



Q&A

**Alan German & Chris Taylor  
Ottawa PC Users' Group**

**Follow-up**

## **Audio recording**

**Everyone: Remind Chris to  
mute all and start the  
audio recording!**

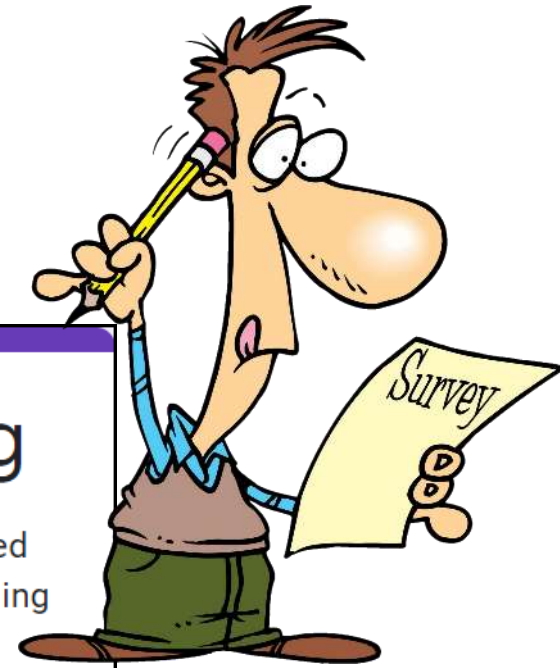


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# OPCUG Survey

## 2021 Member Survey on Meeting Setting

At some point, in-person meetings will be feasible and while the Board recognizes the need for continued video conferencing options, it wishes to know members' thoughts on returning to in-person meetings. Please take 5 minutes to complete this anonymous survey.



- Zoom video-conferencing is *highly* likely to continue
- Do members want in-person meetings as well?
- All members are encouraged to fill out the survey (5 min)
- <https://tinyurl.com/opcug-survey>

*Thanks to Lynda Buske for designing the survey*

Share

Remember when...

Chris thought UPnP was  
no big deal...

June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Chris admitted he  
was wrong...

Share

## Restore points

Chris was wrong...



...again

Share

# Restore points

Problem	See this section
Your PC isn't working well and you recently installed an update.	<a href="#">Remove an installed Windows update</a>
Your PC isn't working well and it's been a while since you installed	<a href="#">Reset your PC</a>
You want to reinstall your previous operating system.	<a href="#">Go back to your previous version of Windows</a>
Your PC isn't working well and you recently installed an app.	<a href="#">Restore from a system restore point</a>

## Restore from a system restore point

This option takes your PC back to an earlier point in time, called a system restore point. Restore points are generated when you install a new app or driver, and when you [create a restore point manually](#). Restoring won't affect your personal files, but it will remove apps, drivers, and updates installed after the restore point was made.

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/recovery-options-in-windows-31ce2444-7de3-818c-d626-e3b5a3024da5>

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## Restore points

June 23

Chris didn't know anyone who saved their system with restore points

...others said restore points worked for them

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## Restore points

Chris said – for him – restore points just wasted GB of disk space

Chris checked & restore points were enabled

Chris: *I will fix that later*



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# Restore points

- July 16...
  - Chris right clicked on *Start* and chose *Computer Management*
  - Windows said an administrator had restricted access to that
  - oh-oh...
  - rebooted
  - Windows didn't load
    - offered to attempt a restore



Share

Restore points

It worked!

Share

# Restore points

- Bottom line
  - could have restored drive C from image backup
    - wouldn't have lost important data (on other drives)
  - restore point recovery *much* faster
  - Chris glad he didn't get around to "fixing" (i.e. eliminating) those useless, disk-space-wasting restore points!



Follow-up

# Cx File Explorer

Alan was  
also wrong...



...and probably not for the first time!

