



Functional and Data Standards for a National Network of Immunization Registries in Canada

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Outline

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- Importance of Standards
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- The Immunization Registry Landscape
- Players in the Development of our Standards
- The Canadian Vaccine Catalogue Infrastructure
- Goal and Vision
- Process
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Definitions

What is...

- An Immunization Information System (IIS), or **Immunization Registry?**
 - A confidential, population-based, computerized database that records all immunization doses administered to persons residing within a given geopolitical area, and contains a record for all persons regardless of immunizations administered.*
- Immunization registries have the capacity to quickly and accurately capture data on the administration of vaccine doses at the individual level and are an important tool in
 - Vaccine supply management
 - Record keeping of immunization status
 - Immunization coverage reporting
 - Adverse Event Following immunization surveillance and reporting

*working definition

Importance of Standards

- Data standards are the cornerstone of high-quality, meaningful health information
 - The consistent use of standard terminology, vocabulary, and definitions supports the ability to exchange data across systems with meaning.
 - Standards are also critical to the sound interpretation of evidence drawn from multiple sources to be used to make informed decisions for policies and programs.
- Lack of data standards compromises the quality and utility of data
 - Problems arise when one term has multiple meanings or when two or more terms refer to the same concept but are not recognized as synonyms.
- Standards are necessary for integration & interoperability
 - Data standards are crucial for the integration of public health information systems with other systems across the health sector, regardless of vendors or locations.
 - Essential to the functionality of a National Network of Immunization Registries in Canada

Historical Context

- **1996:** Canadian Immunization Conference identifies need for an “immunization tracking system”
- **1998:** Goal for a National Immunization Records Network developed; formation of the National Working Group for an Immunization Records Network (NWGIRN) (referred to now as the **Canadian Immunization Registries and Coverage (CIRC) Network**)
- **2000:** Formation of sub-committee on Data and Technical Standards
- **2002:** Publication of Functional Standards and Minimum (Core) Data Sets for a National Immunization Registry Network in CCDR
 - available at <http://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/276986/publication.html>
- **February 2016:** The **Immunization Registry Standards Task Group (IRSTG)** initiated to draft revised functional standards and essential data elements to meet CIRC Network mandate.

Current Mandate of the IRSTG

The Immunization Registry Standards Task Group (IRSTG) initiated in February 2016 as a task group under the Canadian Immunization Registries and Coverage (CIRC) Network¹.

