



P A R T N E R S H I P F O R  
HEALTH INFORMATION STANDARDS

*SHARING, CONNECTING, MAPPING THE FUTURE*

## **Annual Report 2002–2003**

### **Message from the Partnership Secretariat**

Many accomplishments were noted within the Partnership over the past year including an increase in our membership base. The Partnership Secretariat is delighted to welcome the following new Corporate members:

- Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research
- Canada's Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies
- Courtyard Group Ltd.
- Haro Group
- Lanier Healthcare Canada
- Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information
- Phillips Medical Systems
- St. Joseph Health Care & London Health Sciences Centre

We would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new Individual level members, Michael van Campen (TNT Global), Sharon Moore (Quest Consulting Inc.), Grace Paterson (Dalhousie University) and Louise Sweatman (Canadian Nurses Association).

In addition, this year the Partnership appointed Conveners to lead each of the seven Interest Groups which serve as a review group for the Partnership and its members on national and international issues related to health information standardization.

The Partnership also held two very successful and well-attended events including the Spring 2002 Symposium ("*Mapping the Canadian Standards Landscape*") in Quebec City and the Fall 2002 Symposium ("*Time for Action: Implementing Standards in Canada*") in Victoria, British Columbia. In fact, our Fall Symposium had one of the highest participation rates ever!



Canadian Institute  
for Health Information

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d'information sur la santé

In response to requests from our members, the Symposia included a number of hands-on working sessions. New this year was the Partnership InfoFair, which was held during both the Spring and Fall events, and displayed information from key leaders in health information. As usual the social events for the Partnership Night on the Town were quite popular. Participants highly enjoyed the dinner and jazz entertainment arranged at Artillery Park in Quebec City in the Spring. Fall Symposium attendees also had a great time partying with the Timebenders at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club.

This year, the Partnership established the annual Partnership Peer Recognition Award to honor a Canadian group or individual who has demonstrated significant achievement in the advancement of health information standards in Canada. The inaugural Award was presented to Ms. Jane Curry of Sierra Systems, during the opening plenary ceremonies of the Fall Symposium.

The Partnership continues to provide communication on activities and projects of interest to our members through the quarterly e-newsletter, and email announcements. The Partnership also updated its website to make it easier for members to navigate through the site and find information. As well, new and useful features such as on-line membership and conference registration ability have been added.

As the Partnership continues to bring standards stakeholders together, the Secretariat remains committed to providing members value-added service. To make suggestions or recommendations on how we can better meet your needs, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat at [partnership@cihi.ca](mailto:partnership@cihi.ca) or by phone at 416-481-2002.

## **About the Partnership for Health Information Standards**

Health information standards are necessary to overcome incompatibilities among data, communications and technology structures. Without standards, for example, data collected in multiple service encounters, at different times and by different practitioners or organizations, are frequently difficult to interpret and compare.

In 1996, the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) formed the Partnership for Health Information Standards initiative to respond to the need for standards in health information systems. The Partnership aims to bring together key players from the public and private sectors to discuss and promote universal and efficient standards for managing and exchanging health data and information. The Partnership provides the forum for the standards community to learn about, influence and build consensus on pan-Canadian standards for health information. It is the bridge to a vibrant health information standards community in Canada.

## **Our Membership**

We would like to thank all of our Partnership members for this year, and make a special acknowledgment to our Corporate Members. The continued input of time and resources by our Partnership members reflects Canada's commitment to standards!

### **Membership Highlights**

- **360 representatives from 57 Corporate Members!**
- **12 Individual & Student Members**
- **3 International Affiliate Members**

