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NATIVE ADVERTISING: ADS IN DISGUISE AS EDITORIALS

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NATIVE ADVERTISING: ADS IN DISGUISE AS EDITORIALS

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The University of Western Ontario

What is Native Advertising?

- Advertisements formatted to look like editorial news pieces
- AKA advertorials, sponsored content, content marketing



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What is Native Advertising?

@BrandStudio

- Advertisements formatted to look like editorial news pieces
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Over the past three decades, the number of women serving time in American prisons has increased more than eightfold.

Today, some 15,000 are held in federal custody and an additional 100,000 are behind bars in local jails. That sustained growth has researchers, former inmates and prison reform advocates calling for women's facilities that do more than replicate a system designed for men 3

http://paidpost.nytimes.com/netflix/women-inmates-separate-but-not-equal.html

Credibility Assessment

Source & message help readers make credibility judgements about info

- ▶ Wathen & Burkell, 2002; Metzger, 2007
- Newspapers are generally considered credible
 - Reliable sources
 - Information is written well
 - Sites look polished and professional
- Native advertising borrows source credibility from the publisher

Credibility x Deception

Native advertising is:

► A form of **deceptive** or **manipulative** content

- Commonly confused with editorial content
 - Stanford History Education Group (2016); Howe and Teufel (2014)
- More effective when the reader is deceived
 - Schauster, Ferrucci, & Neill (2016); Wu et al., (2016)



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Globaloria_student_at_computer.jpg

State of Native Advertising

- Growing segment of newspaper income
 - Circulation income is steadily declining
 - Native ads are priced as a "premium" product
- Major Canadian newspapers have in-house native advertising studios
 - ► Globe Edge
 - Postmedia Content Works
 - Toronto Star Content Solutions
- Currently no specific laws or regulations produced by the Competition Bureau
 - Canadian Association of Journalists lists requirements for advertorials to be visually distinct from editorial copy ("Policy Paper on Editorial Independence", 2007)

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CAJ's 2007 POLICY PAPER ON EDITORIAL INDEPENDENCE

"Print advertorials should be clearly labeled as advertising copy, horizontally, at the top of the page, in a point size that's significantly larger than the body of the text, in a colour that contrasts with the background colour of the page. Similarly, the design and typeface of the advertorial should be markedly different from editorial content. The advertorial typeface and design should not deliberately mimic that of editorial copy."

