



Canada Health Infoway

CA Core+

Working Group Kick Off

Date: January 12, 2026

Welcome!



AGENDA

CA CORE+ WORKING GROUP KICK-OFF



01

WELCOME &
INTRODUCTIONS



02

WORKING GROUP OVERVIEW
& PARTICIPATION



03

CA CORE+ OVERVIEW



04

WHERE WE ARE TODAY



05

QUESTIONS AND
DISCUSSION

Introductions

❖ CA Core+ Team

❖ Presenters



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Working Group Overview and Participation


Working Group Membership


Please ensure you have signed up as a member on InfoCentral and have subscribed to Notifications. This will ensure you receive notifications about upcoming meetings, forum conversations and shared documents.


- Link: [CA Core+ Working Group](#)


How you can participate – Key activities

 Attend WG meetings and participate in the content discussions


 Agenda items will be prepared by the WG chair who will share the agenda in advance of each meeting via the WG forum

 Validate the scope of work for respective specification releases

 Provide guidance/input (e.g., knowledge exchange, lessons learned, etc.) toward the discussion (e.g., use cases, potential change requests to the specifications, etc.)

 If topics arise that cross initiatives (e.g., architectural decisions), the chair will triage item(s) to the supporting SMEs/working group(s)

 Participate in balloting cycle (this includes reviewing the feedback and voting on the decisions)

 Be a champion within your organization to encourage participation in providing feedback into the public review cycle

Cadence for Public Working Group

Topic	Proposal	Notes
Working Group Chair	Ken Sinn	
Working Group Cadence	Bi-Weekly	Before the ballot i.e till Feb end , the focus of the sessions will be CA Core+ overview and informational
Day of the week for meetings	Mondays (1pm- 2pm EST)	As discussed in kick off meeting- this will be moved to Mondays 2pm-3pm EST
Collaboration Approach		
Implementation Guide	Simplifier	
Working Group communication	InfoCentral	
Release Details	InfoScribe	
Content Review Submission	Review Spreadsheet / JIRA	

- * Next Session is planned for Monday, January 26th from 1-2pm EST
- * Future cadence, may change post March depending on needs



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CA Core+ Background

Introduction to CA Core+

<h2>Foundational FHIR Profiles</h2>	<p>The CA Core+ Implementation Guide is a foundational FHIR specification designed to advance healthcare interoperability across Canada by standardizing data exchange while also harmonizing existing pan-Canadian and jurisdictional healthcare specifications.</p>
<h2>Aligned with CIHI's Data Framework</h2>	<p>Built on the Pan-Canadian Health Data Content Framework (PCHDCF) and integrating the Canadian Core Data for Interoperability (CACDI), CA Core+ draft specification translates logical data models into machine-readable FHIR profiles that enable consistent, reusable data structures across healthcare systems and jurisdictions.</p>
<h2>Use-case Agnostic</h2>	<p>CA Core+ serves as use-case agnostic, intended to fit the pan-Canadian context, as the basis for healthcare data exchange within and across PTs.</p>
<h2>Uses HL7 FHIR R4</h2>	<p>It is based on and fully compliant with HL7 FHIR R4, reflecting Canadian terminologies and common jurisdictional needs.</p>

CA Core+ Principles

1

Re-usable

Standard resource profiles for reusability across products and jurisdictions to minimize disruptive changes for vendors and stakeholders

2

Use case Agnostic

Use case agnostic and focuses on common elements required across the Pan-Canadian landscape and jurisdictional specifications.

