Feds Begin Consultations on Generative AI Code of Conduct

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The federal government has started work on a voluntary code of conduct for generative artificial intelligence (AI) technology like ChatGPT, to provide guidelines to companies developing AI systems.

“Recent advances in AI technology have reaffirmed the urgency of regulating AI, particularly generative AI systems,” a spokesperson for Innovation Minister François-Philippe Champagne told The Epoch Times in an email.

“The Government of Canada is discussing the development of a voluntary code of practice on generative AI that would provide guidelines to Canadian companies developing and using AI systems, between now and when formal regulation takes effect.”

The spokesperson said the government has launched a stakeholder round table consultation to hear from Canada’s Advisory Council on Artificial Intelligence, as well as representatives from academia, civil society, AI research institutes, and those in the industry.

The consultation was confirmed on Aug. 15 after the government posted it on its “Consulting with Canadians” website, but made no other announcement on the subject. University of Ottawa professor Michael Geist spotted the consultation, accidentally posted, and mentioned it on social media on Aug. 11.

Ottawa’s announcement comes just five days after the U.S. Department of Defense established a task force to analyze and integrate generative AI tools across the department.

On May 16, CEO of OpenAI Sam Altman testified in front of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, where he appealed to lawmakers to regulate AI. He warned that within 10 years, AI could be more powerful than any “other technologies humanity has had to contend with.”

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