



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OTTAWA, Wednesday, April 15, 2026

(32)

[English]

The Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology met this day at 4:14 p.m., in room B45, Senate of Canada Building, the chair, the Honourable Rosemary Moodie, presiding.

Members of the committee present: The Honourable Senators Arnold, Boudreau, Burey, Cuzner, Greenwood, Hay, McPhedran, Moodie, Osler, Petitclerc and Senior (11).

Participating in the meeting: Diana Ambrozias and Mayra Perez-Leclerc, Analysts, Library of Parliament.

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Senate on Thursday, March 26, 2026, the committee began its consideration of Bill S-5, An Act respecting the interoperability of health information technology and to prohibit data blocking by health information technology vendors.

WITNESSES:

Canadian Medical Association:

Dr. Margot Burnell, President.

Canadian Nurses Association:

Dr. Tracie Risling RN, President-Elect.

Canadian Association of Social Workers:

Sarah Pennisi, Senior Advisor, Policy and Public Affairs (*by videoconference*).

Canadian Bar Association:

Tory Hibbitt, Member, National Health Law Section.

Women's Health Coalition of Canada:

Danika Kelly, Vice-Chair, Canada West.

Society of Rural Physicians of Canada:

Dr. Sarah Giles, President-Elect *(by videoconference)*.

Black Physicians' Association of Ontario:

Dr. Joel Brown, Vice-President and Family Physician *(by videoconference)*.

Canadian Association of Retired Persons:

Anthony Quinn, President *(by videoconference)*.

Margot Burnell, Tracie Risling, Sarah Pennisi and Tory Habbitt each made a statement and answered questions.

At 5:13 p.m., the committee suspended.

At 5:22 p.m., the committee resumed.

Danika Kelly, Sarah Giles, Joel Brown and Anthony Quinn each made a statement and answered questions.

At 6:17 p.m., the committee adjourned to the call of the chair.

ATTEST:

Ferda Simpson

Clerk of the Committee