



# Interoperability with Statistical Classifications

Workshop on the Modernisation of Official Statistics  
Cory Chobanik and Stéphane Crête



Delivering insight through data for a better Canada

## Context

- **Greater demand** to make **statistical classifications** (reference data) available, in **machine readable formats** externally to partners, nationally and internationally
- Advancement of **Machine Learning (ML)** and **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** (Coding)
- **International adoption** of reference classifications (Statistics Canada, SIEC – SDMX Energy)
- Seismic shifts towards **greater use of data standards** to drive key **business outcomes**
  - Canadian Data Governance Standardization Collaborative
  - Government of Canada Enterprise Data Standards
- Changing role of **national statistical agencies**, playing a **leading role** in ensuring that **robust standards are available, adopted and aligned** as part of the national statistical system
- Advancement of **international working groups** and **projects** (Classifications)
  - Interactive and digitally-enabled statistical standards for economic statistics and classifications, etc.
- **Modernization initiatives** around statistical standards



**OUR VISION:** We propose to define collaboratively a **Standard Statistical Classification API** : set of agreed-upon specifications for protocol messages (methods) and responses (information objects)

# Business Outcomes of Standards

1

## Accelerating Digitization

As business processes become increasingly **digitized**, **standards facilitate** this process by:

- Eliminating the need to create new structures for each new process
- Providing an easy **reference for innovation**

3

## Reducing Costs

**Standards reduce costs** by standardizing data from the start. These results are shown through the **simplification of business processes**, the reduction of producing custom, IT interfaces and by permitting technology providers in building **single integrations** and infrastructure that can be **re-used**.

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## International Harmonization

Moving to more **standards** will allow **organizational and international harmonization**, national harmonization can occur with **partners adopting the standard**, allowing insights. Consistent definitions will increase the comparability, usability and quality.

2

## Reducing Friction

Standards **reduce friction** across the entire system, by ensuring both **internal programs and external parties have consensus** on data elements and business definitions. This reduction **increases timeliness**.

4

## Advancing Innovation

Standards facilitate **innovation and automation** by eliminating vast groups of organizations that create their own data dictionaries or data elements. Standards provide the foundation to **explore and exploit** at full speed, such **value-added innovations**.

6

## Data Sharing

To be able to fully utilize the data that both consumers and producers share, **parties need to understand the data**. Standards play a essential role in this process, allowing both **parties to seamlessly and immediately ingest the data**. Standards encourage a comprehensive description **of data for discovery**; it facilitates **machine-actionable data** and **promotes interoperability**.

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## Contact Us

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