- I said that Cx File Explorer knows about PDF files and has a built-in PDF viewer
- There is a built in image viewer, audio player, and video player - *but no PDF viewer*
- I actually have MuPDF viewer installed




MuPDF viewer

Artifex Software LLC Books & Reference

★★★★★ 306

**E** Everyone

 Add to wishlist

Install

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.artifex.mupdf.viewer.app>



# OTTAWA PC NEWS

Volume 38, Number 6

June 2021

## ARTICLE

### Setting Up a New Computer – Backup, Update, Repeat... by Alan Gorman and Chris Taylor

In the first article in this series, we showed how to perform the initial setup of a new computer. The next tasks are to ensure that the Windows operating system is fully up to date, and to create a comprehensive set of system backups, but not necessarily in that order!

#### Disk Imaging

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We know that, since we have already installed the imaging software, this backup isn't quite "as received" but it's as close as we can get without some fancier footwork, and it's certainly close enough for our purposes.

We now have a full system backup image that we can restore should anything go wrong with the next steps. In particular, this backup will restore all the initial setup procedures that we spent considerable time and effort implementing! So, now it's time to move on and ensure that the operating system is fully up to date.

*\* If you don't have a current favourite disk imager, Alan and Chris suggest trying either Macrium Reflect Free Edition or Easeus ToDo Backup Free which are the programs that they use.*

#### Windows Update

It's practically certain that the version of Windows that comes with a new computer, and certainly the software provided on any installation DVD, will not be up to date. Windows will have been installed on the computer and copied to an installation disk quite some time ago and, given that patches for the operating system are issued monthly (at a minimum), updates will likely be available and these should now be installed.

By navigating to *Start - Settings (the gear wheel icon) - Update & Security*, Windows Update will scan the operating system and list any pending updates. Click on the "Install Now" button and be patient while the update process runs to completion. Even if a message now indicates that "You're up to date", press the "Check for updates" button to determine if any of the updates trigger any further updates. Yes, it is sometimes necessary to check for updates several times until the check returns "You're up to date" two times in a row and you can have confidence that this is indeed the case.

#### Remove Bloatware

Most new computers come with at least a few pieces of "free" software that are bundled by the manufacturer but do not necessarily provide advantages to the end user. Of particular note are limited-time (usually 30-day) trials of software that require some form of purchase for continued use after the trial period expires. Typical offerings include anti-virus programs with annual subscription fees. Such programs can be readily discarded as Microsoft Defender, that is built in to Windows and is free to use, provides more than adequate malware protection and an Internet firewall.

To remove any unwanted software, navigate to *Start - Settings - Apps*. The *Apps & Features* section will list all the installed programs. Click on any item that is not required. Select *Uninstall*, follow the prompts, and the selected software will be removed from the system.

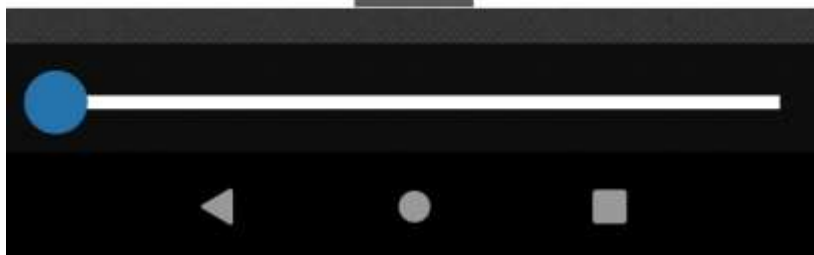
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Next Meeting: **WEDNESDAY, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

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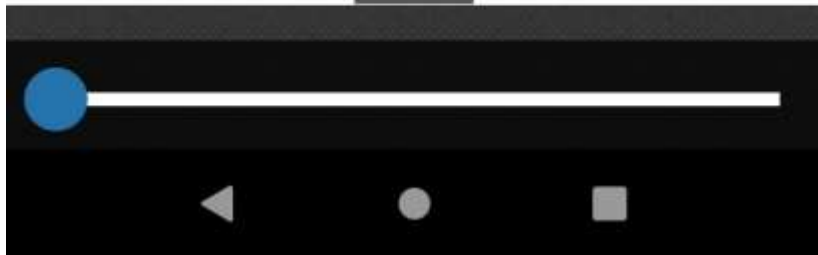
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## Next Meeting

Wednesday, June 9th, 2021

**Topic:** Origins of EdTech

**Speaker:** Mariana Ludmila Cortés, CEO, One Laptop Per Child

The term EdTech has become commonplace, particularly in recent years when digital technology is more available to children. Few people know its history and how it originated. Did you know that AI, the Maker Movement, the use of computers for education, and educational robotics have the same origin? How are these things related to learning beyond schooling, to philosophy, to Mathematics and Cognitive Science?

