



**SPRING TUTORIAL  
AND MEETING**  
April 7-8, 2003  
Sheraton Ottawa Hotel  
Ottawa, Ontario

**INVITATION TO ATTEND**

On behalf of the HL7 Canada Executive, I would like to invite you to participate in the HL7 Canada Spring 2003 Tutorials and Meeting, being held from April 7 to 8 in Ottawa, Ontario. This year's theme is *HL7 Projects: Building Bridges to Successful Standards*. The meeting will take place at the Sheraton Ottawa Hotel.

These sessions are designed for health informatics professionals with an interest in interoperability, communications, data-sharing and standards. The meeting will attract both novice and experienced HL7 users. For those who are familiar with HL7 in its current releases, this conference will offer a clear view of the existing activities and the future direction of HL7.

The educational sessions this spring will be held on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Tutorial 1 will focus on orienting people who are relatively new to HL7, introducing the roles and activities of the HL7 International and Canadian organization, different versions of the HL7 standards, and HL7 migration and implementation issues. Tutorial 2 is designed for more advanced users and will focus on HL7 Version 3 with special attention to the design and development methodology in the morning and an in depth examination of the implementation aspects in the afternoon.

The HL7 Canada Meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> will feature presentations and discussions on the use of HL7 in a growing number of EHR-related projects in Canada. The keynote presentation delivered by Dennis Giokas, Chief Technology Officer, Canada Health Infoway Inc., will provide an insightful look at Canada Health Infoway Inc.'s architecture and view of standards' requirements for the EHR. The keynote address will be followed by short presentations from Canadian projects using HL7. The Meeting will also feature updates and work plan discussions in the Design and Implementation Committees' breakout sessions.

If you have any questions about the HL7 Canada Spring 2003 Tutorials and Meeting, please contact the Secretariat by email at [hl7canada@cihi.ca](mailto:hl7canada@cihi.ca) or by phone at 416-481-2002.

I look forward to seeing you in Ottawa!

Caroline Heick  
Chair, HL7 Canada Executive Committee



Canadian Institute  
for Health Information  
Institut canadien  
d'information sur la santé

## THE HL7 STANDARD

Health Level Seven (HL7) is the most successful messaging standard in health, not only in North America, but also around the world. Formed in 1987, HL7 has the goal of developing an international set of open standards for data format and content that allows different health information systems to communicate with one another. HL7 standardizes the protocols, structure, and content for sharing key sets of health data at the application level—the seventh level of ISO's open systems model.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### HL7 Canada Tutorials

#### Monday, April 7

8:30–9:00 Registration/Continental Breakfast  
9:00–10:45 Concurrent HL7 Tutorials  
10:45–11:00 Break  
11:00–12:00 Concurrent HL7 Tutorials  
12:00–13:00 Lunch  
13:00–14:45 Concurrent HL7 Tutorials  
14:45–15:00 Break  
15:00–17:00 Concurrent HL7 Tutorials

### HL7 Canada Meeting

#### Tuesday, April 8

8:30-9:00 Registration/Continental Breakfast  
9:00-9:45 HL7 Canada Meeting Opening Plenary  
9:45-10:45 Canadian HL7 Project Presentations  
10:45-11:00 Break  
11:00-12:00 Canadian HL7 Project Presentations Continued  
12:00-13:00 Lunch  
13:00-15:00 Technical Committee Concurrent Breakout Sessions  
15:00-15:15 Break  
15:15-16:00 Technical Committee Concurrent Breakout Sessions Continued  
16:00-16:20 Updates from the HL7 Canada Secretariat  
16:20-17:00 Closing Plenary

## OVERVIEW OF THE SPRING 2003 HL7 CANADA PROGRAM

### Monday, April 7, 2003, 9am-5pm

#### **Tutorial 1: HL7 Introduction: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About HL7 But Were Afraid to Ask**