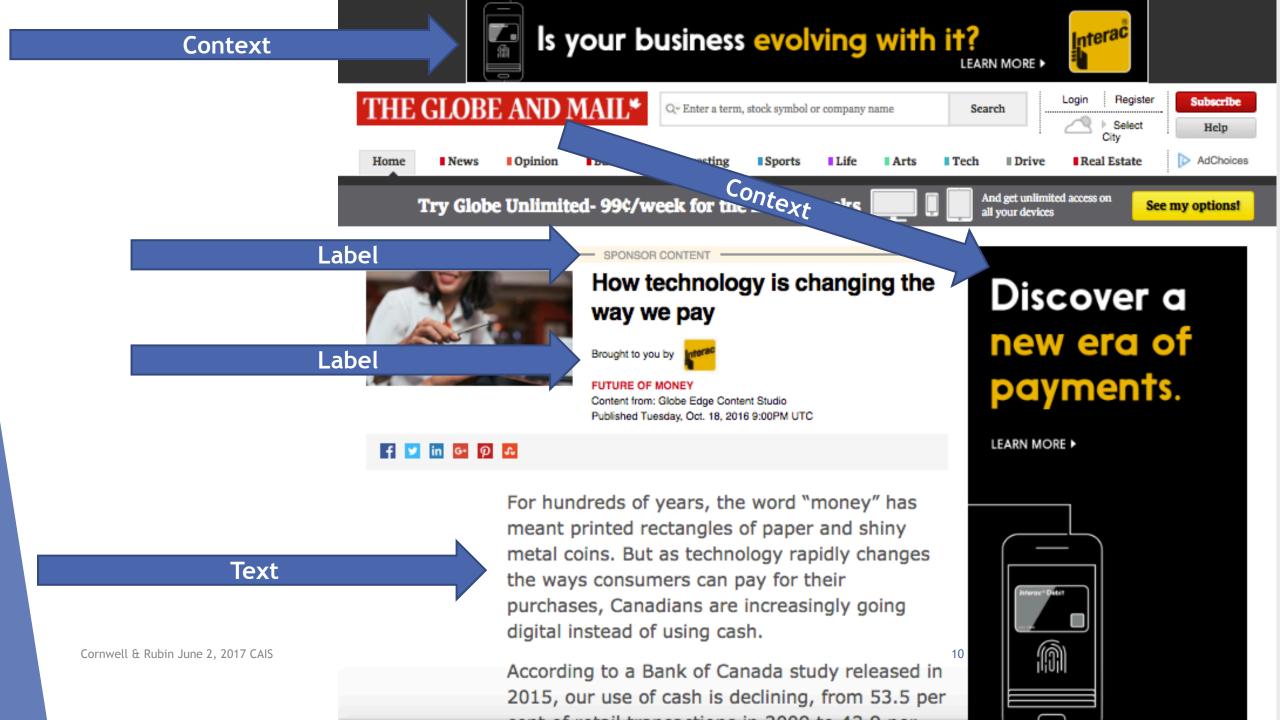
Research Questions

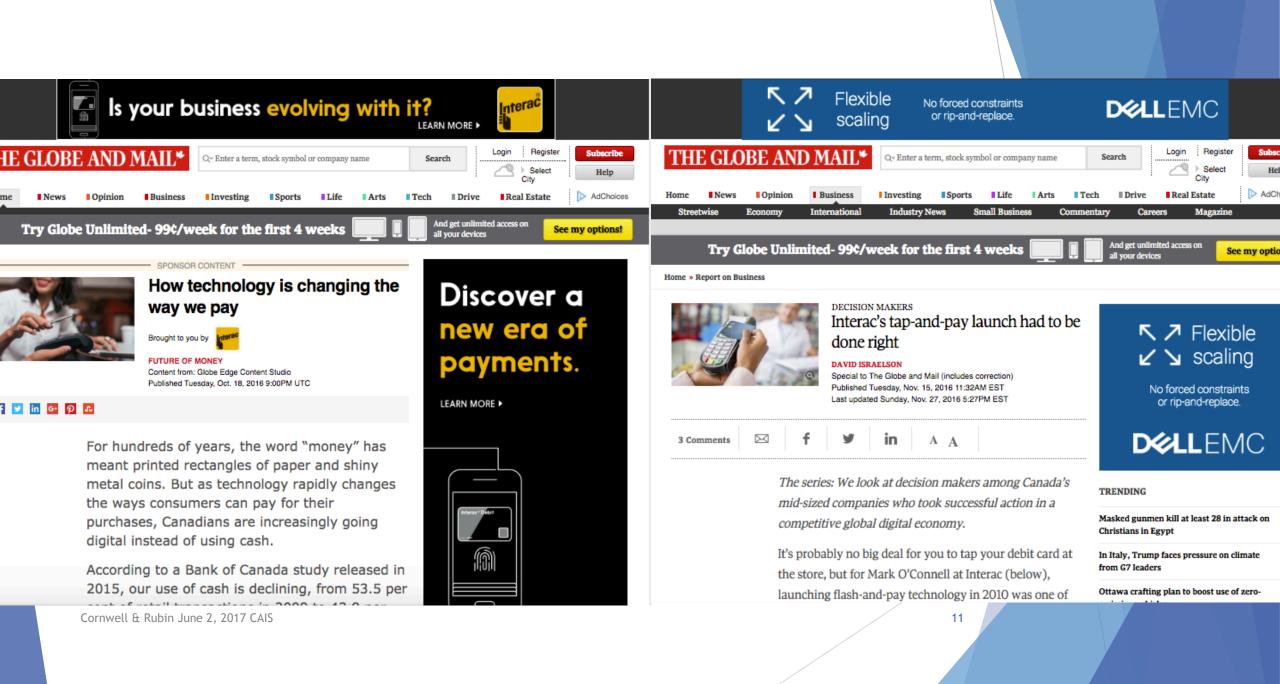
- What are the prominent (linguistic and content-wise) characteristics of native ads produced by Canadian newspapers?
- How standard, predictable, and editorial-like are the formats of native ads?