This presentation will expose the origins of educational technology and what was the vision of its impact on the world. Have we achieved this or are we far from what the original intention was? Mariana Ludmila, CEO of One Laptop per Child, will share the origins of this term and more.

Mariana Cortés is the CEO of One Laptop Per Child, an organization which has provided more than 3 million laptops in developing countries. She has been recipient of Positive Change award by the United Nations and is the founder of Edularity, a global network of researchers of knowledge, seeking a personal education.

**This meeting will be via Zoom video conference.**  
(instructions for using Zoom)

The Zoom link will be live at 7:30 pm. Join us at: <https://tinyurl.com/opcuq-meeting>

The above link includes the meeting ID and password. However, if you are prompted for the information, use:  
Meeting ID: 824 9556 0898  
Password: opcuq

There will be a Q&A session after the regular meeting at approximately 9 pm and on the same video conference.

## Coming Up...

**September 8th**

**Topic:** Members' Favourites  
**Speakers:** Members of the Ottawa PC Users' Group

The best presentation given by a club member (BOD members are excluded) will win a 2TB portable USB drive! The winner will be the "people's favourite" as determined by a real-time, online poll. [more...]

**October 13th**

**Topic:** History of the Digital Revolution  
**Speaker:** Bob Walker, OPCUG

We'll have a look at the development and evolution of personal computers, the internet, email, social media, smartphones, e-commerce, digital cameras and more. [more...]

**November 10th**

**Topic:** Astronomy  
**Speakers:** Tim Cole and Andrea Giannini, Royal Astronomical Society

There is no magic security bullet, no single protection against others trying to scam you, ransomware you, or steal your identity. What you can do is what people do in the winter: put on layers. [more...]

**December 8th**

**Topic:** Security Layers  
**Speaker:** Tom Trotter, OPCUG

There is no magic security bullet, no single protection against others trying to scam you, ransomware you, or steal your identity. What you can do is what people do in the winter: put on layers. [more...]

**January 12th, 2022**

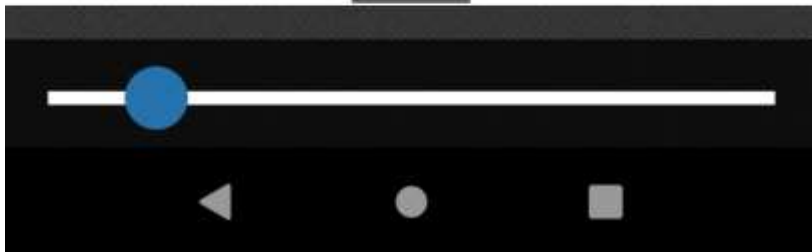
**Topic:** Encryption 101  
**Speaker:** Stéphane Richard, OPCUG

If you are using a computer and the internet, you are using cryptography. This presentation provides a basic introduction to cryptography. It covers the definitions of the terms used in cryptography and basic cryptographic processes. [more...]

**This is the last regular meeting until September, but our weekly Q&A sessions will continue until further notice, so keep tuning in!**

All scheduled events, including regular monthly meetings, weekly Q&A sessions, and OPCUG@OPL presentations, are posted on our website at <https://opcuq.ca/>. All events are via video conference until further notice.

2021 CALENDAR		
Meetings	Date	Time and Venue
Regular Monthly Meeting	Wednesday, June 9 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 pm via Zoom video conference: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/opcuq-meeting">https://tinyurl.com/opcuq-meeting</a> To see all scheduled events, visit <a href="https://opcuq.ca/">https://opcuq.ca/</a> .
Q&A Session	Wednesday, June 9 <sup>th</sup>	Immediately following the Regular Monthly Meeting, (approx. 9 pm) on the same video conference.
Beer BOD (Wing 55G East)	Wednesday, June 9 <sup>th</sup>	Enjoy a cold brew or other beverage in the comfort of your home during the video conference.



