Munk School and ITS Webinar

The Algorithmic State: Sovereignty, Safety, and the Governance of Public Sector AI

From pilots to state capacity: procurement, trust, and control in the age of frontier models

🗓️ Date: June 18, 2026
🕘 Time: 9:30–10:30 AM ET
📍 Format: 60-minute live webinar
🎓 Hosted by: International Telecommunications Society, Munk School, and TELUS

What happens when the operating system of government begins to change?

In the decade ahead, the states that use AI well may not only move faster; they may out-govern, out-administer, and out-compete those that do not. The real question is no longer whether governments will use AI, but whether public institutions can build the capacity to govern, procure, and deploy these systems on terms that serve the public interest.

As frontier AI moves closer to the core of defense, health, education, regulation, and democratic administration, this becomes more than a technology story. It becomes a question of state capacity, sovereignty, and public trust: who sets the terms, who bears the risk, and whether democratic institutions can modernize without losing control of the systems they increasingly rely on.

This ITS webinar brings together **Dean Ball** and **Shu Yang Lin**, two globally respected leaders in public-sector AI, to examine what serious adoption actually requires: smarter procurement, clearer accountability, stronger safeguards, deeper internal capacity, and a more practical understanding of sovereignty in a world of globally developed AI systems. The discussion will be moderated by **Jaxson Khan**, CEO of Aperture AI and Senior Fellow at the Munk School, whose work sits at the intersection of AI adoption, institutional readiness, and public-sector transformation.

Together, they will explore how governments can move from scattered use cases to whole-of-government capability without losing legitimacy, resilience, or democratic control: What will separate governments that merely experiment with AI from those that genuinely build capacity with it? How should democratic states procure and govern systems they may not fully build, own, or control? And what must public institutions do now to ensure that AI strengthens state capability, rather than quietly hollowing it out?

👥 Speakers

Dean Ball, Senior Fellow, Foundation for American Innovation
Shu Yang Lin, Head of Design, CrownShy
Jaxson Khan (moderator), CEO of Aperture AI & Senior Fellow, Munk School (Moderator)

📋 **Structure**

- 15-minute presentation x 2
- 10-minute speaker discussion
- 20-minute moderated Q&A

Topics We'll Explore

- What separates isolated AI experiments from genuine whole-of-government capability
- Procurement, talent, and operating models for serious public-sector adoption
- How governments can manage privacy, bias, explainability, and accountability in high-stakes settings
- Lessons from the U.S., Singapore, and OECD thinking on public-sector AI
- How to measure success: state capacity, service delivery, trust, and strategic autonomy

🔗 Free registration: **Webinar Registration Link**

📩 Submit questions in advance to: **joe.rowsell@telus.com**

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