

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

February 2016 Update to PSCIOC

As of January 2016, the national working group on ICT policy membership includes representatives from:

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

The ICT policy working group was established in 2014 with participants from only 5 jurisdictions (British Columbia, Northwest Territories, Manitoba, Ontario, and Newfoundland & Labrador). We have now grown to include representatives from nine provinces and two territories (see above - only Alberta and Nunavut are not yet represented) and the federal government.

During our first year, time was spent working out how we would operate so that all participants could draw the maximum value from their efforts (frequency and nature of interaction, voting or decision protocols, information sharing protocols and possible technologies). In addition, considerable amount of time was devoted to developing our Terms of Reference, which were subsequently approved by the PSCIOC at their last annual meeting.

The ICT policy working group meets monthly by teleconference, and during these calls, we discuss a range of topics that are of mutual interest, including: our respective policy frameworks (which helps us map all our different policy instruments and their related levels of authority); the range and hierarchy of policy instruments we have implemented; and our planned policy priorities (including some shared priorities that we will continue to explore together, like cloud technology adoption and digital government).

During our first year, we developed a master list of the various policy instruments that each jurisdiction has in place (including policies, directives, standards and guidelines), and established an ICT national working group section on the “Public Service Without Borders” website¹ where we post/share approved documents 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 on the Internet). We believe that active collaboration between members will enable us to develop 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.

Currently in our second year, we broadcasted a survey to determine the working group’s collective priorities as they relate to ICT policy for the coming 2016/17 fiscal year, and to inform our upcoming teleconference meeting agendas and topics for discussion. We are now in the process of collecting the survey results which will help us in setting our direction in 2016. In addition, our ICT policy national working group has been collaborating with the PSCIOC cloud working group since October 2015 following their invitation to attend some of their meetings. This collaboration provides us the opportunity to be informed about the ICT policy implications of their cloud efforts. We are continuing this collaboration in 2016.

¹ Hosted in Canada on an OpenText platform.

Federal Provincial Territorial Information Communication Technology (FPT ICT) Policy Working Group
January 2016 Membership List

Northwest Territories

Susan Martin

Ontario

Charlotte Ward (2016 Chair)

Tim Dafoe

Yukon

Oliver Jones

British Columbia

Colleen Rice

Charmaine Lowe

Manitoba

Bill Markiw (2016 Vice Chair)

Patrick Hoyer (NCISP rep)

Saskatchewan

Chad Vickers

Quebec

Mathieu Tremblay

Diane Giroux

New Brunswick

Keith Douglass

Nova Scotia

Glenn Bishop

Prince Edward Island

Randy Francis

Newfoundland

Craig Harding

Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat

Catherine Drossler

Karyn Harrison

Jennifer Pacquet