

# Information Values, Sharing, and Cultural Memory: Interactions with ICT Use in an Online Immigrant Community

Adam Worrall and Alyssa Hyduk, University of Alberta



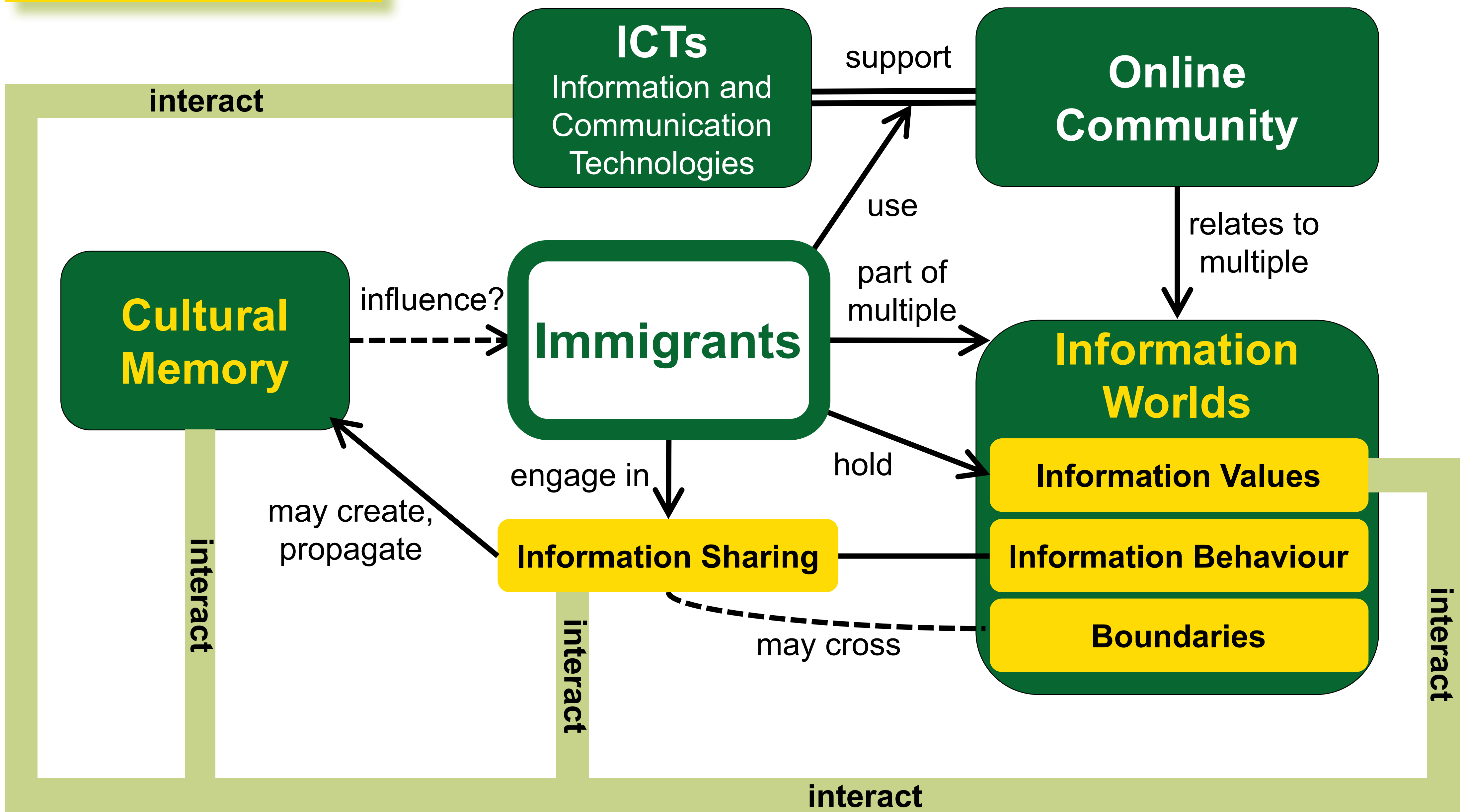
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How do the **information and communication technologies (ICTs)** used by **immigrant and expatriate** members of **Twitter** interact with (a) the **information values** of community members, (b) the information those members **share and exchange within and across** community **boundaries**, and (c) the **cultural memory** established by their communities?

## Purpose

- **Information-centric online communities** are popular sources for **seeking, sharing** information
- Greater information sharing is encouraged when users **share similar information value judgments**
- Information sharing is particularly important for **new immigrants** to and **expatriates** in a country
  - Rely on **social ties** and **online communities** to find **informational and social support**
  - Bring **existing cultural memories**, may create **new** ones during sharing of information with others
- Little research has examined, **within & across** online community **boundaries**, immigrants and expatriates'
  - **negotiation** of **information values**
  - creation and invocation of **cultural memory**
  - **information sharing** and **use of ICTs** in this

## Framework



## Initial Findings

### Valued and Shared

- **Canadian culture**, connections (or lack thereof; incl. articles, jokes)
- **Experiences** of expats (self-authored, interviews)
- **Moving to Canada** (opinions and facts; political elements)
- Scenic **photos** of Canada

### Boundaries

- **Physical**: countries, provinces
- **Languages**: English (dialects), French, German, etc.
- **Communities**: geographic, political, media-based, expatriate

### Cultural Memory

- **Experiences** of new immigrants
- Attending **events** (e.g. concerts)
- **Life events** (e.g. births)
- **Supportiveness** of Canadians
- **Homesickness**
- Becoming **permanent residents**

## Research Design

