

**Research Invitation and Consent**  
**Project Open Source Open Society (OSOS) - Add-ons for Privacy**

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**INVITATION**

You are invited to participate in a study that involves research. The purpose of this study is to better understand the intersections between open source software and privacy advocacy. Karen Smith, the PI of this project is a Mozillian (a Mozilla community member), and the project is also staffed by Elysia Guzik. This research on add-ons is supported by a Mozilla research grant.

**WHAT'S INVOLVED**

As a participant, you may be asked to participate in a one hour interview to respond to questions about add-ons, privacy, open source and advocacy. You should also be aware that the researcher is accessing available materials on privacy add-ons (e.g., blog posts, code repositories, news articles, scholarly work, etc.). Add-ons will be described by name in some components of the research. You can choose an attributed interview, or an alias for any comments made during the interview.

**POTENTIAL BENEFITS AND RISKS**

Participants will be offered a \$20 (USD) or \$25 (CAD) gift card or donation as a thank-you for your participation. Possible benefits of participation include contributing to our understandings of add-ons for privacy. There may be minor risks associated with participation. For example, embarrassment if you do not know a technical term. The risks are not anticipated to be any greater than everyday life.

**RESPECTING YOUR PREFERENCES IN NON-CONFIDENTIAL SETTINGS**

Interviews may take place alone or with a colleague or collaborator. Interviews are expected to take place in person, on the phone, or via web conferencing software. Group and online settings cannot be guaranteed to be confidential by the researcher.

The researcher will respect your preferences in relation to sharing interview results. You can opt-out of being recorded. You can also select an alias for the reporting of interview results.

Recordings and interview transcripts will be stored securely on the researcher's computer and kept for five years after the final publication from the materials. Karen her research assistants or transcriptionists may access the materials for necessary tasks and they will sign third party confidentiality agreements. Materials will be shredded or deleted after 5 years.

### **VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION**

Participation in this study is voluntary and you should not feel pressured to participate. If you wish, you may decline to answer any questions or participate in any component of the study. Further, you may decide to withdraw from this study. Please alert the researcher within two week of your interview for the best opportunity of full withdrawal from the study. The researcher will confidentially destroy *all, or as much data as possible* if you choose to withdraw from the project. Withdrawing may not be possible if the results were already analyzed and shared.

### **PUBLICATION OF RESULTS**

Results of this study may be published in professional journals, books, or presented at conferences. Results may include quotations or things you said, or ideas you shared. Participant preferences regarding the reporting of results using an alias or your real name will be honoured. Participants should be aware that specific add-ons will be named and described in some parts of the research. Feedback about this study will be available via the researcher's website at <http://www.karenlouisessmith.net>. Please also watch Mozilla listservs and channels for information about community presentations and reports or blog posts.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION AND ETHICS CLEARANCE**

If you have any questions about this study or require further information, please contact Dr. Karen Smith using the contact information provided above. This study has been reviewed and received ethics clearance through the Research Ethics Board at Brock University #15-054. If you have any comments or concerns about your rights as a research participant, please contact the Research Ethics Office at (905) 688-5550 Ext. 3035, reb@brocku.ca.

Thank you for your assistance in this project. Please keep a copy of this form for your records.

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## OPEN SOURCE OPEN SOCIETY CONSENT FORM

Thanks for your interest in participating in this project. Please let us know how you would like to participate.

Do you agree to be interviewed and understand that you can skip any questions, take a break, or end the conversation?

Yes [  ] No [  ]

Do you agree to audio recording of an interview?

Yes [  ] No [  ]

Do you understand that available materials about specific privacy add-ons (e.g., webpages, blog posts, code repositories, academic papers, etc.) may be quoted and named as part of this research? You may wish to keep your interview comments general. Alternatively, you may choose to be specific in your comments and be attributed for your contributions.

Yes [  ]

Would you like to be attributed or have an alias used in the reporting of the interview results?

Attributed [  ] Alias [  ]

Imagine there is a person named Karen Smith who is the developer of the *Memory Password Manager* add-on.

- Attributed interview: Karen Smith, Developer, *Memory Password Manager*
- Sample interview alias: Susan\*, Developer of a privacy add-on

Preferred way to report interview ideas or quotes in project results:

Would you like a \$20 (USD) or \$25 (CAD) electronic gift or donation as a thank you for your participation? Please choose *one* of the following:

Yes a gift card to Amazon.com (for USA-based individuals) [  ]

Yes a gift card to Amazon.ca (for Canadian-based individuals) [  ]

Yes please make a donation to (specify organization) [  ]

Do you agree to the researcher following up with you by email to share results, invite you to participate further or ask clarification questions?

Yes [  ] No [  ]

I agree to participate in this study described above. I have made this decision based on the information I have read in the Information-Consent Letter. I have had the opportunity to receive any additional details I wanted about the study and understand that I may ask questions in the future.

Name (please print)

Signature

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Date:

Email (please print)

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