

Q&A



Bob Herres

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

April 2, 2025

Follow Up

Jitsi Meet

A screenshot of the Jitsi Meet landing page. The background shows a woman with curly hair looking down. The text 'Jitsi Meet' is prominently displayed in white. Below it, the tagline 'Secure and high quality meetings' is shown. A large white input field with a blue border contains the red text 'OPCUGPostQandAJitsi'. To the right of this field is a blue button with the white text 'Start meeting'. At the bottom, a smaller line of text reads 'Or book a meeting URL in advance where you are the only moderator.'

Jitsi Meet

Secure and high quality meetings

OPCUGPostQandAJitsi [Start meeting](#)

Or book a meeting URL in advance where you are the only moderator.



jitsi

Steve Parker

Ma Vo

Timothy

Stewart Bruce

Donny Clownshow

Alan

So, did my leaving the meeting kill it or could you carry on?

Jeff

No we carried on until about 10:15 talking about everything from atomic clocks to the relativity of time and its relationship to gravity.

We all seemed to have moderator control and we were able to change each other's names and kick each other out.

I think there's a way to set up moderators and participants and send the different links to different categories.

Jitsi Meet

Secure and high quality meetings

OPCUGPostQandAJitsi

Start meeting

Or book a meeting URL in advance where you are the only moderator.

Jitsi Meet

Secure and high quality meetings

OPCUGPostQandAJitsi

Start meeting

Or **book a meeting URL** in advance where you are the only moderator.

Jitsi Moderated Meetings

Jitsi moderated meetings is a feature that lets you book a meeting URL in advance where you are the only moderator.

Share meeting link for guests

<https://meet.jit.si/moderated/2360419a4b2b1c...> 

Share this page with other moderators

<https://moderated.jitsi.net/2ad78f037f5e4282a...> 

[Join as moderator](#)

Follow Up Signal

- I saw this free option from a non-profit that says it's focused on security
- It works with Mac, Windows, Linux, Android, iPhone/iPad
- State-of-the-art end-to-end encryption
- Make crystal-clear voice and video calls
- Share text, voice messages, photos, videos, GIFs and files
- Uses your phone's data/Wi-Fi connection
- Avoid SMS/MMS fees and long-distance charges

<https://signal.org>





eSIM's

- Has anyone used an e-Sim?
- Anyone used an e-Sim in the UK and/or France recently?

Elizabeth O'Driscoll



A

Voice and data, or data only

- ESims are generally easy to set up although the first time might be a touch tricky.
- Current phones can handle them, Android or iPhone.
- ESims are generally downloaded from the vendor through their app directly to your phone and then you follow the activation instructions for your phone.
- You can buy for voice and data or data only.
- I used data only and it met my needs, such as Google Maps, WhatsApp, etc.

- I've used Airalo in the USA. They have plan options for all over the world. I found it easy to load and use, and of good value.

Karen

- VISA card? You can get a free esim for some data. Expires 15 days after first use. Then use Fongo for Canada calls, WhatsApp for others.

<https://forums.redflagdeals.com/gigsky-free-annual-esim-visa-cardholders-1gb-infinite-2gb-infinite-privilege-15-days-validity-2735571/4/#p39797748>

tOM

- I used Airalo, recommended by the CAA agent when I booked a trip to Europe last year.

<https://www.airalo.com/>

Ed

- I have been looking at e-sims with interest as some call themselves “Borderless Carriers” as opposed to just “an international roaming option”.
- So far, I just have a list of these companies, I have not got around to comparing them.

<https://cellulardata.ubigi.com/>

<https://mobimatter.com/>

<https://www.airalo.com/>

<https://esim.holafly.com/#mpp>

<https://always-mobile.com/>

<https://www.getnomad.app>

<https://www.fonusmobile.com/>

<https://saily.com/>



ChatGPT and Gemini

- My American brother who knows computers much more than I do recently sent me a question and answer from AI relating to an issue we're having with my mother (very extensive but it wasn't helpful).
- I asked him what AI he uses and mentioned that OPCUG seem to use perplexity.ai.
- He said he uses perplexity.ai mostly for travel because it's so good at it but he tends to use either ChatGPT or Gemini for other stuff.
- What are people's thoughts on ChatGPT and/or Gemini?