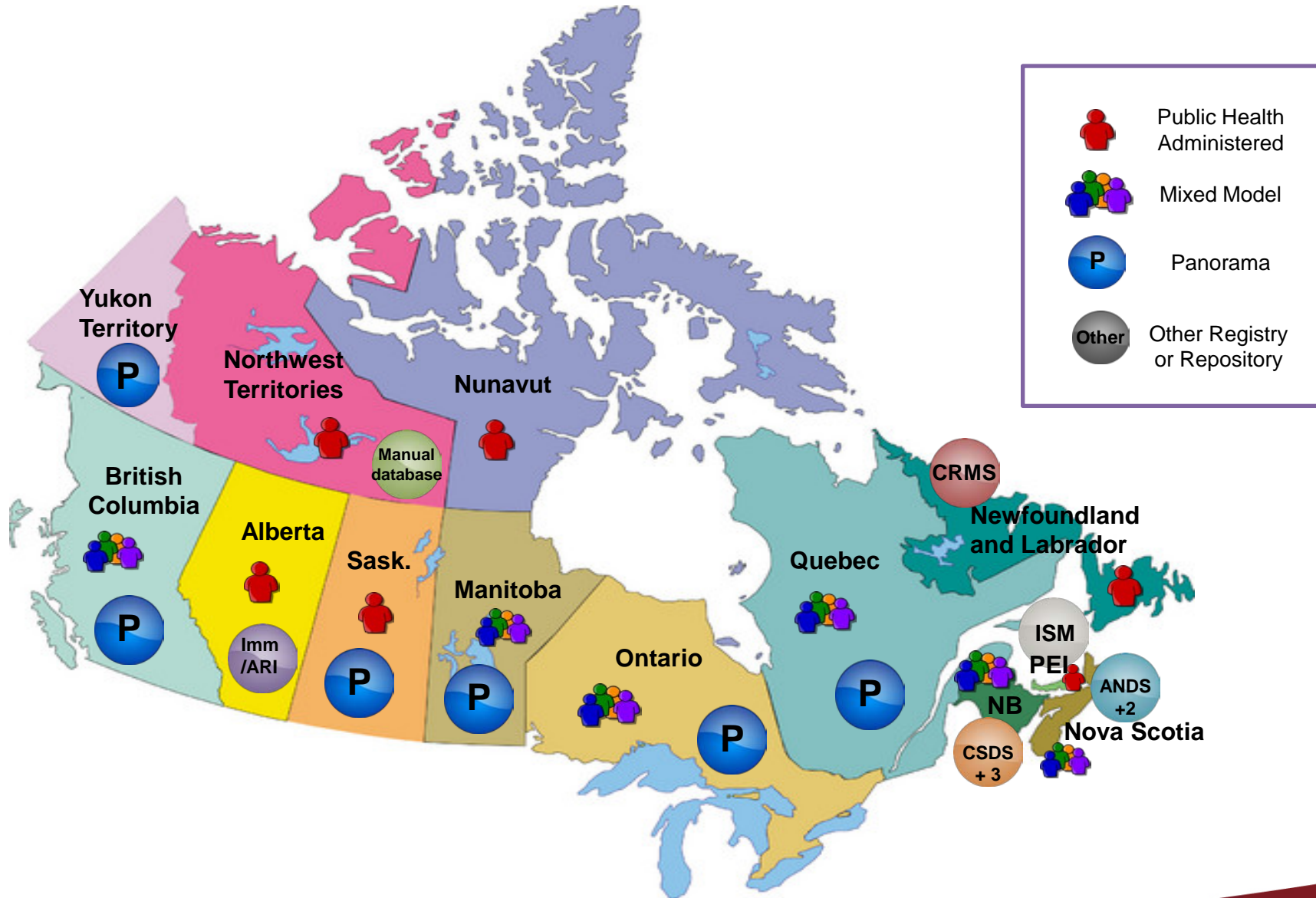
Mandate:

- Update² and develop revised Functional Standards for a National Network of Immunization Registries
- Develop Essential Data Elements for a National Network of Immunization Registries
- Establish indicators to monitor progress and report on the implementation of the Functional Standards for a National Network of Immunization Registries in all provinces and territories (P/Ts) in Canada
- Provide advice in the development of a communication and promotional plan to promote the adoption of the standards

¹ The CIRC Network was formerly known as the Canadian Immunization Registry Network (CIRN); name was changed in February 2016.

² 2002 Document available at: <http://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/276986/publication.html>.

