

Advisory Committee on Standards for Voting Technologies

Committee Meeting

Minutes

December 8th, 2021, 9:00am – 3:20pm
Elections Ontario Headquarters – 51 Rolark Drive, Scarborough

Committee Attendees:

- Jean-Pierre Kingsley, Committee Chair
- Dr. Mkabi Walcott, Standards Council of Canada Representative
- Dr. Nicole Goodman, Academic Advisor
- Michael Crase, Political Party Appointee - Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario
- Dan Duncan, Political Party Appointee - Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario
- Karla Webber-Gallagher, Political Party Appointee - New Democratic Party of Ontario
- Donald Eady, Political Party Appointee - New Democratic Party of Ontario
- Milton Chan, Political Party Appointee - Ontario Liberal Party
- Christine McMillan, Political Party Appointee - Ontario Liberal Party
- Craig Cantin, Political Party Appointee - Green Party of Ontario
- Fiona Mackintosh, Executive Director of the Advisory Committee
- Amanda Tieber, Research Coordinator for the Advisory Committee
- Marilyn Mills, Administrative Support for the Advisory Committee

Invitees:

- Greg Essensa, Chief Electoral Officer, Elections Ontario
 - Lalitha Flach, Chief Operating Officer, Elections Ontario
 - Deborah Danis, Chief Administrative Officer, Elections Ontario
 - Linh Dang, Manager, Corporate Affairs & Executive Office, Elections Ontario
 - Andrew Milner, Project Manager, Electoral Event Planning, Elections Ontario
 - Brock Ceci, Senior Policy Advisor, Elections Ontario
 - Stephanie Lowe, Executive Assistant to the Chief Electoral Officer, Elections Ontario
 - Alexander Stover, Executive Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer, Elections Ontario
 - Dan Rona, Administrative Support, Elections Ontario
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Opening Remarks and Chair Comments

- The Chairman, Jean-Pierre Kingsley opened the committee meeting, welcoming all members in attendance. The Chairman provided an educational overview on the trust and reputation of Canadian elections.

Ontario Chief Electoral Officer Presentation

- The Chief Electoral Officer, Greg Essensa, addressed the Advisory Committee and gave a presentation regarding Ontario elections, the background, scope, and mandate of the Advisory Committee. The Chief Electoral Officer provided the Advisory Committee with a set of recommended principles to consider when conducting their work.

- The Chief Electoral Officer reminded Committee Members that Elections Ontario will not be participating in the work of the committee to ensure its independence in making its recommendations to the Chief Electoral Officer.

[The Advisory Committee recessed at 10:00 a.m. and reconvened at 10:15 a.m.]

Global Trends in Voting Technologies Presentation

- The Research Coordinator, Amanda Tieber, provided an environmental scan on trends in the use of voting technologies both in an international and Canadian context. Tieber provided an overview of the modernization of Canadian elections.

Electronic Voting Definitions and the Need for Standards in Canada Presentation

- The Advisory Committee Academic Advisor, Dr. Nicole Goodman, addressed the committee to provide electronic voting definitions and explain the need for standards in Canada.
- A Committee Member suggested that a glossary of voting technology terms be developed for future meetings to ensure all committee members have common definitions and understanding when discussing voting technology. Committee Administrators will provide an official Advisory Committee glossary to the Committee Members.

Canadian Standards Development Process Presentation

- Standards Council of Canada representative, Dr. Mkabi Walcott, gave a presentation on the standards development process in Canada. Dr. Walcott informed the Committee members of the appropriate standards process that is recommended to develop standards for voting technologies.

[The Advisory Committee recessed at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 12:45 p.m.]

Electronic Voting Myth Busting Presentation

- Dr. Nicole Goodman provided an educational presentation on common myths and misconceptions surrounding voting technologies.

Demonstration of Voting Technologies used by Elections Ontario

- Elections Ontario Operations Staff, Andrew Milner, provided a demonstration of voting technologies currently used in Ontario elections.

Open Discussion

- The Chair provided an opportunity for the members to ask questions and established the committee meeting schedule for 2022.

Closing Remarks

- The Chair thanked all the attendees for their participation and attendance.

The meeting of the Advisory Committee adjourned at 3:20pm.