



**Canada Health Infoway**

# **Sex and Gender Working Group**

Monthly (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday) Zoom Meeting  
September 26, 2023 at 9am PT / 12pm ET

Karen Courtney RN, PhD, University of Victoria  
Francis Lau PhD, CTSS, University of Victoria  
Kelly Davison RN, CTSS, University of Victoria

# Agenda

1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement
2. Ground rules for respectful dialogue
3. Purpose of Infoway Sex and Gender Working Group
4. SGWG Forum Post Notifications “How-to” Un/Subscribe
5. Shannon O’Connor – Canadian Institute for Health Information – pan-Canadian GSSO Environmental Scan: Approach, Rationale, Results Discussion – Eastern Canada
6. HL7 International Anatomic Inventories and Person Characteristics Project Scope Statement
7. Schedule Review
8. Adjournment

# 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.

# 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

# 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 24, 2023.*

The purpose of this working group is to take 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](#)

# 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.”

# Forum Post Notifications “How to” Un/Subscribe

The screenshot shows the Canada Health Infoway forum interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Communities', 'Standards Centre', 'Tools', 'Resources', and 'News & Events'. Below this is a search bar and a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Forum > Working Groups > Sex and Gender'. A 'Share this page' section includes links for Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Print, and Email. The main content area features a 'Back to Sex and Gender' link, a search bar, and a breadcrumb trail: 'Forum > Working Groups > Sex and Gender'. The forum title is 'Sex and Gender' with 207 topics. A description reads: 'Canadians working together to modernize Canada's sex and gender information p...'. Below the description is a pagination control with buttons for 'Start', 'Prev', '1', '2', '3', '4', '5', '...', '11', 'Next', and 'End'. A search bar is also present. A red callout box with the text 'Click here' points to the 'Unsubscribe' button. Below the buttons is a table of forum topics.

Subject	Replies / Views	Last Post
<a href="#">TECHNATION Health: Unlocking the Future of Healthcare Webinar -- Oct 12</a> <sup>(1 NEW)</sup> Topic started 5 hours 26 minutes ago, by <a href="#">Joanie Harper</a>	Replies: 0 Views: 6	Last Post by <a href="#">Joanie Harper</a> 5 hours 26 minutes ago
<a href="#">SGWG September 26, 2023 Meeting (12 ET/9 PT)</a> <sup>(1 NEW)</sup> Topic started 3 days 23 hours ago, by <a href="#">Kelly Davison</a>	Replies: 1 Views: 17	Last Post by <a href="#">Shannon O'Connor</a> 5 hours 56 minutes ago
<a href="#">SGWG August 22, 2023 Meeting (12 ET/9 PT)</a> Topic started 1 month 1 week ago, by <a href="#">Karen Courtney</a>	Replies: 0 Views: 40	Last Post by <a href="#">Karen Courtney</a>

# Shannon O'Connor – Program Lead, Data Standards, Canadian Institute for Health Information



# What is a Project Scope Statement?

“The detail should be sufficient that an individual with no previous exposure to the group (or even HL7) could understand the expected activities and results. The scope description should also include high level expectations for the project and indicate alignment with market demands or other drivers for the project, such as government mandates, requirements from industry interoperability connectathon, etc. Also include if the project is abandoning or replacing anything, as well as if the deliverables are applicable to multiple realms. Be sure to spell out all acronyms which the HL7 community is not familiar with as these are carried forward to the NIB (Notice of Intent to Ballot) for ballot announcements.

Typically projects to produce standards are routinely supported by the volunteer resources committing to complete the project...”

<https://confluence.hl7.org/display/PSS/PSS+Help+and+FAQs>

# HL7 International Anatomic Inventories and Person Characteristics Project Scope Statement

“Develop a FHIR profile(s) to address the exchange of common, clinically relevant and infrequently changing person characteristics that could be represented in a standardized manner. This may include anatomical inventory, blood type and antigens, eye color, sex parameters, gestational age at birth, etc. This project will clarify the boundaries between concepts that should be communicated as person characteristics versus those that should be communicated as conditions (e.g., genetic disorders). This project will require input from many stakeholders and affected parties, and hands-on effort from other HL7 working groups. The primary deliverable of this work be FHIR profile(s) to support person-centred care, and information models (where required), codes, concepts, value sets and other supporting artefacts. This work will use existing standards, classifications and terminology standards where they exist.”

# Schedule and Topics

Session	Infoway SGWG Meetings - 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday Each Month
Jan 24	<i>Karen Luyendyk</i> – Use Case Development
Feb 28	<i>Planning Session</i>
Mar 28	<i>Beverly Knight</i> – ISO Technical report on Sex and Gender in EHRs
Apr 25	<i>Dr. Murdoch Leeies</i> – Equity-relevant sociodemographic variable collection in emergency medicine
May 23	<i>Ingrid Handlovsky, PhD</i> – What does allyship mean in digital health?
Jun 27	<i>Inge Soons, Medical Terminology Advisor, Nictiz, The Hague, Netherlands</i> – GSSO Terminology in the Netherlands
Jul 25	<i>No meeting</i>
Aug 22	<i>Sue Kressley, Mohammed Jafri &amp; John Moehrke, SHIFT</i> – Privacy Standards, Informed Consent & Granular Data Segmentation
Sep 26	<i>Shannon O'Connor, CIHI</i> – Environmental Scan GSSO in Provinces and Territories, Eastern Canada
Oct 24	<i>Shannon O'Connor, CIHI</i> – Environmental Scan GSSO in Provinces and Territories, Central Canada
Nov 28	<i>Shannon O'Connor, CIHI</i> – Environmental Scan GSSO in Provinces and Territories, Western Canada
Dec 26	<i>No meeting</i>



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# Thank you!

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