Me2B ALLIANCE | **Newsletter** Where Technology and Humanity Meet

December 2021 | Issue 5

Dear friends,

We blinked and find ourselves in December, winding down a very productive 2021 and planning for 2022. What an incredible year it has been! Here are a few amazing highlights:

- Published our first official recommendation and K12 EdTech research which had over 25 media mentions

- Received $100K grant from the Internet Society Foundation to produce the US K12 School Utility Apps benchmark in 2022

- Rolled out the Me2BA Flash Guides and Spotlight Reports

- Approaching the publication of our first ratified safety specification for websites

And the list of accomplishments is much longer. I'm deeply grateful for the excellence and dedication of the outstanding Me2BA team and members.

I often use the Tuckman model to map organizational progress and it's gratifying to recognize that we are moving toward "Norming" territory. I can't wait to see what we will accomplish in 2022!

Thank you to everyone who supported us on Giving Tuesday. There is still time to support our work with a year-end tax-deductible donation!

Wishing you all a joyful and restorative wind-down to 2021, in preparation

for an exciting 2022.

Lisa LeVasseur, Executive Director

Me2BA News

Here's what the Me2B Alliance has been up to recently.

- Identified a serious security risk in 150+ Apple apps and communicated with Apple to keep the apps safe for potentially millions of users. Read More

- Launched our awareness campaign "It's 10 o'clock. Do you know where your data is?" Learn More

- Published in-depth research on public opinion of location tracking. See Spotlight Report #3

- Featured on Doc Searls' show FLOSS Weekly to discuss new approaches to standards development. Watch Video

- Elected our first Me Board Member, Dr. Karina Alexanyan, Founder/CEO at Humanication.

- Completed our first Annual Meeting featuring talks by Brian O'Kelley and Arlene Harris, membership updates, and training on the Me2B Safe Website Spec for Respectful Technology.

Working Group Updates

Here are the latest updates from the Me2B Working Groups. If you

want to get involved with a Working Group, you can become a member [here](#).

Respectful Tech Specification WG

Creating the specification for Respectful Technology.

Co-Chairs: Lisa LeVasseur & Mary Hodder

- 1st ratified Me2BA recommendation, "[Attributes of Safe & Respectful Me2B Commitments](#)"
- 1st Me2BA specification to be ratified by early January 2022:
  - "Me2B Safe Website Specification for Respectful Technology"

Policy & Legal WG

Support public policy, legal, regulatory, and outreach elements that are involved in the success of the Me2BA mission.

Chair: Richard Whitt & Daniella Doern

- Submitted 14 page [letter](#) with recommendations in response to the California Privacy Protection Agency's invitation for preliminary comments on their proposed rulemaking.

- Joined with other advocacy groups to support two coalition [letters](#) where we urged Facebook/Meta to end all surveillance advertising on adolescents and endorsed Representative Castor's Kids PRIVCY Act.

- Followed up with Governor Newsom on the establishment of statewide data privacy forums.

What We're Reading

If you're looking for a good book, here are some we recommend.

- [Living in Information: Responsible Design for Digital Places](#) by Jorge Arango

- [Future Ethics](#) by Cennydd Bowles

- [Advancing Racial Literacy in Tech](#) by Jessie Daniels, Mutale Nkonde, and Darakhshan Mir, Data & Society Fellows

- [How Do You Live?](#) by Genzaburo Yoshino

Have more questions about our work? Want to know how to support us? Or how to become a working group member? Email us at admin@me2ba.org or look through our [website](#).

Follow us on social and tag us with anything interesting in the #RespectfulTech world!