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## Interview with Bernard Courtois - President & CEO of ITAC

This is the next blog in the [continuing series](#) of interviews with top-echelon and renowned professionals. In this blog, I interview [Bernard Courtois](#), President & CEO of the [Information Technology Association of Canada \(ITAC\)](#). Bernard has a long history of innovation and business/technology leadership and his insights are of particular value to IT professionals and managers.

Enjoy!

Stephen Ibaraki, [FCIPS, I.S.P., MVP](#)

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### About Bernard Courtois



As the president and CEO of ITAC, the Information Technology Association of Canada, Bernard Courtois is an outspoken advocate for the deployment of information and communications technology tools to improve business productivity and to achieve our societal and public policy goals.

Mr. Courtois was named ITAC's leader in January 2004. He is a lawyer with over 30 years experience in the telecommunications sector. He served in a variety of executive roles with Bell Canada from 1991 to 2003, including those of Chief Regulatory Officer and Chief Strategy Officer. Prior to joining Bell Canada, Mr. Courtois practiced law in Montreal and Ottawa serving a wide range of clients in telecommunications and other regulated industries. He was an active participant in the many regulatory, public policy and judicial proceedings which have shaped Canada's competitive communications marketplace. He was Chief Strategy Officer when Bell Canada took its strong turn to the Internet, ahead of most of its peers around the world.

Mr. Courtois is also a dedicated and energetic builder of business communities. He has served on the ITAC Board of Directors since 1999. He has also served on the executive of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce; was president of the International Institute of Communications; and is director and treasurer of the National Gallery of Canada Foundation.

Mr. Courtois is a graduate of l'Université de Montréal. He is a member of the bar in Ontario and Quebec. He lives in Ottawa.

The Information Technology Association of Canada (ITAC) is the voice of the Canadian information and communications technologies (ICT) industry in all sectors including telecommunications and Internet services, ICT consulting services, hardware, microelectronics, software and electronic content. ITAC's network of companies accounts for more than 70 per cent of the 579,000 jobs, \$137.6 billion in revenue, \$5.2 billion in R&D investment, \$22.6 billion in exports and \$11.5 billion in capital expenditures that the industry contributes annually to the Canadian economy (<http://www.itac.ca/AboutITAC/AboutITAC-Main.htm>).

**Posted:** Tuesday, February 05, 2008 8:00 AM by [cdnitmgr](#)

**Filed under:** [Stephen Ibaraki](#), [Interviews](#), [Podcasts](#)

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## Comments

**Terry said:**

**How about wide forums hosted by ITAC on all the issues?**

# February 5, 2008 11:57 AM

**Bernard Coutois - President & CEO of ITAC said:**

**Thank you for your comment.**

**ITAC deals with these major issues on an ongoing basis. That includes forums for our stakeholders to discuss them. We run multiple events, forums and committees on key issues in the ICT sector.**

**Our Executive Forum on Microelectronics, for example, explores the ways in which this unique sector continues to evolve. Our Public Sector Business Committee is an example of senior business leaders from competing industries coming together with the shared goal of improving the process of working with the Government of Canada. We sponsor research and hold events on skills issues.**

**The events are open to all ITAC members and are attended by a wide-variety of representatives from small businesses, large multinational corporations, Federal and Provincial Government and others.**

# February 8, 2008 10:28 AM

**Stephen Ibaraki said:**

**Thank you Terry for your question and to Bernard for the response. It's good to see these outreach programs to drive solutions and opportunities.**

**Best regards,**

**Stephen**

# February 13, 2008 12:49 PM

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