

We, the **Members of Joint Councils** hereby declare a shared intent among the federal, provincial and territorial municipal governments to pursue the establishment of a federation of trustworthy digital identities for all Canadians.

The **Clerks and Cabinet Secretaries have previously stated** that to “... achieve meaningful and lasting results for the people we serve, governments need to work in new and inventive ways with a greater focus on what works and what doesn’t. Innovation can do more than just drive strong economic growth. It has the potential to solve the big challenges that we face as Canadians”. The establishment of trusted digital identities is the foundation required for us to jointly accomplish the goal of delivering real results to Canadians.

We recognize that there is currently no simple, visible statement of shared intent to enable digital government through the establishment and use of trusted digital identities. This Declaration addresses that gap. Our intent is to clearly demonstrate our commitment to working together and providing the resources required to establish trusted digital identities within our respective jurisdictions to allow Canadians to participate and contribute to digital government and society. In this Pan-Canadian Declaration, each jurisdiction has a shared commitment to:

- Enabling digital society without borders and a modern and innovative government through the establishment, issuance and recognition of trusted digital identities, with no jurisdiction left behind;
- Ensuring individuals and other legal entities are empowered to share their digital identity information, issued by their jurisdiction, as they choose within the limits of the law;
- Confirming that the digital identity information, which is issued by jurisdictions will be interoperable, verifiable and respectful of privacy according to the established Pan-Canadian frameworks and standards for digital identity and authentication.

We, **Members of Joint Councils** are addressing common areas of concern related to digital identity and government. We recognize that our respective jurisdictions are at various stages of readiness, but are striving to build a society that reflects the Joint Councils Logic Model through acceleration of the Digital Identity Roadmap’s five streams. Our emphatic support of digital identity stems from our belief that it is the key to the service outcomes that Canadians expect and need.

We are motivated to accelerate the work towards achieving our shared objectives. We will test and champion the changes to legislation, policies and practices that are required to realize improved digital identity within Canada. Rapid innovation is now the norm in the scientific, business and social sectors. Embracing this innovation is no less important in the public sector and is crucial to transforming government services and building inclusive, sustainable communities.

Sincerely,

The **Members of Joint Councils**