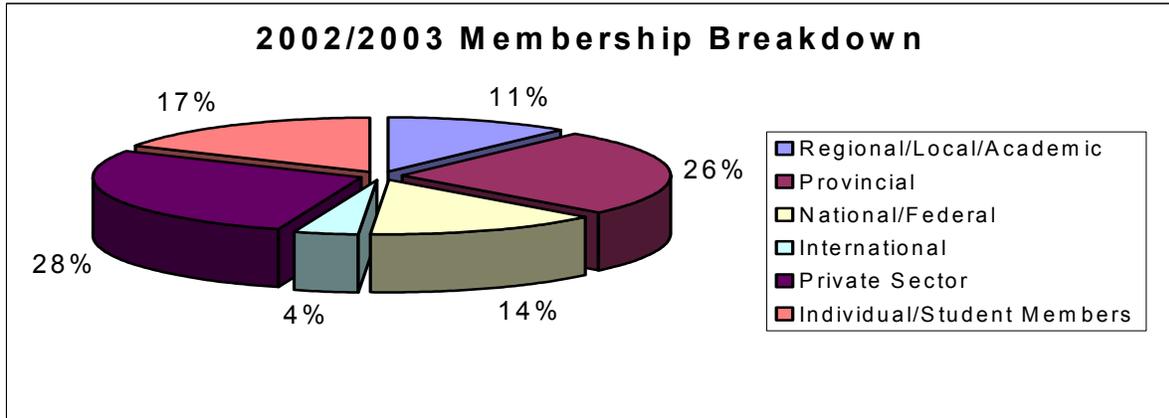
## 2002–2003

### Corporate Members

- Alberta Blue Cross
- Alberta Health & Wellness
- Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research
- Alberta Research Council
- Association of Ontario Health Centres
- BC Health Information Mgmt. Professionals Society (BCHIMPS)
- BC Ministry of Health & Health Planning
- Calgary Health Region
- Canada Pension Plan / Old Age Security
- Canada's Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies
- Canadian Health Record Association (CHRA)
- Canadian Institute for Health Information
- Canadian Medical Association
- Canadian Medical Protective Association
- Canadian Pharmacists Association
- Canadian Standards Association
- Capital Health Authority
- CLINICARE Corporation
- COACH
- College of Physicians & Surgeons
- Courtyard Group Ltd
- Deloitte & Touche
- DINMAR Consulting Inc.
- EDS Canada Inc.
- Grasp Systems Ltd.
- Haro Group
- Health Canada
- IBM Canada Ltd
- IMS Health Canada
- Lanier Healthcare Canada
- Manitoba Health
- McGill University Health Centre
- McKesson Information Solutions, Inc.
- MED2020 Health Care Software Inc.
- MediSolution
- Mitra Inc.
- Momentum Healthware
- New Brunswick Department of Health and Wellness
- Newfoundland & Labrador Centre for Health Information
- Newfoundland Department of Health and Community Services
- North West Territories Department of Health
- Nova Scotia Department of Health
- Nunavut Department of Health
- Ontario Medical Association
- Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care
- PEI Department of Health & Social Services
- Per-Sé Technologies Inc.
- Phillips Medical Systems
- SAIC Canada
- Saskatchewan Health
- Saskatoon Health Region
- Sierra Systems Group Inc.
- St. Joseph's Health Care and London Health Sciences Centre
- Statistics Canada
- University Health Network
- Vancouver Island Health Authority
- Yukon Department of Health

### International Affiliates

- American National Standards Institute (ANSI)
- European Committee for Standardization
- Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