A

Some thoughts about...



and let's Include Perplexity AI



ChatGPT: The Conversational Pro

Developed by:  OpenAI

Launched November 30, 2022

Strengths

Content Creation, Summarization

Understands Natural Language

Creative Writing & Ideation

Graphic Generation

Research & Coding ??

Upload



ChatGPT

Processes over 1 Billion Queries Daily

Several months ago it's

Weakness

was

Hallucinations*

***this seems to improving**

Gemini

The Research Wizard

Developed by:  Google DeepMind

Introduced Dec 6, 2023

Strengths

Text, image & audio inputs

Summarizing, Creative Writing

Image Generation

Exporting to Google Sheets or Gmail

Coding, Research and much more

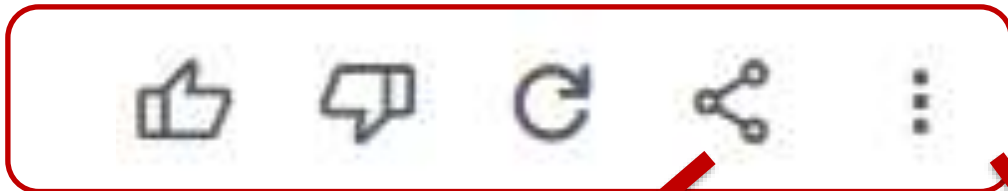
New





Deep Research



Ask Gemini


Drop files here



New
PDF

-  Export to Docs
-  Draft in Gmail

-  Copy
-  Listen

Gemini

Gemini receives 9.47 Million visits per day



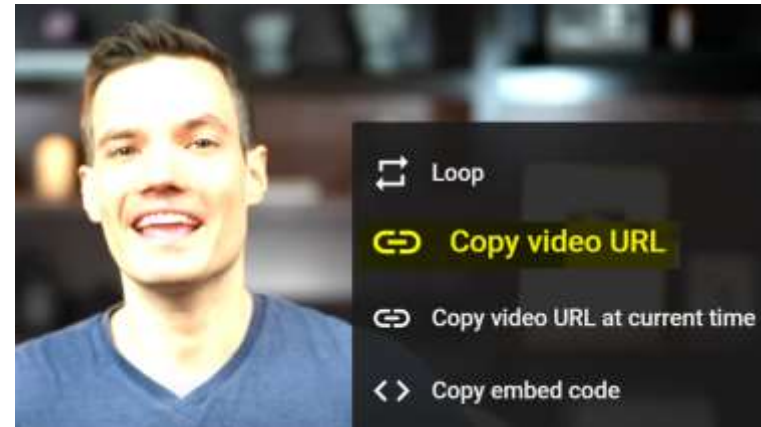
Weakness

Aggressive Content Filtering
this seems to changing or improving

This Gemini Feature
is one of my Favorite Tools!



Kevin Stratvert has Great Video Content
I'm an avid subscriber



Gemini
Hello, Bob

URL

<https://youtu.be/KGWouPDz6kk>

“Right Mouse Click”
to: *“Copy Video URL”*

Please summarize this video
<https://youtu.be/KGWouPDz6kk>

“Paste Video URL”

URL: Uniform Resource Locator



Please summarize this video
<https://youtu.be/KGWouPDz6kk>

Here's a summary of the video:

- **Feature #1** : This upgraded tool can copy text from images [01:13]. It also has a shortcut that allows users to launch the tool directly into screenshot mode by pressing t key [01:50]. Additionally, it has a screen record mode [02:12].
- **Feature #2** ow supports dark mode and automatically saves text [03:0] to a file. It also has capabilities to rewrite text, make it shorter or longer, and change the tone and format [03:20].



Great Job!
with Time
Stamps!

Get the info that **You** Want!

~~Please summarize this video~~
<https://youtu.be/KGWouPDz6kk>

Will this video help me and my dog?

<https://youtu.be/KGWouPDz6kk>

 Gemini

Based on the information available, the linked video primarily covers Windows 11 updates and does not include information on dog care or training.

However, if you're looking for helpful resources for your dog, many online options are available, including etc. For example...

