Treasury Board of Canada
Secretariat

Secrétariat du Conseil du Trésor
du Canada

Better government: with partners, for Canadians

Cyber Authentication Renewal
and Federating Identity
in the
Government of Canada

International Council for IT in Government Administration (ICA)
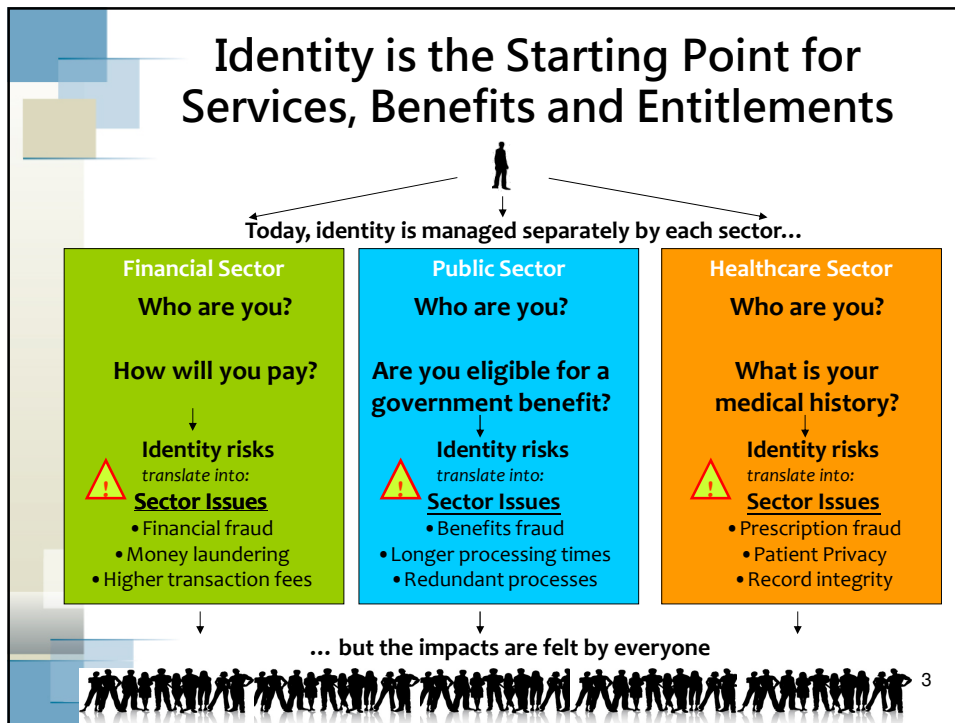**October 24th 2012**

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Government of Canada

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Government of Canada (GC) Context

▶ **The GC has been providing individuals and businesses with secure access to services via the Internet since 2004**
  ▶ First generation of secure online credentials issued in 2004 (proprietary)
  ▶ Cyber Authentication Renewal - Phased incremental approach to new authentication solutions introduced in 2008 (standards based)

▶ **The average Canadian spends 43.5 hours a month on the Internet – almost twice the world-wide average**

▶ **GC Clients expect seamless, secure, e-enabled delivery channels**
  ▶ Better, faster and more convenient access to government services
  ▶ Ability to interact seamlessly with multiple governments, through multiple channels

▶ **GC commits to modernizing service delivery under Budget 2012**
  ▶ Citizen-focused service delivery
  ▶ Standardize, consolidate and re-engineer
  ▶ Whole-of-government approach
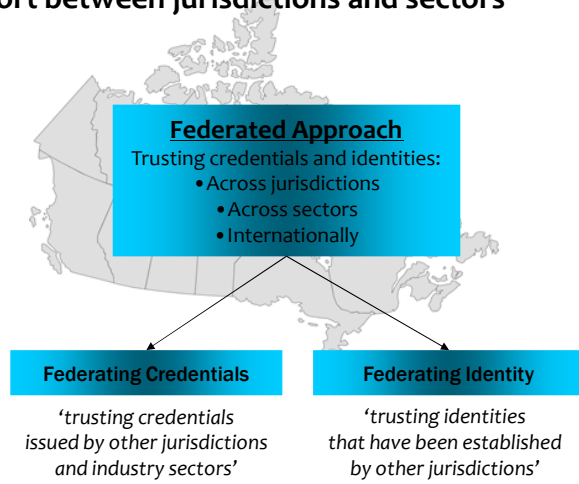
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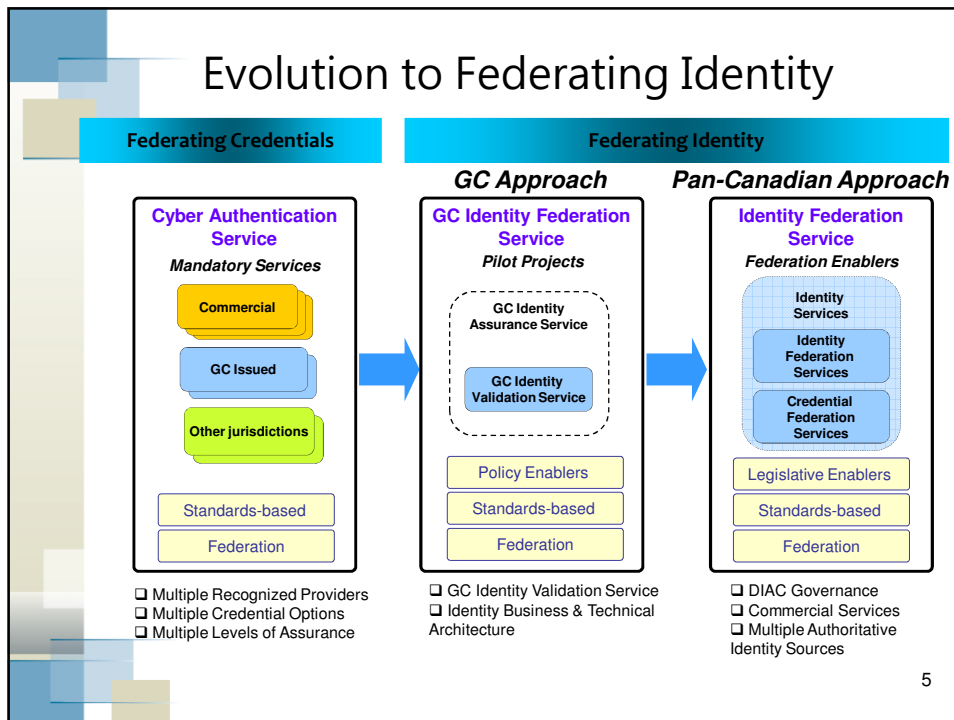# Identity is the Starting Point for Services, Benefits and Entitlements