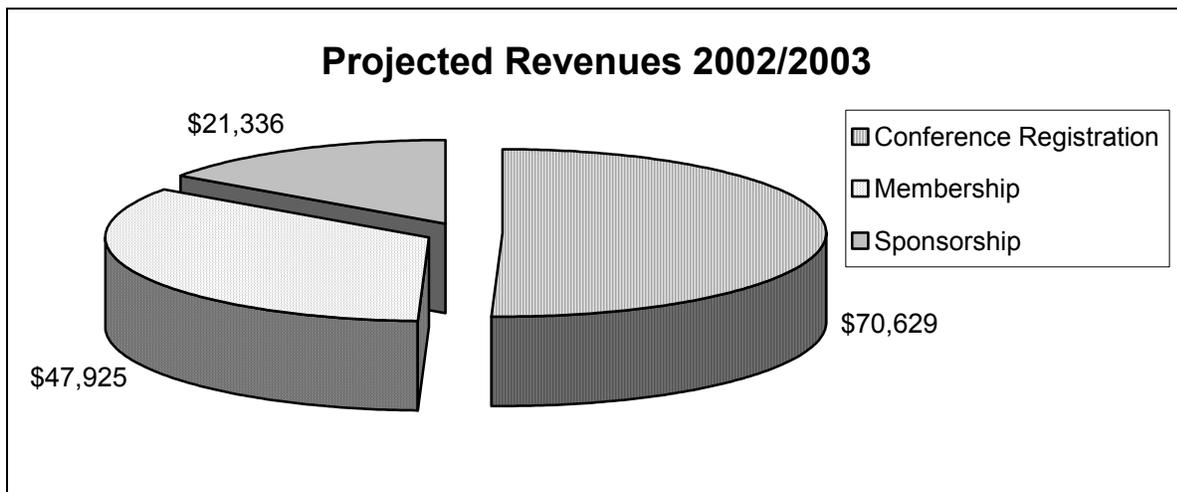


### Who are our Members

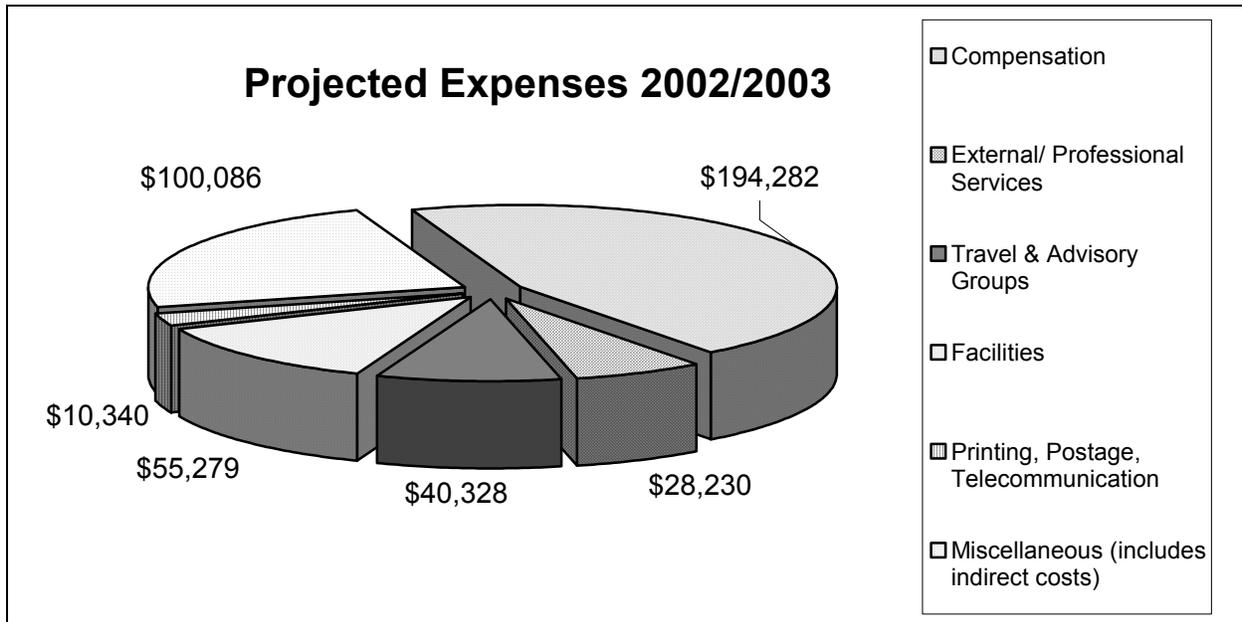
Our membership base continues to be a diverse mix that represents the interests of a variety of business sectors, governments, and academic institutions from across Canada. This provides our members with the opportunity to share different perspectives, ideas, information and knowledge.

Partnership Members come from every province and territory in Canada. Most provincial and territorial health departments/ministries participate in the Partnership. Members also include federal representation from Health Canada and Statistics Canada. In addition, many of our members represent national, provincial, or regional health associations and authorities. The Partnership has also continued to attract interest from the international health information standards field.

### The Financial Picture



**Total Projected Revenues: \$139,890**



**Total Projected Expenses: \$428,545**

The total projected cost of running the Partnership in 2002–2003 was estimated at \$428,545. Total revenues of \$139,890 offset some of this cost. Conference Registration accounted for the greatest proportion of the total revenues, with significant contributions from Membership and Sponsorship activities.

### Web-Based Discussion Groups

This year the Partnership appointed the following Conveners for each of the seven web-based discussion groups:

#### Identifiers

- Mr. John Swiniarski

#### Vocabulary

- Mr. Ray Simkus

#### Imaging/Devices

- Ms. Faye Campbell

#### Telehealth

- Mr. Trevor Craddock

#### Modeling/Architecture

- Mr. Dan Gordan

#### Electronic Health Record

- Ms. Pat Jeselon

#### Security

- Mr. Mike Leavy

The Interest groups serve as a review group for the Partnership and its members on national and international issues of health information standardization. Through these groups, members can share information about and provide input on established and emerging standards as well as on national and international working drafts of interest.

Interest groups were provided the opportunity to come together for a face-to-face meeting with the Conveners during the Fall 2002 Partnership Symposium for a general introduction, to discuss terms of reference and next steps.

For more information, or to join an interest group, please contact Nishma Kanji at [nkanji@cihi.ca](mailto:nkanji@cihi.ca)

## **The Spring 2002 Symposium**

The Spring 2002 Symposium was held in Quebec City on June 13-15, 2002. The theme of the Symposium was “Mapping the Canadian Standards Landscape”. The Symposium featured educational sessions on Health Information Standards Today and parallel discussion sessions on Mapping the Future.