3

Comprehensive

Bridge across live in production specifications and new requirements (aka serving broader needs)

4

Practical

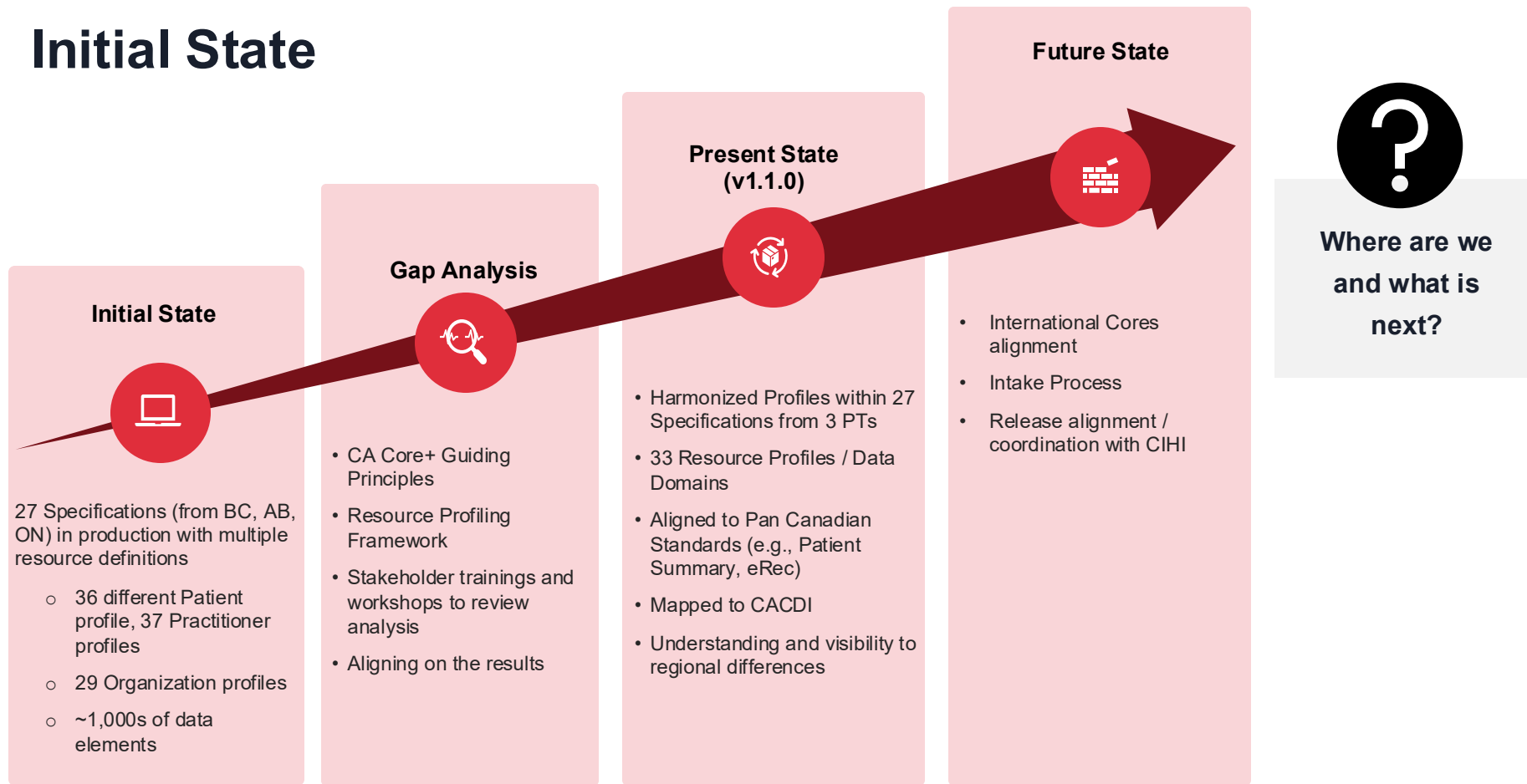
Standard approach for an established base to start from for Pan-Canadian / Jurisdictional specification development and conformance