Today, identity is managed separately by each sector…

Financial Sector	Public Sector	Healthcare Sector
Who are you?	**Who are you?**	**Who are you?**
How will you pay?	**Are you eligible for a government benefit?**	**What is your medical history?**
Identity risks *translate into:* ⚠ **Sector Issues** • Financial fraud • Money laundering • Higher transaction fees	**Identity risks** *translate into:* ⚠ **Sector Issues** • Benefits fraud • Longer processing times • Redundant processes	**Identity risks** *translate into:* ⚠ **Sector Issues** • Prescription fraud • Patient Privacy • Record integrity

… but the impacts are felt by everyone

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Vision: Pan-Canadian Approach

Collaborative effort between jurisdictions and sectors

Principles:
- ✓ Respect privacy
- ✓ Client choice
- ✓ Governments have a key role to play
- ✓ Collaborate with trusted private sector institutions
- ✓ Phased approach to evolving services and infrastructure

Federated Approach
Trusting credentials and identities:
- • Across jurisdictions
- • Across sectors
- • Internationally

Federating Credentials

'trusting credentials issued by other jurisdictions and industry sectors'

Federating Identity

'trusting identities that have been established by other jurisdictions'

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Evolution to Federating Identity

Federating Credentials	Federating Identity	
	GC Approach	**Pan-Canadian Approach**

Cyber Authentication Service
Mandatory Services

- Commercial
- GC Issued
- Other jurisdictions

Standards-based

Federation

❑ Multiple Recognized Providers
❑ Multiple Credential Options
❑ Multiple Levels of Assurance

GC Identity Federation Service
Pilot Projects

GC Identity Assurance Service

GC Identity Validation Service

Policy Enablers

Standards-based

Federation

❑ GC Identity Validation Service
❑ Identity Business & Technical Architecture

Identity Federation Service
Federation Enablers

Identity Services

Identity Federation Services

Credential Federation Services

Legislative Enablers

Standards-based

Federation

❑ DIAC Governance
❑ Commercial Services
❑ Multiple Authoritative Identity Sources

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Cyber Authentication Renewal Strategy

► **Provide clients choice in the credentials they use to authenticate online to GC programs and services**

► **Underlying Concepts**
  ► Distinction maintained between assurance of credential and assurance of identity – the "anonymous credential"
  ► Authentication service provides assurance that the same individual is accessing an online service, but does not reveal the identity of the individual
  ► New "federation of credentials" approach: credentials issued by service providers other than the GC can be trusted to access online government services

► **First major step enabling transformative online service delivery**

► **Lays foundation for evolving relationships with other jurisdictions and the private sector**

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Choice of Credentials

▶ **Credential Broker Service - An innovative relationship with private sector**
  - ▶ SecureKey Concierge operational since April 2012 - Enables log in to GC online services using commercially available credentials (currently three Canadian financial institutions)
  - ▶ Leverages the investments made in security and infrastructure in the private sector
  - ▶ To respect privacy, minimal and non-personally identifiable information is managed and used through Credential Broker Service
  - ▶ Positions the GC to benefit from ongoing industry investments in evolving and strengthening assurance levels

▶ **Option to use a GC credential (GCKey)**
  - ▶ Ensures all GC clients have ability to log in to e-services

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Technology Vignette

▶ **Live login using federated credentials . . . . .**

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Moving Forward

▶ **Treasury Board Secretariat is leading discussions on federating IdM within the GC, building on solid cyber authentication base**
- ▶ Open to future enhancements
- ▶ Flexible in meeting GC program needs
- ▶ Providing client choice

▶ **Policy will be evolved through continuing engagement and consultation with GC departments, other jurisdictions and sectors, and the international Identity Management community**

▶ **Respecting privacy is central to any plans for federating identity going forward – based on client-centric approach, user-control principle**

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