The presentation track included the following sessions:

- EHR Standards
- Telehealth Standards
- Health Identifier and Registry Standards
- Emerging Pharmacy and Lab Information Standards

The discussion track included facilitated sessions on:

- Collaborations—What Works, What Doesn't
- EHR Standards—What's Next?
- Telehealth Standards—What's the Relationship to EHR?
- Standards Deployment—How to be Pan-Canadian?

The keynote speakers for this event were Martin Geffen (Director, Gartner, Inc), Susan Hyatt (Vice President, Canada Health Infoway Inc) and Dr. Yves Lussier (Assistant Professor, Columbia University).

### **Spring 2002 Symposium Highlights**

- **2 parallel “Tracks” & 8 sessions**
- **100% of respondents rated the Symposium as excellent or very good**
- **Partnership Night on the Town: Dinner and Jazz at Artillery Park**

All presentation materials have been posted on our website at: [www.cihi.ca](http://www.cihi.ca) (click on “Partnership for Health Information Standards” under the Standards tab; then click on “Conference Materials”; then click on “Partnership Spring 2002 Symposium”).

A Summary Report on the four discussion sessions has been developed, and is also available from the website.

## **The Fall 2002 Symposium**

The Fall 2002 Symposium entitled “Time for Action: Implementing Standards in Canada” was held in Victoria, British Columbia on November 21–23, 2002. The following concurrent sessions were offered:

Track 1: EHR Standards

- EHR Implementation Projects
- Standards Organizations and Processes
- Standards Development and Implementation Projects
- Introduction to ISO, CSA, CAC and TC215 and their Impact on Canadian Standards Issues
- Adopting/Implementing International Standards in Canada

Track 2: Privacy/Security Standards

- Privacy/Security Implementation Projects
- Consent
- Implementing Security Standards in Canada
- Introduction to A Privacy Impact Assessment
- Privacy Impact Assessment (Case Study)

**Fall 2002 Symposium Highlights**

- 2 “Tracks” & 10 sessions
- Incredible participation rate of 150
- Partnership Night on the Town: Dinner and party with the Timebenders at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club

The keynote addresses were delivered by Ray Rogers (Head, UK Delegation to CEN and ISO), Sam Marafioti (Vice Chair, Ontario Hospital Association’s eHealth Council) and Dennis Giokas (Chief Technology Officer, Canada Health Infoway Inc).

Presentation materials have been posted at: [www.cihi.ca](http://www.cihi.ca) (click on “Partnership for Health Information Standards” under the Standards tab; then click on “Conference Materials”; then click on “Partnership Fall 2002 Symposium”).

The post symposium report will soon be available on the Partnership website.

Members will be interested to know that the Fall 2002 Symposium had one of the highest turnouts ever of 150 participants. The majority of respondents rated the sessions as being good to excellent!

### **Partnership Peer Recognition Award**

This year the Partnership established the Peer Recognition Award to acknowledge outstanding achievement in the advancement of health information standards in Canada. An open nominations process was held within the membership in the Spring.

Please join the Partnership in congratulating the winner of the first annual Partnership Peer Recognition Award, **Ms. Jane Curry**. Ms. Curry is a senior consultant with over 15 years of experience in the health care industry. She is a member of the ISO/TC215 Canadian Advisory Group for the Information Modeling and Messaging Working Groups; chair of the HL7 Canada Design Technical Committee; member of the HL7 Canada Executive Committee; international member on the HL7 Architecture Review Board; modeling liaison for the HL7 International Affiliates Committee to the HL7 Modeling and Methodology

Technical Committee; and co-chair for the HL7 Modeling and Methodology Technical Committee. Ms. Curry was also a past member of the Health Information Standards Committee of Alberta and Technical Advisory Group, and was the project lead for the CIHI Canadian Conceptual Health Data Model project.

Here are a few words from the award recipient:

*"I am extremely honoured to have been chosen for the first ever Partnership Peer Recognition Award. I admit I passionately believe that a coherent health infostructure is entirely dependent on the evolution of converging health informatics standards affecting all components of the health system. While I have promoted these ideas at every opportunity over the years, I have sometimes felt that I was perceived as being too idealistic or strategic and not practical enough. It's nice to know my efforts have been noticed. This award suggests to me that the time has come to realize some of these ideas. I am grateful for the support I've gotten from my employers and the encouragement from my many standards community colleagues across the country, and around the world. In many ways, recognition from peers is the most rewarding acknowledgement possible because peers know what it takes to make things happen. We may not yet have a "feedback loop" for the Canadian health system - but the establishment of the Partnership Peer Recognition Award is a key indicator that the necessary awareness is building. I intend to continue to work with my peers on evolving collaborative health information standards. It will take the combined effort of a lot of people pulling in the same direction to get there."*

## **Projects of Interest to the Partnership**

As many CIHI Health Information Roadmap projects were planned as a direct result of past Partnership Working Group initiatives, following is an update on some of these projects which may be of interest to our members:

### **Unique Identifiers**

The CIHI Unique Identifiers Roadmap Project is approaching completion and will conclude with a final report in March 2003. Over the past three years, the project has examined the unique identification of providers, clients and facilities across functional, geographic and jurisdictional boundaries. Project milestones included:

Background Papers on National Unique Provider Identifiers, Facility Identifiers and Client Identifiers;

- A pilot project to test the Medical Identification Number for Canada (MINC) methodology of uniquely identifying providers with the Licensed Practical Nurses in three provinces;
- Involvement in the Western Health Information Collaborative (WHIC) Provider Registry Project;
- Delivery/Facility Unique Identification Discussion Paper;

- Pan-Canadian Meeting on Client Identifiers and Client Registries;
- Client Identifier and Jurisdiction Identifier Pan-Canadian Current State Assessment Questionnaire and Report;
- Presentations at e-Health and Partnership conferences and cross Canada education sessions; and
- Ongoing cross-jurisdictional collaboration and consensus building.

The project team would like to thank over 30 pan-Canadian experts who made this project a success. For more information about this project, please visit the CIHI website, [www.cihi.ca](http://www.cihi.ca), under the Infostructure Standards section you will find Standards in Development and the link to the Unique Identifiers Development Roadmap Project page.

### **ICD-10-CA/CCI**

As of April 1, 2002, ICD-10-CA and CCI had been implemented in all three territories and seven provinces. New Brunswick's health records administrators will be trained in the last quarter of 2003 for implementation April 1, 2003. Manitoba has agreed to adopt ICD-10-CA and CCI for April 1, 2004 and Quebec is considering this date for adopting these classifications.

The Classifications' team has been very busy researching the proposed enhancements and changes to the 2001 Versions of ICD-10-CA and CCI. The 2003 Versions will be implemented on April 1, 2003. There are approximately 60 additions to ICD-10-CA and over 800 additions to CCI. Both these products will contain appendices that identify all the new codes that have been added and all the existing codes that have been disabled. For the first time these products will be available in both French and English. CIHI will also be releasing the updated 2003 version of Canadian Coding Standards for ICD-10-CA and CCI. This product will be available in both French and English.

Educational workshops to provide ongoing support to coders and to introduce analysts and researchers to the changes that implementation of ICD-10-CA and CCI will have on comparative data and trending of data have occurred across the country. In 2003–2004 a coding standards workshop and one targeting obstetrical coding will be introduced.

### **ISO/TC215 WG1**

CIHI continues to host the ISO/TC215 website for Working Group 1 on Health Records and Modeling Coordination on behalf of the ISO/TC215 Convener, Mr. Don Newsham.

Some of the work items which this group is involved with include:

- Country Identifier Mechanism in Healthcare
- Requirements for the Electronic Health Record Reference Architecture
- Framework for Emergency Data Sets
- Health Indicators—Definitions, Attributes and Relationships
- Health Informatics Profiling Framework
- EHR Definition, Scope and Context

Members will be pleased to know that the National Member body voting on ISO/TC 215/WG 1/DTS 21667 *Health Indicators Conceptual Framework* has closed and the ballot was approved to be published as a Technical Specification. The Canadian lead on this work item was Ms. Indra Pulcins of CIHI.

Partnership members are invited to visit the website for additional updates on activities pertaining to this Working Group at: [www.cihi.ca](http://www.cihi.ca) (click on “Infostructure Standards” under the Standards tab; then click on “International Health Informatics Standards Development”; then click on “ISO/TC215 WG1”).

## **Who’s Who in the Partnership Secretariat**

Executive Sponsor: Caroline Heick, Director, Standards

Manager: Julie Richards, Manager, Standards Development Coordination

Coordinator: Nishma Kanji, Coordinator, Standards Liaison & Special Projects

Administrative Assistant: Beverly Walters, Administrative Assistant, Standards Liaison & Special Projects

The Partnership would like to acknowledge Laura Sato for her support of the Partnership for Health Information Standards initiative. Laura was a member of the Partnership Secretariat but moved to London, England in the summer of 2002 to pursue other challenges.

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