5

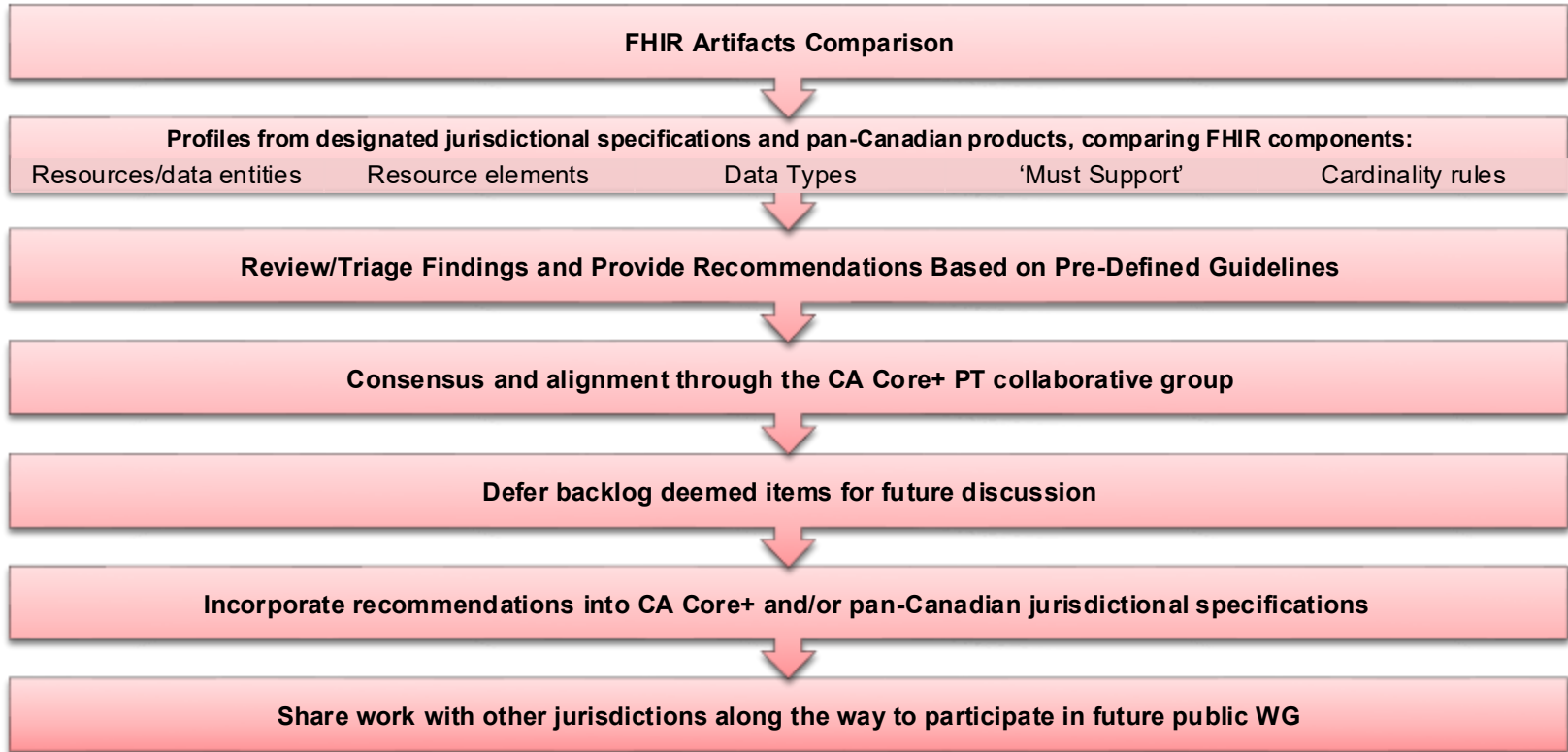
Conformance Testable

Testable and conformable against for vendors operating within the Canadian space

Initial State

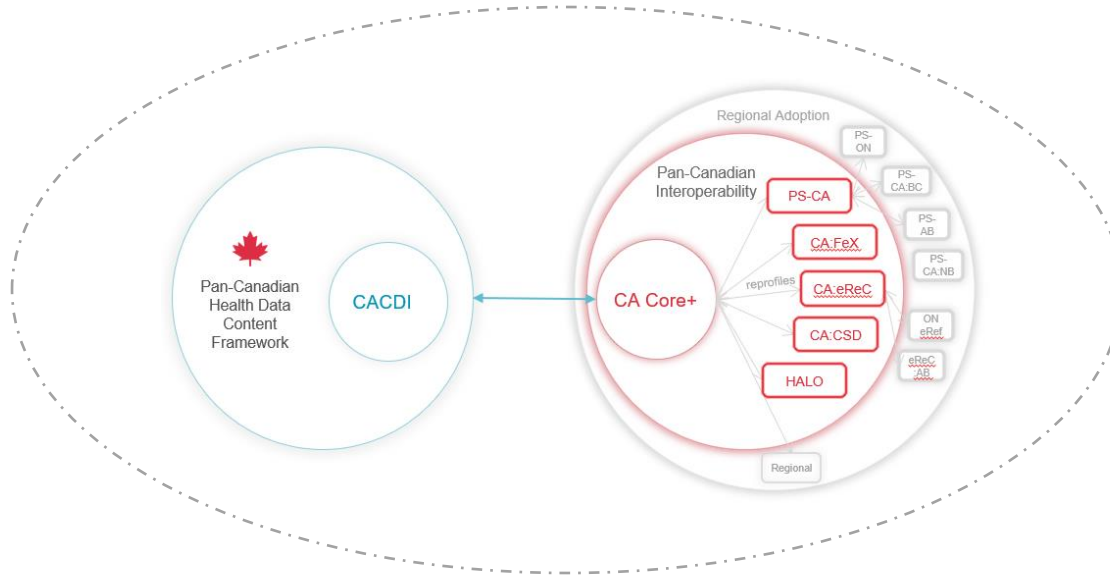


Jurisdictional and Pan-Canadian Specification Alignment



Relationship between the Pan-Canadian Health Data Content Framework, CACDI and CA Core+

Together, the CACDI and CA Core+ work in tandem to facilitate interoperability and data exchange.



Comprehensive Value For All Stakeholders

Everyone

- Collaborative governance and decision-making for CA Core+ development
 - Improved responsiveness to shifting needs and evolving healthcare ecosystems
 - Opportunities for both jurisdictional and vendor communities to be part of CA Core+'s design and stay up-to-date with discussed topics, priorities, and further planning, providing the cutting edge to stay on top of the game with what's coming down the pipe.
-

PTs

- Pan-Canadian collaboration **across entire product and standards lifecycle**, not just on technical specifications
 - Jurisdictional input to pan-Canadian prioritization, recognition and support for jurisdictional needs and priorities
 - Improved planning with greater predictability and fewer competing demands
-

Vendors

- **Common set of profiles implemented once**, and re-used across jurisdictions and across product contexts
- Streamlined conformance, with jurisdiction delta testing focused on localizations
- Standardized release management with predictable cycles to guide product roadmaps