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Volume 38, Number 6

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*\* If you don't have your favourite disk imaging software, see the sidebar for recommendations by David and Chris for either Mac or Windows Edition or for Linux Backup Free programs t*

### Windows Upda

It's practically essential to keep your copy of Windows that you installed on your computer, and especially if you're not up to date. Windows updates are provided on any computer, and especially if you've not been up to date. Windows updates have not been installed or copied to an instance of Windows some time ago a

Zoom the display

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Next Meeting: **WEDNES**



# OTTAWA PC NEWS

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## ARTICLE

### New Computer – Backup, Update, Re

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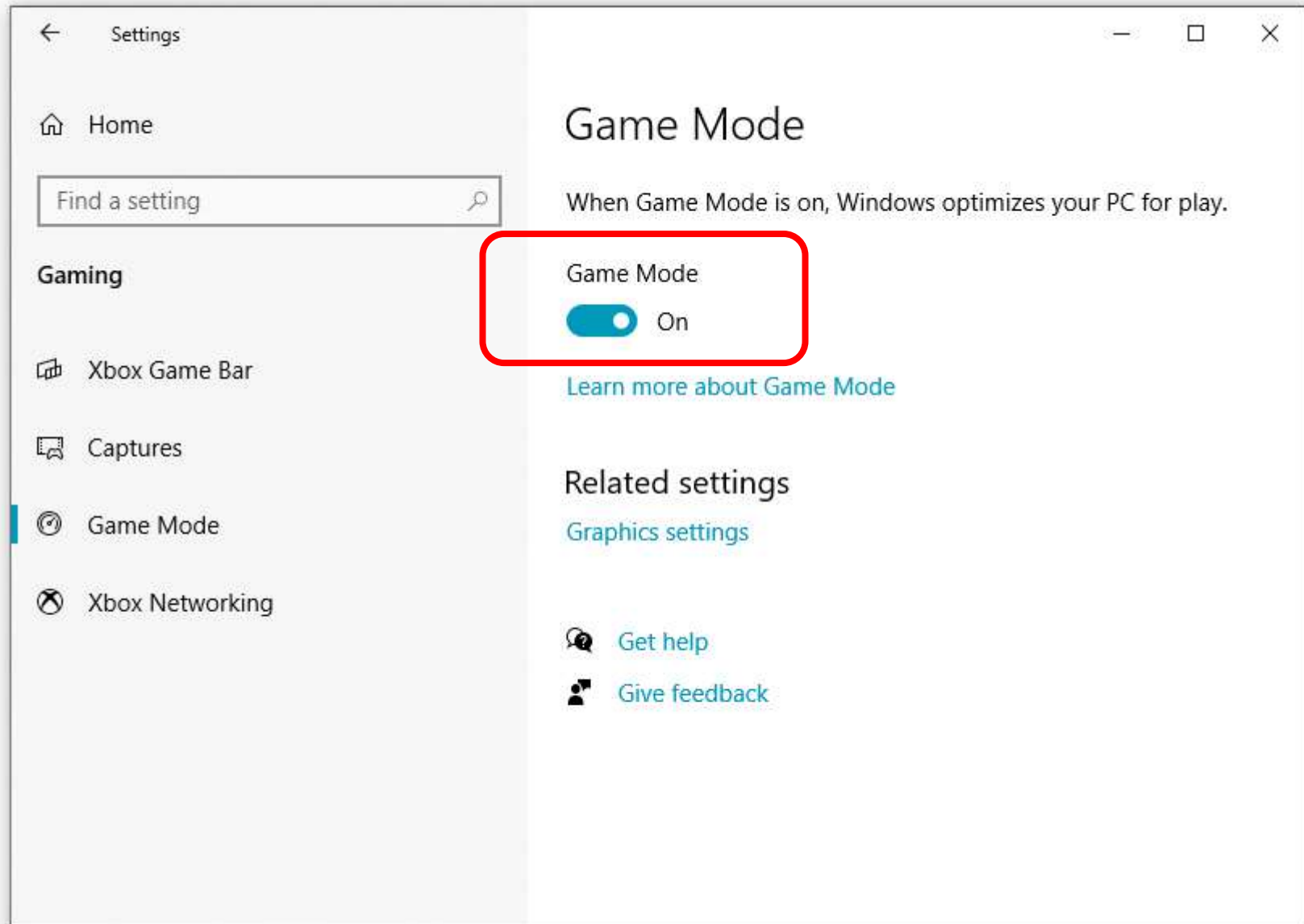




