs/public-record/episodes/45234087/>

Habermas, Jürgen. 1996. "Law as a Category of Social Mediation between Facts and Norms" in *Between Facts and Norms: Contributions to a Discourse Theory of Law and Democracy*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1996, Chapter 1, pp. 1-41.

Huttunen, Rauno & Hannu L.T. Heikkinen. 1998. "Between Facts and Norms: Action Research in the Light of Jürgen Habermas's Theory of Communicative Action and Discourse Theory of Justice." *Curriculum Studies*, 6:3, 307-322.

Kaufman, Cynthia. 1999. "The unforced force of the more familiar argument: A critique of Habermas' Theory of Communicative Rationality." *Philosophy Today*, 43, pp. 348-360.

\*If you are registered for non-credit and are unable to locate the readings, please contact us at [wssr@concordia.ca](mailto:wssr@concordia.ca)