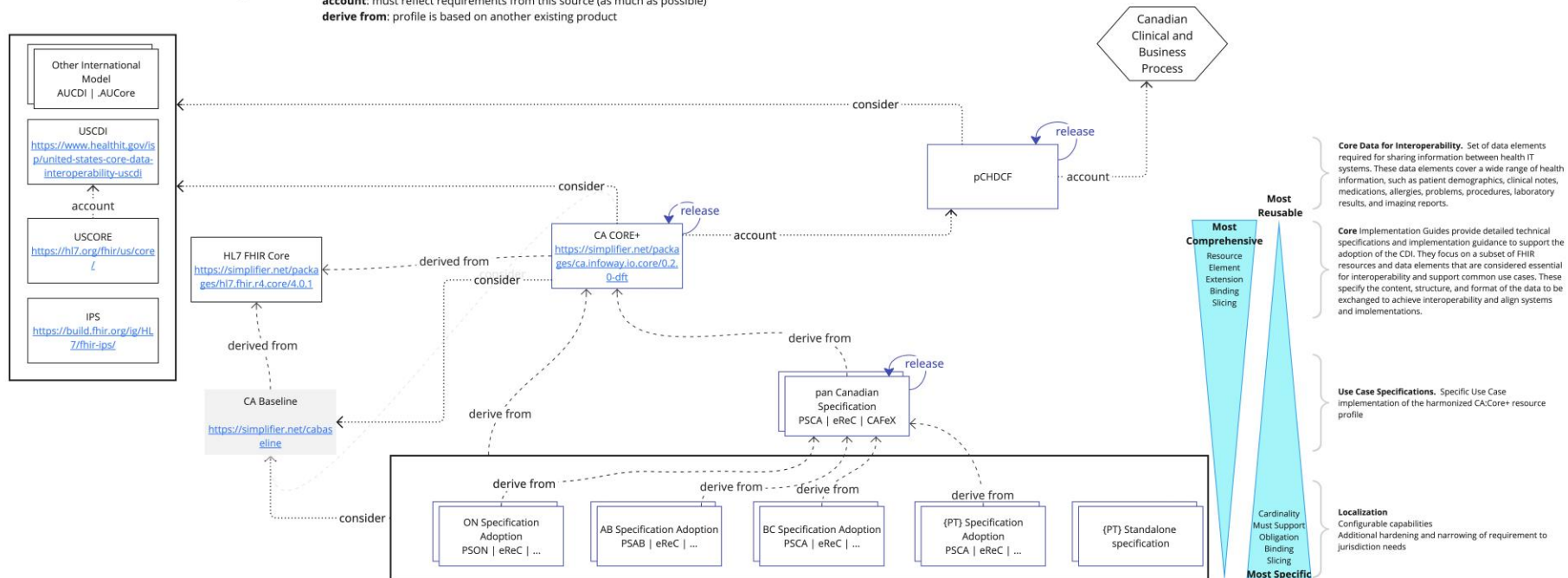
Relationship with other IGs

- **FHIR Base:** CA Core+ extends and further constrains the international HL7® FHIR® base specification to meet Pan-Canadian requirements.
- **US Core / International IGs:** US Core and other IGs are used as reference points for additional constraints and best practices where appropriate.
- **Domain specific pan-Canadian IGs:** Pan-Canadian, use-case-specific implementation guides will align with CA Core+ as much as possible while adhering to established guidelines that prevent conflict or breaking changes. In most cases, domain IGs build on CA Core+ and apply the additional constraints and requirements needed to support specific use cases.

CA Core+'s Relationships to Other Specifications

Ideal State CA Core 1.0.0 and Beyond

consider: examine as potential source for elements of CA Core+
account: must reflect requirements from this source (as much as possible)
derive from: profile is based on another existing product





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Where we are today?

What is CA Core+ today?

Only human patients and Patient-level data

- No population-level analytics or group observations

All records are patient-centric

- Financial, billing, environmental and institutional observations are out of scope

Legacy data consideration

- Allows for variation due to **legacy system constraints**
- Not all business rules or best practices will be fully met initially

Covers all life stages

- from pre-birth (fetus) to post-mortem

Focus on individual care

- e.g. inpatient, outpatient, long-term care
- Excludes population-directed interventions

Primary care environment is the focus

- Ancillary services (e.g., dental, podiatry, psychology) and social supports are excluded

Approach for Creating CA Core+ v1.1

CA Core+ v1.0

- Start with PS-CA and CA:eReC as anchors for CA Core+
 - If not in PS-CA, use resources from eReC, if not in eReC, use base FHIR
- Add missing extensions and slices from gap analysis or CACDI
 - Only extensions in use in at least 2 jurisdictions AND in 2 unique use cases are considered
- Include all elements from across all specifications that match the resources above
- Set any element to cardinality, MustSupport from PS-CA, followed by eReC, then least constraint of Jurisdictional specifications
 - Follow the FHIR binding hierarchy as outlined [here](#).

CA Core+ v1.1

- Ensure existing jurisdictional specifications can safely inherit from CA Core+ without breaking any jurisdictional specs