# Windows Game Mode

- I don't do any PC gaming so I have always just turned this setting off
- I have been wondering if enabling game mode might help other apps run more effectively
- Would enabling game mode be useful on a low powered PC that struggles with Zoom sessions that are graphics intensive ?

# Settings - Gaming - Game Mode



When you're running a game, Game Mode:

- Prevents Windows Update from performing driver installations and sending restart notifications.
- Helps achieve a more stable frame rate depending on the specific game and system.

<https://support.xbox.com/en-CA/help/games-apps/game-setup-and-play/use-game-mode-gaming-on-pc>



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# Windows 10 users should turn this feature off now for better gaming performance

By Matt Hanson May 07, 2020

## Game Mode causing problems

Many PC gamers have noticed that with Game Mode enabled, which should usually prioritise games and minimise background tasks to improve performance, many games actually encountered poorer frame rates, stutters and freezes.

<https://www.techradar.com/news/windows-10-users-should-turn-this-feature-off-now-for-better-gaming-performance>



# WiFi extenders and security



- Are WiFi extenders safe & economical? **Yes**
- What's best for security?
  - WEP **NO!!!!!!!!!!!!!! (add about 100 !s)**
    - Wired Equivalent Privacy - ha ha ha
  - WPA2-PSK (AES) **Yes**
    - WiFi Protected Access v2-pre-shared key  
Advanced Encryption Standard for encryption
  - WPA-PSK (TKIP) **OK**
    - WiFi Protected Access-pre-shared key  
Temporal Key Integrity Protocol for encryption
  - WPA2-PSK (AES+TKIP) **OK**
    - As above but allow both AES and TKIP for encryption





## WiFi extenders and security



- But do you have a choice?
  - Chris assumed...
    - bad habit – try cold showers and long walks
  - you had to use the same SSID and security
    - WiFi in router
    - any/all extenders
  - anyone know?



## HP ScanJet 6300C Scanner

- I have an old but good HP ScanJet 6300C Scanner which I used with my Windows XP machine
- I looked for Windows 10 drivers and found that there are no HP drivers, but there are other sites that claim to have drivers or apps that would allow use of the scanner
- Are these safe to download and are they likely to work?



# A

## Third-party driver or VM

- Drivers are pretty low-level software and untrusted sources could be problematic
- Why not install Windows XP in a virtual machine (e.g. VirtualBox)?
- Use the existing XP driver
- Running XP just to use the scanner (no Internet connection) would not produce a security risk



## WSL

- Has anyone used the Windows Subsystem for Linux?
- What are its uses?

*The Windows Subsystem for Linux lets developers run a GNU/Linux environment -- including most command-line tools, utilities, and applications -- directly on Windows, unmodified, without the overhead of a traditional virtual machine or dualboot setup.*





# pfSense Firewall

- Is anyone using this, with an old PC, a Raspberry Pi, or...?



