

Liberal government tables legislation to force online giants to compensate news outlets | CBC News

By John Paul Tasker

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The federal Liberal government introduced legislation Tuesday to force digital giants to compensate news publishers for the use of their content.

The new regulatory regime would require companies like Google and the Meta Platforms-owned Facebook — and other major online platforms that reproduce or facilitate access to news content — to either pay up or go through a binding arbitration process led by an arms-length regulator, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC).

The compensation extracted from these digital giants must be used, in large part, to fund the creation of news content to protect the “sustainability of the Canadian news ecosystem,” according to a government backgrounder distributed to reporters.

The government is pitching the arrangement as a way to prop up an industry that has seen a steady decline since the emergence of the internet.

[...]

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