Current Status of CA Core+

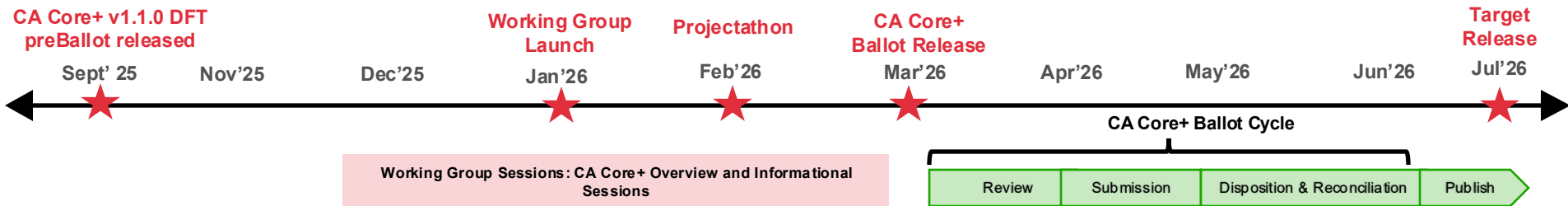
- **33 Profiles included**
 - **Requests for new Profiles will be deferred for consideration in later releases**
 - 27 IGs were evaluated to find commonly used Resources
 - CACDI specific elements mapped and included
 - Technical resources identified during harmonization exercise (e.g. Bundle, Parameters) are not included in scope
 - Only extensions in use in at least 2 jurisdictions AND in 2 unique use cases are considered
- **Future:** Tighten constraints as CA Core+ matures
 - Comprehensive review of extensions

Preparation for Ballot Release

Current feedback will be focused on March Goals

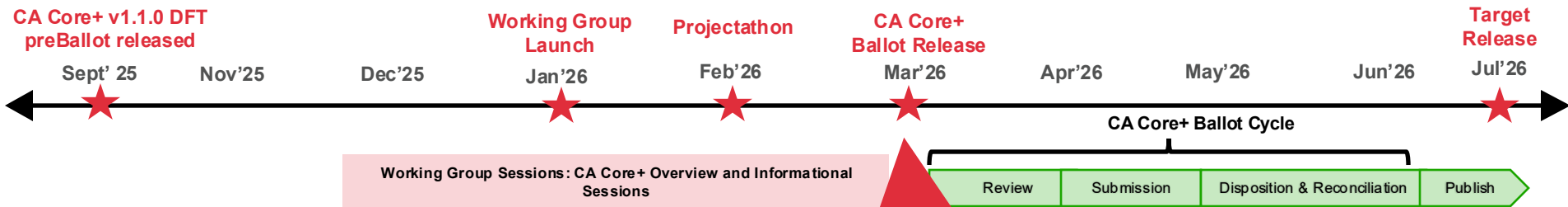
- Between now and **end of March** our primary focus is **educational sessions** with the community and consider feedback for the existing v1.1.0 pre-ballot release that has been submitted or will be submitted over the weeks via JIRA.
- Feedback should be related to the **current pre-ballot version scope**. Goal is to have **ballot candidate ready for release by end of March**.
- **Any feedback outside of existing content / scope**, we ask reviewers to tag such requests as new features or enhancements for consideration in a future release.

CA Core+ Timeline and Milestones



Key Milestones	Status	Dates
CA Core+v1.1.0 DFT preBallot Release	Completed	September 2025
Working Group Launch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kick-off Planned for January 12, 2026 	In-progress	January 2026
Projectathon	Scheduled	February 2026
Release CA Core+ for ballot	In-progress	March 2026
Ballot Cycle	In-progress	April - June 2026
Release balloted specification	In-progress	July 2026

CA Core+ Timeline and Milestones



Only feedback on *existing* profiles and extensions will be considered.

Discussion on *new* profiles and extensions will be deferred to later releases

Next Steps

- What we covered before
 - ✓ Developed CA Core+ based on 27 existing IGs
- What we covered today
 - ✓ Working Group rules of engagement and expectations
 - ✓ Proposed Cadence for Future Working Group Meetings
 - ✓ CA Core+ v1.1.0 DFT-preBallot Overview
- What we will cover in the next meetings*
 - Must Support Definition
 - Obligations Definition
 - Profile Review
 - Extension Review
 - CACDI Mappings
 - Best Practices for Implementers and IG Authors

Topics may be adjusted at the discretion of chair

**NEXT MEETING:
JANUARY 26, 2026**



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Questions and Discussion



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Thank you!

Contact Information:

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