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**CONCURRENT SESSIONS THEME 1: Informatics Innovations in Nursing Practice**

**RN's Participating at The Policy Table**

*by Sally Remus, RN MScN*

**ABSTRACT**

Technology driven solutions are changing the landscape of our practice settings where nurses can and need to be the trendsetters. If nurses understand and are informed, nurses can make the difference in guiding their futures. Nurses will be able to embrace technology rather than letting the technology use them. We have to "tame the tiger now" or lose our practice and ourselves. Both the valuing and ultimate survival of the profession hangs in jeopardy if nurses and nursing do not. As multiple information and communication technology (ICT) projects involving the launch and realization of Electronic Health Records (EHRs) move forward at both the provincial and national levels, RNs are being invited to participate as key stakeholders at health data and technology standard's policy tables. This presentation will demonstrate how nurses participating at the health data and technology standard's policy table will support nursing and nurse's futures. The presentation will highlight a nurse's experience at the policy table and share the:

- importance of nurses and nursing influencing data and technology standards at the policy table,
- relevance of health data and technology standards to nursing practice, patient safety and clinical outcomes, and
- role of nurses and nursing informatics in the design strategy and implementation of EHRs.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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Sally is an experienced and knowledgeable manager/ director and consultant in health management and informatics with an extensive career in health service organizations, government and private business. She has a broad clinical health and nursing experience ranging across the continuum of care in acute critical care, long term care and community settings. She brings strong re-design skills in the area of clinical process re-engineering and change/leadership management focused in technological innovation and implementations. Sally is a graduate of the University of Western Ontario and University of Toronto where she obtained a BScN and MScN. Currently, Sally is the Director of Clinical Informatics at St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto.