Special Interest Group Charter ⬡ DIACC

Group Name	Foundational Identity Special Interest Group
Participants	Valid8ID Solutions Inc. BC Digital ID BCVSA BC Service Delivery Province 2 Digital ID Province 2 VSA Province 2 Service Delivery (e.g. DL, or Health Care) IRCC Minimum participation should cover at least 2, preferably 3 provinces. IRCC participation would be strongly desired.
Area of Interest	An individual's identity in Canada is rooted in their birth - or immigration - record. Service delivery inefficiencies (due to inaccurate name matching and other gaps in identity proofing) and identity fraud results when identity is not resolved to the root birth - or immigration - event.
Related Committees	This SIG will inform the IEC. The discussions that take place in this SIG may also inform the TFEC and OEC.
Background	Identity proofing processes have evolved over many decades and are far from perfect. Government identity proofing processes have typically been associated to benefits programs like Health Care, permits like Drivers Licenses or other entitlement programs that don't have the mandate to establish a general-purpose identity document. These must balance the administrative burdens and costs for evaluating eligibility / entitlement for the offered service, accessibility in serving the target population, with the accuracy of the proofing process outcomes. The lack of commonality in redundant identity proofing processes, and the inability to uniquely identify individuals across programs and over time creates enormous inefficiency for all programs. The differing rules of eligibility, the varying assurance levels of the documents accepted as evidence, cost-benefit of implementing any given measure, reliance on imperfect name matching algorithms, imperfections in change of name processes, and the lack of an ubiquitous unique identifier, not to mention the ongoing epidemic of data breaches exposing the personal information of Canadians, provide ample opportunity to create false identities within our secondary identity system. Well documented instances of identity fraud indicate that criminals have identified exploitable vulnerabilities that they regularly use to create false identities or commandeer legitimate identities that they use to perpetrate financial fraud against government programs, financial institutions, individuals and other private sector entities.
Scope	1) To answer the central question: How can the existing birth - and immigration - record sets be used to improve service delivery and reduce fraud?

	2) To develop a roadmap for improving service delivery and reducing fraud through better identity resolution.

Tasks	The lead participants will table / circulate background information that has been assembled, and the group will be asked to contribute to the following activities:
	
	Identify relevant aspects of the problem:
	    1) Inaccurate / problematic name matching
	    2) Lack of single unique ID number
	    3) Variable identity proofing process
	
	Contemplate Central Question
	    Brainstorm ways the birth - and immigration - record sets might be used to solve problems identified in previous task
	
	Develop Roadmap
	    1) Identify a desired end state for issuers and consumers of digital foundational identity
	    2) Map out current state
	    3) Map out the gap between current- and desired end- states
	    4) Identify one or more transitions required to close the identified gap
	    5) Place proposed transitions on a timeline for participants

Time frame	3-6 months from reaching minimum participation