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Methods

- Content Analysis (Krippendorf, 2004) of native ads in The Toronto Star, The Globe and Mail, The National Post, and The Vancouver Sun
- Ads were matched to editorial content on the same topic
- Topics included housing development, finances, travel, and fashion
- Analysis based on CAJ recommendations
 - labels (location, readability, content)
 - text (affect, mood, content)
 - context (other advertising, hyperlinks)



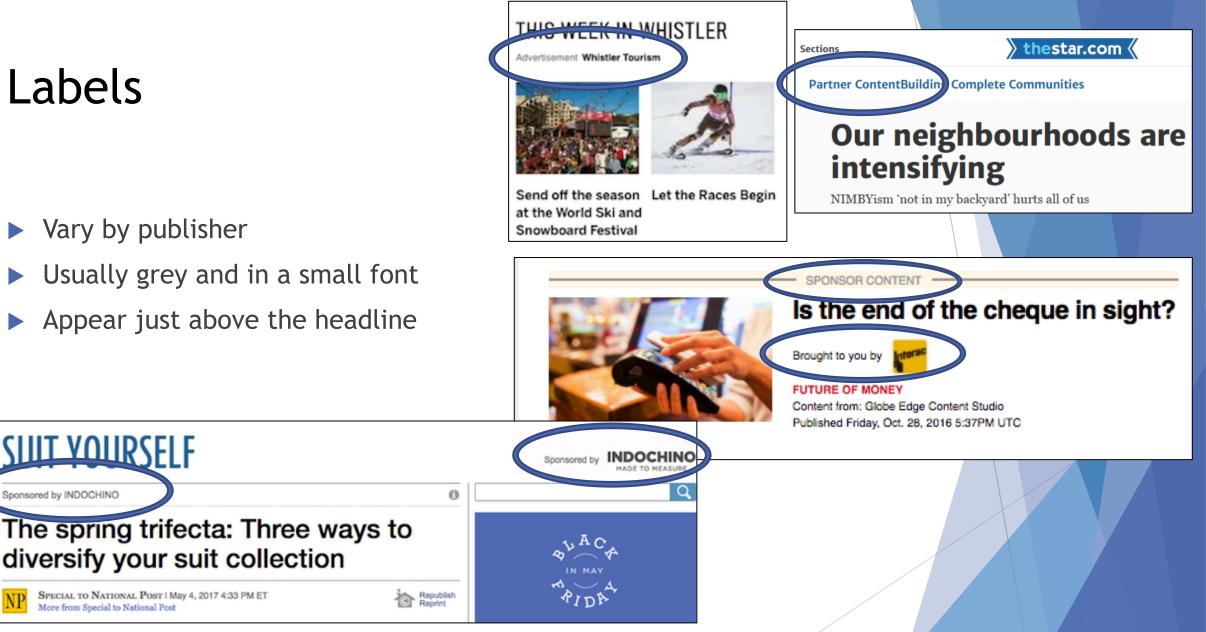


Labels

- Vary by publisher
- Usually grey and in a small font
- Appear just above the headline

diversify your suit collection

SPECIAL TO NATIONAL POST | May 4, 2017 4:33 PM ET



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More from Special to National Post

SUIT YOURSELF

Sponsored by INDOCHINO

Disclaimers

 2 publishers included disclaimers after the article content

> This content was produced by The Globe and Mail's Globe Edge Content Studio, in consultation with an advertiser. The Globe's editorial department was not involved in its creation.

This story was created by Indochino and Content Works, Postmedia's commercial content division.

Trends in Text Content

Positive or neutral emotional valence

- Largely descriptive and factual in tone
 Imperative mood used
 - Links to more advertiser content
- Over 50% include interview segments with company management

card payment," s vs Avinash Chidambaram, vice-president or product and platform development for Inceracy association and Acxsys Corporation,

But this is no time for Indochino to rest on its laurel says Drew Green, CEO.

sa, s Bryan Tuckey, president and CEO of the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BHLD). "Disputes over projects result in delays and increased costs which are

For more tips on how to upgrade your wardrobe this spring, visit an INDOCHINO showroom near you or browse their full collection online.

