



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OTTAWA, Thursday, April 23, 2026
(35)

[English]

The Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology met this day at 10:32 a.m., in room B45, Senate of Canada Building, the deputy chair, the Honourable Sharon Burey, presiding.

Members of the committee present: The Honourable Senators Arnold, Burey, Hay, Kingston, Muggli, Osler, Petitclerc and Senior (8).

Participating in the meeting: Laura Blackmore 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 continued 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:

INOVAIT:

Philip Boyer, Program Manager, Health Data Innovation.

Digital Governance Council:

Keith Jansa, Chief Executive Officer.

QHR Technologies:

Mike Checkley, President (*by videoconference*).

Ontario Medical Association:

Dr. Zainab Abdurrahman, President;

Robert Fox, Chief Executive Officer, OntarioMD.

As individuals:

Anne Snowdon, Professor, University of Windsor, and Chief Executive Officer, Supply Chain Advancement Network in Health;

Alexis McGill, Assistant Professor and Research Chair in Health Innovation, Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences, University of New Brunswick;

Dr. Ivar Mendez, Professor of Neurosurgery and Director of the Virtual Health Hub, University of Saskatchewan (*by videoconference*).

Anne Snowdon, Alexis McGill and Ivar Mendez each made a statement and answered questions.

At 11:31 a.m., the committee suspended.

At 11:36 a.m., the committee resumed.

Philip Boyer, Keith Jansa, Mike Checkley, Zainab Abdurrahman and Robert Fox each made a statement and answered questions.

At 12:19 p.m., the committee adjourned to the call of the chair.

ATTEST:

Ferda Simpson

Clerk of the Committee