

# **FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT) POLICY COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE**

## **September 2020 Update to PSCIOC**

### Background

The FPT ICT Policy Community of Practice was established at the direction of the Public Sector Chief Information Officer's Council (PSCIOC) representing all federal, provincial and territorial governments. This forum enables participating governments to exchange information, policies, and best practices related to ICT Policy. In February the PSCIOC approved transiting the Policy group to a Community of Practice from its initial Working Group status (2014)

The ICT policy community of practice operates on the belief that active collaboration among all 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.

### Membership

Through a gradual recruitment process from 2014 onward, our membership had grown to include representatives from eight provinces, two territories, and the federal government.

The current ICT policy community of practice membership includes representation from the following jurisdictions:

1. Canada (Federal government / Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat)
2. British Columbia (co-chair)
3. Saskatchewan
4. Manitoba
5. Ontario
6. New Brunswick (co-chair)
7. Prince Edward Island
8. Nova Scotia
9. Newfoundland & Labrador
10. Northwest Territories

11. Nunavut
12. City of Edmonton

### ICT Policy Community of Practice Objectives

- To share information, best practices, research, and to 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.

### Meeting Frequency

The ICT policy working group meets bi-monthly by teleconference. During the height of the pandemic the community of practice, meetings were suspended to permit members to concentrate on high priority activities. Meetings are being restarted in September.

### Highlights

- Bi-monthly meetings continue to be focused on sharing information and receiving updates from member jurisdictions to address any specific ICT policy issues and challenges that members may have encountered.
- COVID challenges and priorities reduced the frequency of ICT policy CoP interactions.

### **Community Policy Interaction Highlights:**

- Government of British Columbia is initiating work for the development of a policy instrument that guides the use of artificial intelligence (AI) within government. The team is in the discovery phase of their work and would like to learn about how other jurisdictions in Canada are approaching AI from a policy perspective.
- Northwest Territories inquired about a list of approved applications, including how the licensing is managed.
- Government of British Columbia OCIO is mapping out the process for approval of non-enterprise tools, with a focus on Software as a Service (SaaS). We would like to know how other Canadian jurisdictions manage approvals for these tools, including any required assessments (such as privacy, security, risk, procurement, legal, etc.). Where possible, it would be great to have links to guiding policy or other instruments.
- Government of British Columbia Digital Policy Framework revealed a few gaps, including a comprehensive corporate data management policy. We are currently in the

'gathering' phase and are putting together research from a variety of jurisdictions. E.g., web base research by jurisdiction, network reach outs, etc. We would like to know if you have any data management related policies or any research you have conducted recently on the topic.

## Appendix A

### Federal Provincial Territorial Information Communication Technology (FPT ICT) Policy Community of Practice

#### Membership List – as of September 2020

**Alberta**

Tim Dafoe - Alternate

Kellie Majoros

**Prince Edward Island**

Scott Ironmonger

Betty Maclean

**British Columbia**

Melissa MacDonald

Dean Sutton (co-chair)

Tracy Wood

Kathleen Assaf

Meghan van Gaal

**Manitoba****Quebec**

Patrick Hoger

vacant

**New Brunswick****Saskatchewan**

Keith Douglass (co-chair)

Vinay Chandramohan

Ron Allison - Alternate

**Yukon****Newfoundland & Labrador**

Vacant

Susan Wilkins

**Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat****Northwest Territories**

Lindsay Rivard

Susan Martin

**Nova Scotia**

Glenn Bishop

**Nunavut**

Roy Egbuna

**Ontario**

David Langille