<https://www.pfsense.org>

Share

# Fire Awareness Apps

- Timely release of a Canada-wide app to raise awareness of fire conditions in your area
- Available for both Apple & Android, with a website for those without smartphones

<https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/free-new-canadian-app-detects-and-maps-forest-fires-to-improve-response-and-public-safety-856552493.html>

Quebec specific

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=ca.skex.sopfeu>

Stewart Bruce



# FireFringe

First Resource Management Group Inc Weather

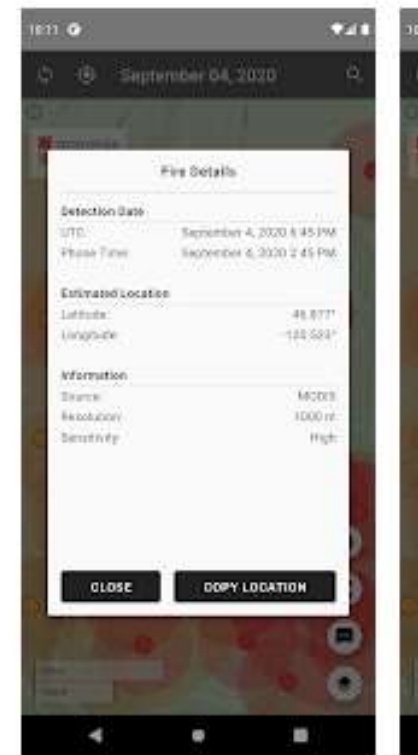
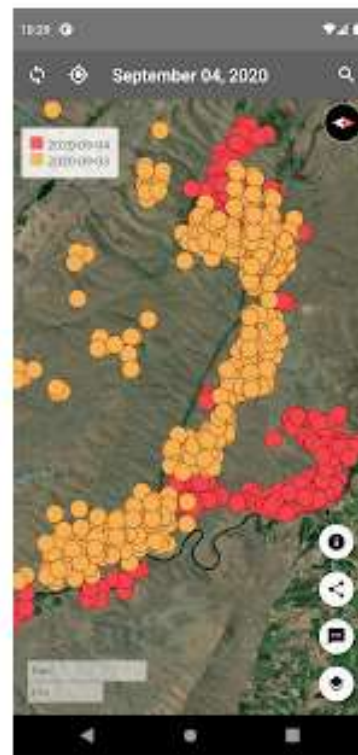
★★★★★ 17

**E** Everyone

✕ This app is not available for your device

+ Add to wishlist

Install



<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.firefringe>

Share

# Ransomware: Are you at risk?

**CBC**LISTEN Live Radio On Demand CBC Podcasts CBC Music Playlists

Ontario Today with Rita Celli



- Aired: July 20th, 2021
- Veteran cybersecurity experts Aron Feuer and Richard McDonald walk you through what to do if you're attacked and how to protect yourself from hackers.

<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-45-ontario-today/clip/15856091-ransomware-are-risk>

Wayne Houston





# Canadian Centre for Cyber Security



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## Cyber Security at Home and in The Office: Secure Your Devices, Computers, and Networks (ITSAP.00.007)

 [Download PDF \(369.70 KB\)](#)



OCTOBER 2020

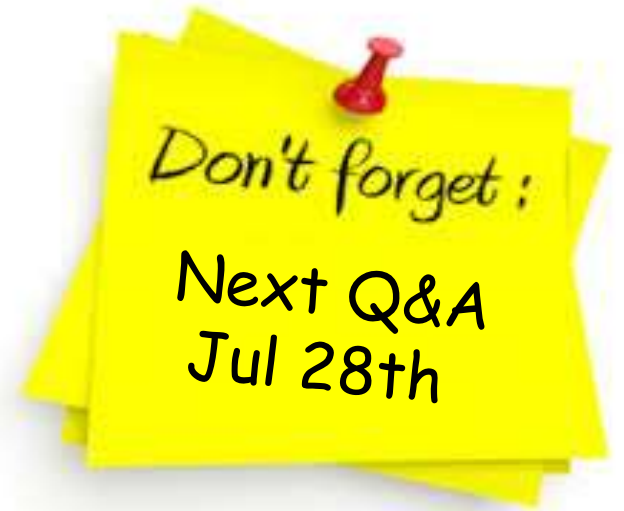
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ITSAP.00.007

<https://www.cyber.gc.ca>



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Shares?**



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answers, and topics  
you wish to share to:**

**[SuggestionBox@opcug.ca](mailto:SuggestionBox@opcug.ca)**