The Immunization Registry Landscape



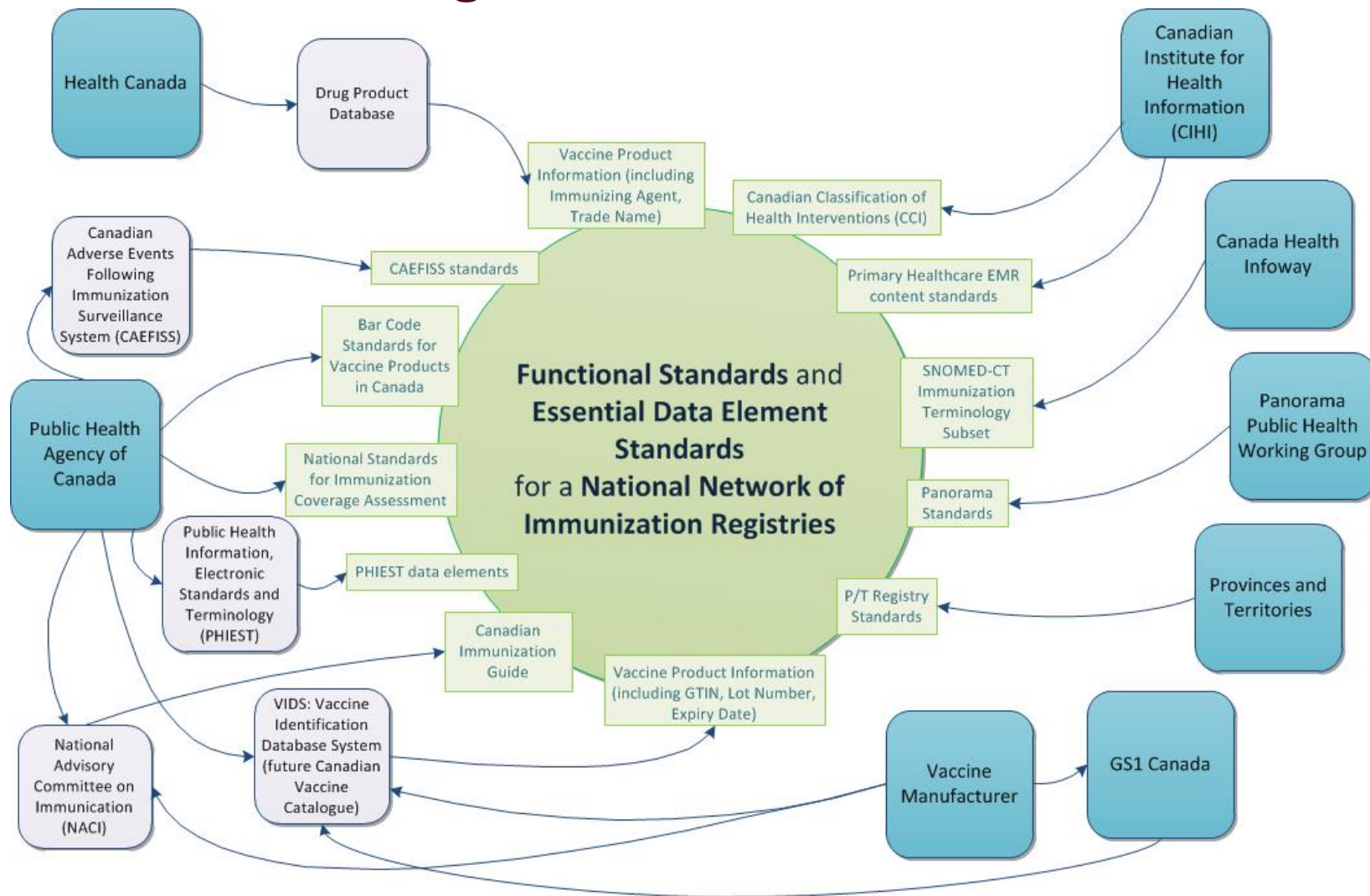
Goal

Nationally agreed upon functional standards and essential data elements will provide the necessary building blocks for achieving the goal of a national network of immunization registries

