Canada Health Infoway

Sex and Gender Working Group

Monthly (4th Tuesday) Zoom Meeting
August 26, 2025 at 9am PT / 12pm ET

Karen Courtney RN, PhD, University of Victoria
Shannon O'Connor, Manager, Data Standards, CIHI
Kelly Davison RN, CTSS, University of Victoria
Francis Lau PhD, University of Victoria (founding co-chair)

Agenda

1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement
2. Ground rules for respectful dialogue
3. Purpose of Infoway Sex and Gender Working Group
4. pan-Canadian GSSO Standard and Guidance & Reminder for Open Review
5. HL7 International Anatomical Inventories & Person Characteristics Project Update
6. BC GSSO HIS Standard and Guide July 2025 Release (v3.3)
7. Schedule Review
8. Adjournment

©2025 CANADA HEALTH INFOWAY

Welcome and Acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge that the land on which we are hosting this meeting – the land that sustains us – includes the ancestral territories of many First Peoples. Canada Health Infoway recognizes the colonial injustices experienced by Indigenous Peoples, many of which continue today and continue to affect their health and well-being. I invite all attendees to reflect on the privilege they have of living, working and playing in the territory from which you are joining this call, and invite you to commit yourself with me to having an open heart and an open mind; to forging culturally safe spaces for and relationships with Indigenous Peoples including Two-Spirit people in Canadian healthcare; and in making a meaningful contribution to reconciliation through our shared work.

©2025 CANADA HEALTH INFOWAY

Ground Rules for Respectful Dialogue

- Express disagreement with ideas not personalities
- Share airtime
- Stay on topic - connect to what others have said
- Understand & learn from each other
- We are all equal. Leave rank at the door
- Listen respectfully especially when you disagree. Acknowledge you have heard the others
- Look for common ground
- Identify & test assumptions

©2025 CANADA HEALTH INFOWAY

Purpose

The Sex and Gender Working Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 9am PT/12pm ET. Our next meeting is October 28, 2025.

The purpose of this working group is to take continued action on modernizing GSSO information practices by:

- Examining the expanded definition, collection, use and sharing of sex-gender info in EHRs
- Discussing current research, practices, gaps and challenges
- Operationalizing the Action Plan

©2025 CANADA HEALTH INFOWAY

Action Plan

1. ***Vision and Goal –*** "Envisage an equity- and SGM-oriented health system that embraces diversity and aligns with other SGM-related initiatives."
2. ***Engagement and Partnerships –*** "Engage organizations and communities across Canada to modernize GSSO information practices in EHRs that support equity-oriented health care and meet SGM needs."
3. ***GSSO Terminology Workstream –*** "Establish a precise, inclusive, appropriate, evolving and multi-level GSSO terminology…"
4. ***Enabling EHR Systems –*** "Adopt a common set of EHR functions…"
5. ***GSSO Policy/Practice Guidance –*** "Integrate and tailor GSSO data collection…"
6. ***Education and Training –*** "Educate and train health care staff to enhance their capacity to provide culturally competent and safe care…"
7. ***Central Hub for Coordination –*** "Establish a central hub to liaise, guide, assist and monitor the progress of this action plan over time."

©2025 CANADA HEALTH INFOWAY

CIHI

©2025 CANADA HEALTH INFOWAY

AI & PC

©2025 CANADA HEALTH INFOWAY

BC GSSO HIS Standard & Guide

©2025 CANADA HEALTH INFOWAY

Schedule and Topics

Month	Infoway SGWG Meetings - 4th Tuesday Each Month
Jan	*Claude Girard and France-Pascale Ménard, Statistics Canada* - A Safe and Inclusive Approach to Disseminating Statistical Information about the Non-binary Population in Canada: Men+ and Women+
Feb	*BC GSSO HIS January Release* – Charlene Lam, CTSS - BC Ministry of Health
Mar	*Patient-Controlled Data Panel Discission* – L Weaver, University of Utah and Dr. Adela Grando, Arizona State
Apr	*Pan-Canadian GSSO Standard* – Canadian Institute for Health Information
May	*GSSO Digital Health Hub* – Kelly Davison
	Anatomical Inventories and Person Characteristics HL7 Project Updates – Kelly Davison
Jun	*Sex and Gender Related Data Elements within the Person Identification ISO Standard – Beverly Knight, ISO TC215*
	CIHI Reporting Categories for Gender Identity – Diana Ridgeway, CIHI
Jul	*Intersex Panel Discussion* – Caroline Sanders and Martin Gramc
Aug	*Pan-Canadian GSSO Standard* – Canadian Institute for Health Information
	Anatomical Inventories and Person Characteristics HL7 Project Updates – Kelly Davison
	BC GSSO HIS July 2025 Release – Charlene Lam, CTSS - BC Ministry of Health
Sep	*No meeting*
Oct	*TBD*
Nov	*TBD*
Dec	*No meeting*

©2025 CANADA HEALTH INFOWAY

Canada Health Infoway

Canada Health Infoway

Thank you!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
infoway-inforoute.ca

VISIT OUR SURVEY WEBSITE
insights.infoway-inforoute.ca/

LET'S CONNECT ON LINKEDIN
linkedin.com/company/canada-health-infoway/

LET'S CONNECT ON TWITTER
@infoway