Regardless of whatever you say or type: **AI never says “NO”**



The Search Engine Reinvented

Launch Date: Dec 7, 2022

Strengths

Accurate Answers with citations,
Real-Time updates, Thread continuity
Handles Complex Queries
Perceptive Follow-up Questions



“A Precision Search Engine with AI”

All three support PDF uploads—use this to your Advantage!

Complex prompts?
Put them in PDF

PDFs allow
Graphics and Text



For “Free **AI**” Accts

Keep PDF
Files Small

File name:

Save as type: PDF (*.pdf)

Authors: Bob-PC

Optimize for: **Standard Size**
(online and printing)

Minimum Size
(publishing online)

No single AI is best, each one has strengths



Bookmark these platforms for “Quick Access”





Remember, AI is a **tool, not a magic solution**

Think of it as an assistant, that works best when given **clear instructions and examples.**



Share

Yuka - The Mobile App That Scans Your Products



Scans barcodes on food products and assigns a "wellness rating" from 1 to 100

"Make the right choices for your health"

<https://yuka.io/en/>

Stewart Bruce

- Pretty straightforward, no ads, no upsell
- There is a paid version which is \$15/year but seems to offer some features only to people in France
- Reviews indicate it to be a good guide to healthy eating and very helpful for people with specific dietary considerations
- It should not be considered a rulebook for eating, just a guideline
- Don't cut out that favorite snack completely, just be aware it might not be a staple item :)
- Oh, and it also does cosmetic products





YouTubeTech

UNIX Built the Internet – And We Forgot Why It Matterred!



"UNIX Built the Internet—And We Forgot Why It Matterred!"



DJ Ware

51.2K subscribers

Join

Subscribe

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vNwHTAKRQFQ>



Reusing old computers

- I am looking for a home for my desktop system when there is no longer support for Windows 10
- I would like to donate the system to an agency in Ottawa and area that could use it for their clients
- Can we begin a list of potential agencies?



A Reuse/Recycle

- CompuCorps
Desktops post-2014
Laptops
Tax receipts available for all accepted hardware
<https://www.compucorps.org>



- National Capital Freenet (NCF)
Test and reconfigure modems/routers
Provide affordable hardware for other NCF members
Try to another life for other electronics
<https://www.ncf.ca/en/high-speed-internet/e-waste-depot/>




Do you know of any other outlets for reuse?

Share

EaseUS Todo Backup (Windows)

Weekly Image Backup

Disk 0(1) 

- Next Backup: No Schedule
- Last Backup: 2025-03-28 7:50 AM Successful



My Disk

KBG40ZNS512G NVMe KIOXIA 512GB



D: **External drive

Harvey Hope

Share

EaseUS Todo Backup

The image is saved as a .pbd file onto my external drive.

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
Disk 0(1)_20250228_Full_v1.pbd	2025-02-28 8:50 AM	Folder	120,739,492 KB
Disk 0(1)_20250308_Full_v1.pbd	2025-03-08 7:05 AM	Folder	118,440,784 KB
Disk 0(1)_20250316_Full_v1.pbd	2025-03-16 8:21 AM	Folder	114,995,216 KB
Disk 0(1)_20250321_Full_v1.pbd	2025-03-21 4:24 PM	Folder	113,055,196 KB
Disk 0(1)_20250328_Full_v1.pbd	2025-03-28 7:50 AM	Folder	120,366,032 KB

Note: The laptop NVMe SSD drive is 512 GB, used space is approx 120 GB
(NVMe is Non-Volatile Memory Express)

Share

EaseUS Todo Backup

Start Windows File Explorer, click on the .pbd file to view all drive partitions within the backup.

Click on the C: partition to access your folders/files.



