

# **FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT) POLICY WORKING GROUP**

## **September 2016 Update to PSCIOC**

### Background

The national working group on Information and Communications Technology (ICT) policy was established as a sub-committee of the Public Sector Chief Information Officer Committee (PSCIOC) in 2014.

Initially, five jurisdictions (British Columbia, Northwest Territories, Manitoba, Ontario, and Newfoundland & Labrador) began meeting on a bi-monthly basis in 2014, by teleconference. Susan Martin (Northwest Territories) chaired the ICT policy working group in 2014 and 2015; she was, and still is, instrumental in developing the group.

### Membership

Through a gradual recruitment process from 2014 onward, our membership has grown to include representatives from 9 provinces, 3 territories and the federal government.

The current ICT policy working group membership includes:

1. Ontario (Chair)
2. British Columbia
3. Canada (Federal government/Treasury Board)
4. Manitoba
5. New Brunswick
6. Newfoundland & Labrador
7. Northwest Territories
8. Nova Scotia
9. Nunavut (joined June 2016)
10. Prince Edward Island
11. Quebec
12. Saskatchewan (joined July 2015)
13. Yukon

Appendix A – Membership List

## ICT Policy Working Group Objectives

- To share information, best practices, research and discuss national, provincial and territorial goals, positions and priorities for ICT policy in each jurisdiction and to test their interoperability;
- To maintain the highest standards of policy analysis;
- To provide a forum for discussion to improve ICT policy and management by fostering innovation in research, analysis and education;
- To create an approach to ICT policy that builds on the existing strengths of member governments - to increase their capacity to take advantage of opportunities and respond effectively to the challenges of new technologies; and
- To assist the PSCIOC membership with addressing any common policy issues.

The ICT policy working group is of the understanding that active collaboration between members will enable the development of policy instruments that will be informed by, and when possible, aligned to the work of our colleagues across the country. In turn, this should result in more opportunities to share approaches or even federate services to promote a more pan-Canadian approach to policy development and delivery.

In addition, through active collaboration, members also enjoy having an extended network of policy contacts across the country with whom they can informally connect to discuss challenges and approaches.

## Meeting Frequency

The ICT policy working group meets monthly by teleconference.

## Past Highlights

- Initiated the development of an ongoing master list of various policy instruments contributed by some jurisdictions (including policies, directives, standards and guidelines); and
- Established an ICT national policy working group folder on the “Public Service Without Borders” website where member jurisdictions post/share approved policy instruments, as well as work-in-progress (this gives us access to policy materials from other jurisdictions that may be useful but are not always published/available on the Internet).

## Update September 2016

- Early in the year, a survey was broadcasted to all members to determine the working group’s collective priorities as they relate to ICT policy for the 2016/17 fiscal year, and to inform our upcoming teleconference meeting agendas and topics for discussion.

- From the results of the survey, the following priority/topic areas were presented to the ICT policy working group for consideration:
  - Cloud/SaaS
  - ITIL/Cobit
  - Identity Management
  - Information Management
  - Data Collection, Use/Privacy
  - Service Management
  - Lean Government/Agility
  - Open Data/Open Governments
  - Digital – Policy Enablers
- To address the above discussion items, the ICT policy working group decided to dedicate the first half or longer of the monthly teleconference meetings to host guest presentations on these topic areas, with emphasis if there is a present or future ICT policy implication for our membership to consider.
- To date, we have hosted the following presentations:
  - Information Management – BC Experience (Colleen Rice)
  - ITIL Overview – Nova Scotia (Richard Smith)
- Following the guest presentations, the last portion of our monthly meeting is set aside to share information and receive updates from member jurisdictions, to address any specific ICT policy issues and challenges that members may have come across, and to provide a forum for general ICT policy discussion (such as policy frameworks; the range and hierarchy of policy instruments implemented; planned policy priorities, etc.,) and to continue to explore together shared priorities such as cloud technology adoption and digital government.
- Recently, in an interview with Systemscope (the vendor retained by PSCIOC/PSSDC to review the various sub-committees and working groups), the ICT policy working group expressed an interest in having access to a common, web-based information sharing repository. The ICT policy working group currently uses a “Public Service Without Borders” website; our membership find that website unstable and not very user-friendly and it doesn’t offer exposure to the work of the other sub-committees either.
- The ICT policy national working group continues to collaborate with the PSCIOC cloud working group following their invitation in November 2015 to attend their meetings. This collaboration provides us the opportunity to be informed about the ICT policy implications of their cloud efforts.

## **Appendix A**

### **Federal Provincial Territorial Information Communication Technology (FPT ICT) Policy Working Group**

#### **Membership List – as of August 2016**

##### **Northwest Territories**

Susan Martin

##### **Ontario**

Charlotte Ward (2016 Chair)

Tim Dafoe

##### **Yukon**

Oliver Jones

##### **British Columbia**

Colleen Rice

##### **Manitoba**

Bill Markiw (2016 Vice Chair)

Patrick Hoyer (NCISP rep)

##### **Saskatchewan**

Vinay Chandramohan

##### **Quebec**

Mathieu Tremblay

Diane Giroux

##### **New Brunswick**

Keith Douglass

##### **Nova Scotia**

Glenn Bishop

##### **Prince Edward Island**

Randy Francis

##### **Newfoundland**

Craig Harding

##### **Nunavut**

Roy Egbuna

(Ted Hickey – possible alternate)

##### **Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat**

Catherine Drossler