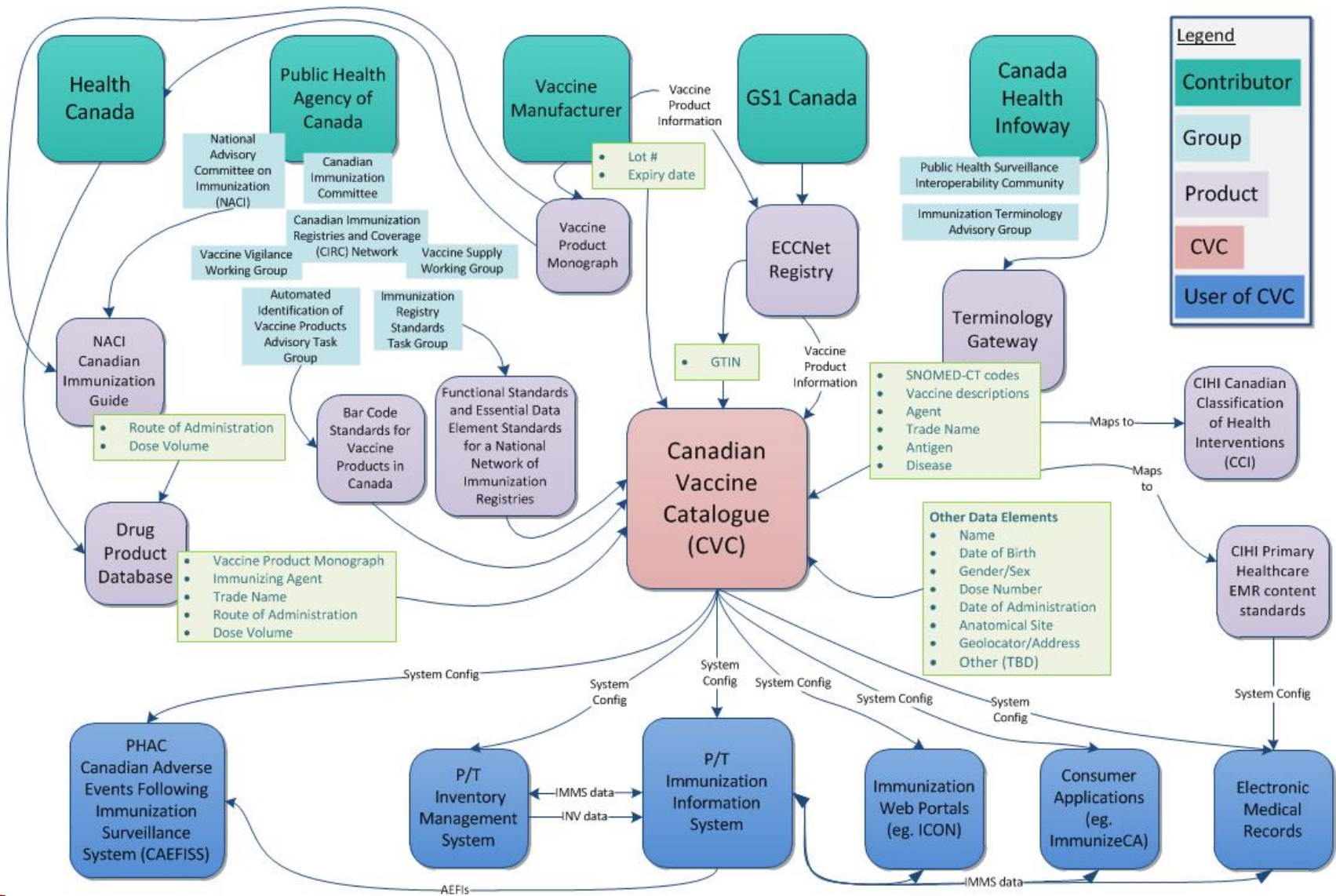
Vision

- **Truly national standards** for a network of immunization registries endorsed and adopted by Federal, Provincial and Territorial decision makers
- National standards will be **useful** by supporting:
 - Interoperability goals
 - Access to immunization status
 - Immunization coverage reporting
 - Adverse Event Following Immunization (AEFI) reporting
 - Vaccine Supply Management
 - **Information sharing across the immunization landscape in Canada to ensure effective, safe and equitable program delivery**