Share

EaseUS Todo Backup

C: partition
folders/files

Name	Size	Type	Time
SRecycle.Bin		File folder	2024-02-05 9:47 AM
SWINDOWS.~BT		File folder	2025-02-07 5:36 PM
SWindows.~WS		File folder	2025-02-07 5:36 PM
AdwCleaner		File folder	2023-08-05 1:07 PM
Aiseesoft Temp		File folder	2025-03-11 6:51 AM
AMD		File folder	2023-12-12 2:56 AM
Apps		File folder	2021-12-07 3:43 AM
boot		File folder	2024-03-06 7:12 PM
Brother		File folder	2023-04-24 2:15 PM
Config.Msi		File folder	2025-03-26 8:55 AM
dell		File folder	2022-01-17 8:53 AM
Documents and Settings		File folder	2022-01-04 4:49 PM
Drivers		File folder	2021-12-07 3:31 AM
e-logo		File folder	2021-12-07 3:12 AM
ESD		File folder	2025-02-07 5:57 PM
HP_LaserJet_Pro_MFP_M127-M128		File folder	2024-10-08 7:27 AM
PerfLogs		File folder	2024-04-01 3:26 AM
PortQryV2		File folder	2023-10-03 7:54 AM
Program Files		File folder	2025-03-17 9:49 AM
Program Files (x86)		File folder	2025-03-23 12:21 PM
ProgramData		File folder	2025-03-23 3:40 PM
Recovery		File folder	2025-01-15 2:24 AM
restore		File folder	2024-01-18 1:11 PM
Scripts		File folder	2023-09-23 1:54 PM
System Repair		File folder	2023-10-10 6:59 PM
System Volume Information		File folder	2025-03-27 9:28 AM
Users		File folder	2025-03-24 12:52 PM
Windows		File folder	2025-03-27 10:52 AM

Share

Fraud Watch Reminder

- News outlets continue to report individuals being defrauded of tens of thousands and even hundreds of thousands of dollars
- Clearly the individuals involved don't attend our Q&A sessions nor read our Fraud Watch page!
- Two E-mail messages were received this week that sure look like scams
- What do you think...?





Facebook/ Meta

- A friend received messages, one from Facebook and one from Meta Business
- These related to her FB personal account, not a business page/account
- They said:
 - my ads had not met community standards
 - my business would not be able to place any more ads
 - my account had been disabled
 - I had 180 days to appeal or it would be permanently closed

- I suggested creating a Gmail account and a new FB account
- She did and it worked for a week
- Then, she received the same message from FB and Meta Business
- I cannot see it being the Wi-Fi as her husband has a FB account and it's not affected
- Any suggestions appreciated

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- I cannot see it being the Wi-Fi as her husband has a FB account and it's not affected
- Any suggestions appreciated

So, What do you think?

A

Highly Suspect

- It seems suspicious that the account is personal but the messages purport to relate to business activity
- Is your friend sure that the E-mails are actually from FB and Meta and not some type of scam?
- Was the personal account actually disabled?
- Did the messages include links supposedly to FB/Meta sources?
- Were the links actually pointing to legitimate sources?

- Note that I do not use FB
- I am merely suggesting that this could be a classic phishing scam

e.g. https://opcug.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/RecentScams_01.pdf

From: Rogers <pccallaghan4207@fastservice.com> 
Date: May 1, 2020 at 12:38:19 PM EDT
Subject: Important Message from Rogers



Dear User, 
Your email has reached the storage limit for your incoming messages.
Please verify the following link to your e-mail storage upgraded access.
You will be blocked from sending and receiving emails if not confirmed within 12 hrs of receiving this automated mail.

[UPGRADE NOW](#) 
Sincerely,

Rogers | member services

[Privacy](#) | Copyright © Rogers Yahoo Canada, 2020. All rights reserved



PayPal

- I received an email from Margaret Beck who had a Gmail address with numbers in it
- I do not know her.
- It contained a PDF attachment claiming to be a bill from PayPal dated 2025_27
- I do not usually use PayPal
- Should I just delete this email?
- I am afraid to open the attachment lest it contains malware



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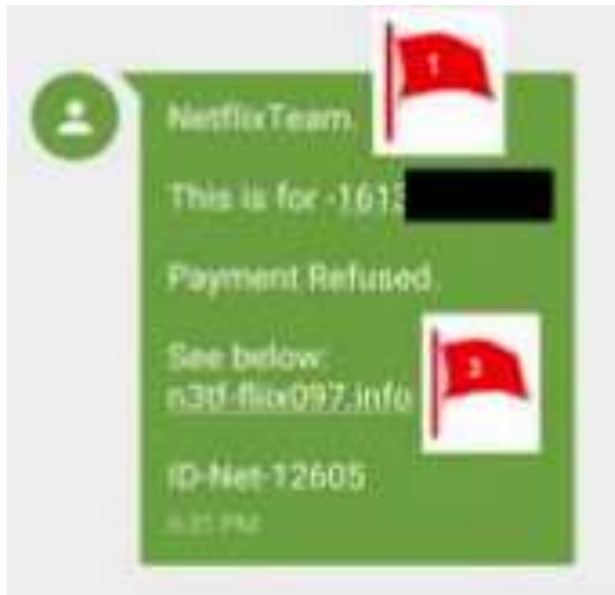
So, What do you think?