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	"The TSP takes a customer's sensitive bank account information and replaces it with a token that is essentially meaningless, except to the customer's bank or credit union," Ms. Self explains. Only you and the financial institution you use to pay for your purchase can share the data; the merchants will receive payment, but not your financial information.		
The company introduced Interac TSP (Token Service Provider) this year, a tokenization service that promises to make mobile purchases		Tokenization substitutes a consumer's financial infor secure, unique, randomly generated sequence of num token. This token is meaningless to unauthorized par key on your own mobile device, enabling it to make	

The Interac TSP "tokenizes" a consumer's financial information. substituting the data with a secure, unique, randomly generated sequence of numbers, called a token, that is specific to that individual, their account, their device and their wallet.

more secure. Tokenization works by replacing a

"The consumer is front and centre of this new technology," says Mr. Chidambaram.

customer's financial information with a "token,"

meaningless if acquired by unauthorized parties.

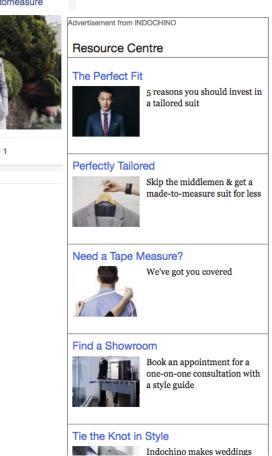
or a set of random numbers that would be

Pieces in a series tend to be

al information with a of numbers, called a zed parties, but it acts as a make digital transactions. Another advantage of the Interac TSP is that the consumer's tokenized financial information is not shared with the merchant, only with the financial institution from which the money is drawn. This reduces the possibility of theft and fraud.

renetitiva





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Q

CUSTOM SUIT

GIVEAWAY

ENTER NOW

INDOCHING MADE TO MEASURE

Style Videos

0:06

0:15

Implications for Credibility Assessment

Advertisers understand how credibility judgements work

- Interviews with authoritative people
- Factual tone
- Professional style
- Unobtrusive labelling

Native ads hurt newspapers' source credibility

Implications for Publishers & Advertisers

Native ads can be ad-blocked, but more deceptive pieces may be less likely to be blocked

Home News Opinion Business Investing Sports Life Arts Tech Drive Real Estate AdChoices Try Globe Unlimited- 99¢/week for the first 4 weeks Add Add access on all your devices Home - Partners - sponsorcontent	THE GLOBE	AND MAIL*	Q• Enter a term,	, stock symbol or compar	ıy name	Search	Login Register	Subscribe
ITY Globe Omininted- 990/week for the first 4 weeks							City Real Estate	AdChoices
	Try Globe	Unlimited- 99¢/w	veek for the	first 4 weeks				my options!

Implications for Publishers & Advertisers

- "Brain drain" from editorial departments
 - "When a freelancer is working on sponsored content, she is not producing journalism" (Enkin, Levine, & Currie, 2015)
- Creation of conflicts of interest
 - "How, for example, can a reporter or team that regularly covers the real estate industry be involved in creating sponsored content for a developer and still be able to cover in a disinterested manner, a developer's application to the province for land use change?" (Enkin, Levine & Currie, 2015)

Toronto real estate: New condo buyers could face big bills at move-in time

Plan to double fees for condo construction in the City of Toronto likely to be downloaded onto buyers.



If Toronto city council goes ahead with a proposal to double condo development charges, those extra costs — some \$7,671 on the average onebedroom unit and \$10,624 on the average two-bedroom — are likely to land right in the laps of unsuspecting buyers, warns an industry lawyer. CARLOS OSORIO/TORONTO STAR

> By SUSAN PIGG Business Reporter Thu., June 27, 2013

> > 2013

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2015

Partner ContentBuilding Complete Communities

Transit considered key to creating 'quality, complete, investment-ready communities'

The Lever Brothers factory site at 21 Don Roadway is being transformed into a 6-million square-foot office-retail hotspot — a development that hinges on a proposed transit plan for the area



(FILE PHOTO / TORONTO STAR) | ORDER THES PHOT

By CONTENT SOLUTIONS Wed., Oct. 21, 2015

Newly built GTA home passes \$1 million average price

Growing demand, limited supply have new build homes averaging \$1 million in the region.



The price of a new detached house in the GTA soared to over \$1.3 million in January, nearly three times what the price was ten years ago. (GRAEME ROY / THE CANADIAN PRESS)



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Consequences & Future Work

- Native advertising in Canada appears very similar to editorial journalism
- Labelling is unobtrusive and non-standard between publishers

Next Steps:

- Increase connection to advertising personnel
- Investigate technological solutions
 - To what extent do different adblockers work on this content?
 - Can we build a tool to recognize unlabelled native advertising?

Thank You!



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Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada



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Faculty of Information & Media Studies

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