- Introduction to HL7 Inc. and HL7 Canada
- Introduction to HL7 Version 2 and HL7 Version 3
- Introduction to the Messaging Workbench Tool
- HL7 migration and implementation issues

### Monday, April 7, 2003, 9am-5pm

#### **Tutorial 2: HL7 Version 3 - From Design to Implementation**

- HL7 Version 3 Development Methodology
- Information modelling and the HL7 Version 3 design tools
- HL7 Version 3 XML schemas for implementation
- Vocabulary and localization for implementation

### Tuesday, April 8, 2003, 9am-5pm

#### **HL7 Canada Meeting: HL7 Projects - Building Bridges to Successful Standards**

- Keynote Presentation – *Dennis Giokas, Chief Technology Officer, Canada Health Infoway Inc.*
- Presentations from Canadian projects using HL7
- Open meetings of the HL7 Canada Design and Implementation Committees
- Closing plenary

## DETAILS ABOUT THE SPRING 2003 HL7 CANADA PROGRAM

### Monday, April 7, 2003, 9am-5pm

#### **Tutorial 1: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About HL7 But Were Afraid to Ask**

*Presenters: Guy Paterson, Director at Large, HL7 Canada Executive Committee, Helen Stevens, Chair, HL7 Canada Implementation Committee, Chair, HL7 Version 3 Publications Committee, and Gavin Tong, Coordinator, HL7 Canada*

This tutorial will provide a brief introduction to HL7 International (HL7, Inc.) and HL7 Canada. This tutorial will then introduce the history and development of HL7 Version 2 as well as guidelines on how to understand its content. Following Version 2, HL7 Version 3, the next generation of HL7, will be introduced. Participants will have a chance to examine the Version 3 content in the latest ballot and will be shown the pros and cons of implementing in Version 2 and Version 3. A software demonstration of the Messaging Workbench Tool will examine how the tool can be used to assist HL7 Version 2 implementations. The day will end with an open discussion and Q&A about HL7 migration and adoption issues. This session is suitable for those people who are new to HL7, including project managers, interface analysts, information architects and all implementers of HL7.



Monday, April 7, 2003, 9am-5pm

## **Tutorial 2: HL7 Version 3 - From Design to Implementation**

*Presenters: Jane Curry, Chair, HL7 Canada Design Committee, Co-chair, HL7 Modeling and Methodology Technical Committee, and Helen Stevens, Chair, HL7 Canada Implementation Committee, Chair, HL7 Version 3 Publications Committee*

The morning half of this tutorial is geared towards standards developers and anyone interested in understanding the development methodology of HL7 Version 3. This tutorial will demonstrate the use of information modeling to transform a real life event into an HL7 Version 3 message. In addition, this tutorial will demonstrate the use of the software required by the different stages of the HL7 Development Methodology. The afternoon portion of this session targets implementers of HL7 Version 3 with an in depth look at the HL7 Version 3 XML message schemas. This session will demonstrate how to find the information needed to create XML messages from the schemas as well as examine key implementation issues that extend beyond the use of schemas such as vocabulary.

Tuesday, April 8, 2003, 9am-5pm

## **HL7 Canada Meeting: HL7 Projects - Building Bridges to Successful Standards**

### **HL7 Canada Meeting Keynote Presentation**

#### ***The Role of Health Information Standards in Enabling the EHR Solution***

Dennis Giokas, Chief Technology Officer, Canada Health Infoway Inc. (*Infoway*) will be presenting on the role of standards in *Infoway's* vision of the EHR. This presentation will highlight current activities and future plans for assisting projects to develop and implement health information standards in Canada.

Dennis Giokas was appointed Chief Technology Officer for Canada Health Infoway Inc. effective September 16, 2002. In this role, he is responsible for the overall electronic health record solution architecture, standards, security, privacy, and toolkits. *Infoway's* mission is to foster and accelerate the development and adoption of electronic health information with compatible standards and communication technologies on a pan-Canadian basis. Its immediate priority is to support and accelerate the development of interoperable electronic health record (EHR) solutions - in order to provide Canadians and their health care providers with timely, appropriate, and secure access to the right information whenever they enter the system.