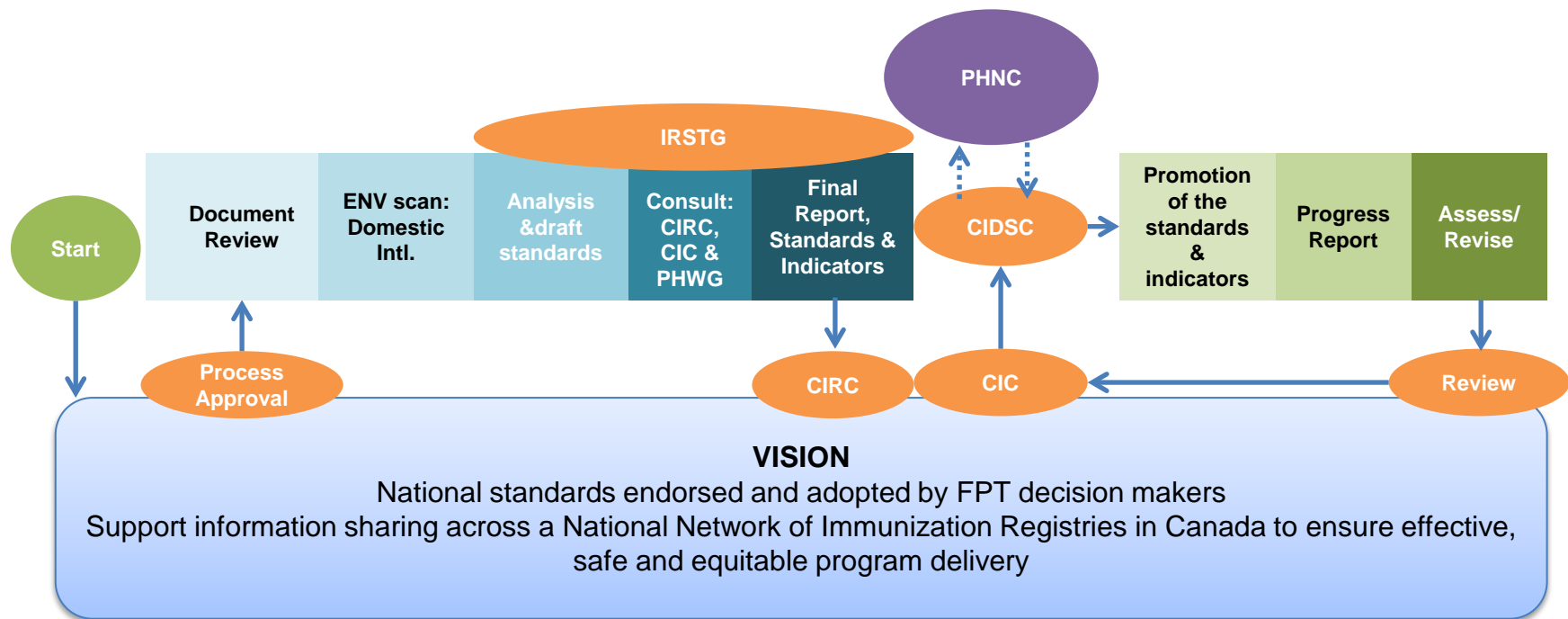
Players in the Development of the Functional and Essential Data Element Standards for a National Network of Immunization Registries



Vision for the Canadian Vaccine Catalogue Infrastructure



Process for Development of the Functional and Data Standards for a National Network of Immunization Registries in Canada



Timelines

- Launch IRSTG in February 2016
- Drafts presented to CIRC by December 2016
- Present to the Canadian Immunization Committee (CIC) in March 2017
- Publish final products by September 2017

Next Steps

- Share progress at National Conferences:
 - CPHA (June 2016)
 - eHealth (June 2016)
 - Canadian Immunization Conference (December 2016)
- With a clearly defined vision and process, the IRSTG will now:
 - Continue to conduct environmental scan
 - Consult with CDC
 - Gather/summarize information on standards used by PTs, PHWG, CHI, CIHI
 - Draft and define the Essential Data Elements
 - Revise the Functional Standards

Questions and Discussion

- Do you support the **Vision** for national standards?
- In order to be **useful** tool, how comprehensive do you feel the **data standards** need to be?
- What are key elements and functions that you feel are necessary for inclusion?
- Who else should we be engaging with?
- The CVC: A source of vaccine information, or more?

Thank you!

Additional Questions or Comments?

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