A

It's a scam!

- You can always check your PayPal account directly
- From what you say, the E-mail sounds like it's a scam
- The PDF file will be malware
- Just delete the message.

- I sometimes get such spurious invoices, often from "companies" that I don't deal with
- Any such messages should be treated as highly suspicious
- There are usually lots of "red flags"
- See the examples on OPCUG's Fraud Watch page at: <https://opcug.ca/fraud-watch/>



Red Flags - Why is this a scam?



The recipient does not have a Netflix account so "Payment Refused" on this supposed account is the first clue!



The telephone number has no listing in a reverse lookup on 411.ca and so is unlikely to belong to a legitimate business.



The link to the .info domain is unlikely to belong to Netflix that normally uses netflix.com

It can happen...

Creator of HaveIBeenPwned Data Breach Site Falls for Phishing Email

A hacker has managed to phish Troy Hunt, the creator of HaveIBeenPwned.com, tricking the security expert into clicking a malicious email while he was jetlagged.

The breach affects people who subscribed to Hunt's personal blog, rather than HaveIBeenPwned...



<https://www.pcmag.com/news/creator-of-haveibeenpwned-data-breach-site-falls-for-phishing-email>



The case of the missing endnotes

- When I send a word document from one computer to another person (e.g. from a laptop to a desktop), the endnotes do not show!
- Why is this?
- Is there a way to ensure that the endnotes stay intact?



Kabahenda Kiggundu



**Any other:
Questions
Comments
Shares?**





OPCUG PRESENTATIONS AT THE OTTAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Quick Tips: How to use free AI tools in our Daily Life

Chris Taylor

Carlingwood, Monday, Apr 7, 2025 at 6:00pm

Sorry this event and its waiting list are full

Windows Performance Tune-up

Chris Taylor

Manotick, Thursday Apr 10, 2025 at 6:00pm

<https://bibliottawalibrary.ca/en/program?text=pc+users>

Easter Eggs?

- On Wednesday, April 23rd, we will be holding a special hybrid Q&A session both online and in-person at the Emerald Plaza branch of the Ottawa Public Library (1547 Merivale Road)
- As this date is close to Easter, one of the topics we would like to include is that of (software) Easter Eggs
- Which Easter Eggs* do you know about?
- Send details to SuggestionBox@opcug.ca and we will include your contributions in the Easter Basket!

** Preferably current items that can be initiated in installed packages (examples would be great!)*



April Meeting



CIRA, the phonebook of the internet (for .CA)

Arfi Hagi-Yusuf

Canadian Internet Registration
Authority (CIRA)

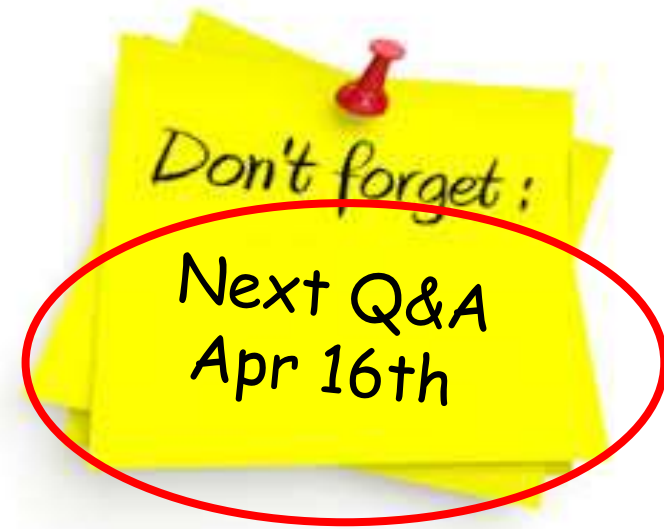
April 9, 2025

7:30 pm





No Q&A on
April 9
(Monthly Meeting)



**Send your questions,
answers, and topics
you wish to share to:**

SuggestionBox@opcug.ca