Following the keynote presentation, the HL7 Canada Meeting will feature several presentations from Canadian projects currently using HL7. These presentations will give insight into the diverse and innovative implementations of HL7.

The HL7 Canada Meeting will also host open discussions in the HL7 Canada Design and Implementation Committee breakout sessions.

## **HL7 Canada Meeting Breakout Discussions Implementation Issues Agenda**

The HL7 Canada Implementation Technical Committee discussion will focus on three main topics:

- Review of the HL7 learning resources on the HL7 Canada website. This will include overviews of the materials, examining the accessibility of the materials, and defining what other materials should be posted to assist people with learning and implementing HL7.
- Update from the HL7 Canada Implementation project to define and improve HL7 educational opportunities within Canada.
- Discussion of strategies for cross project co-ordination and outreach.

The breakout session will conclude with an open forum discussion to answer any implementation questions and to prioritize HL7 Canada Implementation Committee projects for the future.

### **Design Issues Agenda**

The HL7 Canada Design Committee agenda will focus on:

- Introduction to the HL7 Development Framework, the next version of the HL7 methodology for designing Version 3 specifications for messages and other standards including documents, templates and components.
- Review of the findings and decisions of the Process Sub-Committee.
- Review of HL7 Canada approval processes.
- Examination of recent change proposals and future Canadian HL7 requirements.

Tuesday, April 8, 2003, 7-9 pm

### **HL7 Certification Exam:**

- Students will have 2 hours to answer 70 multiple-choice questions on Chapter 2, HL7 Version 2.4.

*Please note: The HL7 Canada Tutorials on April 7<sup>th</sup> are not intended to be preparatory sessions for this exam. Please contact the HL7 Canada Secretariat by email, [hl7canada@cihi.ca](mailto:hl7canada@cihi.ca), or phone, 416-481-2002, for a complete list of exam preparation materials.*



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### ACCOMMODATIONS

#### Sheraton Ottawa Hotel

A special rate of \$129/night is available to meeting attendees who reserve **prior to March 10, 2003**. To reserve a room, please contact:

Sheraton Ottawa Hotel  
150 Albert Street  
Ottawa, ON  
K1P 5G2  
Toll Free 1-888-625-5144  
Phone (613) 238-1500 Fax (613) 235-2723

Callers must identify themselves as being with the Canadian Institute for Health Information in order to qualify for the group rate. Effective **March 11**, rooms are available on a space available basis only, so participants are encouraged to register early.

#### Meals

Continental breakfast, lunch, and refreshment breaks are included in the registration fee for all days.

#### Dress

We would like to continue the air of ease associated with HL7 Canada conferences. Please dress comfortably for both the tutorials and the meeting days.

#### Payments, Refunds and Cancellations

Sessions may be cancelled, should a minimum registration number not be attained by March 10, 2003. Payments received before this date will be refunded.

Advance registrations received **with payment by Monday, March 10, 2003** will receive the early registration discount. Registrations after that date will be charged the standard rate.

Substitutions for the HL7 Canada events will be accepted at any time. Refunds will be issued upon request, less a \$50 administration fee (plus applicable GST), if notification is received by **March 17, 2002**. No refunds will be made after this date.

## About Ottawa

Ottawa Region lies within minutes of golfing, fishing, hiking, skiing, and many other outdoor adventures and wilderness activities. Three rivers (the Ottawa, the Rideau and the Gatineau), hundreds of lakes, the historic Rideau Canal for boating and skating, green spaces, and bicycle paths provide ample natural amenities within the Capital area. Ottawa is home

to 12 national museums devoted to Canadian art, nature, science and technology, aviation, war civilization and more. Also of interest are the Parliament Buildings and the Byward Market, which is constantly buzzing with people visiting the many restaurants, shops, and pubs.