

Canadian Access Federation: Trust Assertion Document (TAD)

1. Purpose

A fundamental requirement of Participants in the Canadian Access Federation is that they assert authoritative and accurate identity attributes to resources being accessed, and that Participants receiving an attribute assertion protect it and respect privacy constraints placed on it by the asserting Participant.

To accomplish this practice, CANARIE requires Participants to make available to all other Participants answers to the questions below.

1.1 Canadian Access Federation Requirement

Currently, the community of trust is based on “best effort” and transparency of practice. Each Participant documents, for other Participants, their identity and access management practices, which they can confidently meet. Each Participant should make available to other Participants basic information about their identity management system and resource access management systems registered for use within the Canadian Access Federation. The information would include how supported identity attributes are defined and how attributes are consumed by services.

1.2 Publication

Your responses to these questions must be:

1. submitted to CANARIE to be posted on the CANARIE website; and
2. posted in a readily accessible place on your web site.

You must maintain an up-to-date Trust Assertion Document.

2. Canadian Access Federation Participant Information

2.1.1. Organization name: BCNET

2.1.2. Information below is accurate as of this date: March 18, 2013

2.2 Identity Management and/or Privacy information

2.2.1. Where can other Canadian Access Federation Participants find additional information about your identity management practices and/or privacy policy regarding personal information?

<https://wiki.bc.net/atl-conf/display/BCNET/BCNET+Security+Policy> (authentication required)

2.3 Contact information

2.3.1. Please list person(s) or office who can answer questions about the Participant's identity management system or resource access management policy or practice.

Name: BCNET

Title or role: General information contact

Email address: info@bc.net

Telephone: +1-604-822-1348

3. Identity Provider Information

Two criteria for trustworthy attribute assertions by Identity Providers are: (1) that the identity management system be accountable to the organization's executive or business management, and (2) the system for issuing end-user credentials (e.g., userids/passwords, authentication tokens, etc.) has in place appropriate risk management measures (e.g. security practices, change management controls, audit trails, accountability, etc.).

3.1 Community

3.1.1. As an Identity Provider, how do you define the set of people who are eligible to receive an electronic identity? If exceptions to this definition are allowed, who must approve such an exception?

BCNET Members are eligible to receive electronic identities, which are primarily for access to BCNET resources. Although these identities also provide access to some non-BCNET resources such as eduroam, it is recommended that members use their home site identities for this purpose. Exceptions must be approved by BCNET management. Membership in BCNET is open to higher education and research institutions in British Columbia.

3.1.2. What subset of persons registered in your identity management system would you identify as a "Participant" in SAML identity assertions to **CAF** Service Providers?

BCNET does not currently provide SAML identity assertions, but if it does in future, it will not distinguish between different types of persons registered in the system. All persons in the system are legitimately allowed to use BCNET services and would be identified to CAF SPs as a Participant

3.2 Electronic Identity Credentials

3.2.1. Please describe, in general terms, the administrative process used to establish an electronic identity that results in a record for that person being created in your electronic identity database? Please identify the office(s) of record for this purpose.

Request to authorized personnel. Office of record is BCNET.

3.2.2. What authentication technologies are used for your electronic identity credentials (e.g., Kerberos, userID/password, PKI, ...) that are relevant to Canadian Access Federation activities? If more than one type of electronic credential is issued, how is it determined who receives which type? If multiple credentials are linked, how is this managed (e.g., anyone with a Kerberos credential also can acquire a PKI token) and audited?

BCNET uses a UserID/Password for authentication.

3.2.3. If your electronic identity credentials require the use of a secret password or PIN, and there are circumstances in which that secret would be transmitted across a network without being protected by encryption (e.g., "clear text passwords" are used when accessing campus services), please identify who in your organization can discuss with any other Participant concerns that this might raise for them:

All authentication is encrypted.

- 3.2.4. If you support a “single sign-on” (SSO) or similar campus-wide system to allow a single user authentication action to serve multiple applications, and you will make use of this to authenticate people for **CAF** Service Providers, please describe the key security aspects of your SSO system including whether session timeouts are enforced by the system, whether user-initiated session termination is supported, and how use with “public access sites” is protected.

While BCNET does make use of an SSO system for internal applications, this system would not be used for a Shibboleth front-end. If a Shibboleth IdP were established, session management would be handled only by the Shibboleth SP

- 3.2.5. Are your primary electronic identifiers for people, such as “NetID,” eduPersonPrincipalName, or eduPersonTargetedID considered to be unique for all time to the individual to whom they are assigned? If not, what is your policy for re-assignment and what is the interval between such reuse?

Yes.

3.3 Electronic Identity Database

- 3.3.1. How is information in your electronic identity database acquired and updated? Are specific offices designated by your administration to perform this function? Are individuals allowed to update their own information on-line?

Authorized personnel update the identity database. Individuals are allowed to update general information and passwords on-line.

- 3.3.2. What information in this database is considered “public information” and would be provided to any interested party?

No information is considered public. Contact information is available to other authenticated users.

3.4 Uses of Your Electronic Identity Credential System

- 3.4.1. Please identify typical classes of applications for which your electronic identity credentials are used within your own organization.

Primarily the BCNET wiki.

3.5 Attribute Assertions

Attributes are the information data elements in an attribute assertion you might make to another Canadian Access Federation Participant concerning the identity of a person in your identity management system.

3.5.1. Please describe the reliability of your identity provider attribute assertions?

Attributes in the BCNET Identity Management system should be considered reliable. They are created manually by an administrator upon request and approval.

3.5.2. Would you consider your attribute assertions to be reliable enough to:

- a) control access to on-line information databases licensed to your organization?
Yes
- b) be used to purchase goods or services for your organization?
No
- c) enable access to personal information such as student record information?
Yes

3.6 Privacy Policy

Canadian Access Federation Participants must respect the legal and organizational privacy constraints on attribute information provided by other Participants and use it only for its intended purposes.

3.6.1. What restrictions do you place on the use of attribute information that you might provide to other Canadian Access Federation participants?

No attributes are currently released. A whitelist policy would most likely be adopted, providing only an eduPersonTargetedID attribute by default and releasing other attributes (first name, last name, eppn) to SPs upon request and approval

3.6.2. What policies govern the use of attribute information that you might release to other Canadian Access Federation participants?

<https://wiki.bc.net/atl-conf/display/BCNET/BCNET+Security+Policy> (authentication required)

3.6.3. Please provide your privacy policy URL.

<https://wiki.bc.net/atl-conf/display/BCNET/BCNET+Security+Policy> (authentication required)

4. Service Provider Information

Service Providers, who receive attribute assertions from another Participant, shall respect the other Participant's policies, rules, and standards regarding the protection and use of that data. Such information must be used only for the purposes for which it was provided.

Service Providers are trusted to ask for only the information necessary to make an appropriate access control decision, and to not misuse information provided to them by Identity Providers. Service Providers must describe the basis on which access to resources is managed and their practices with respect to attribute information they receive from other Participants.

4.1 Attributes

4.1.1. What attribute information about an individual do you require in order to manage access to resources you make available to other Participants? Describe separately for each service application that you offer to CAF participants.

Only the eduPersonPrincipalName (EPPN) is required, in order to ensure an individual should have access to the BCNET Wiki service

4.1.2. What use do you make of attribute information that you receive in addition to basic access control decisions?

An individual's EPPN is associated with an internal BCNET Wiki account. Only the site admin can view the EPPN to audit whether access is allowed (currently a manual process)

4.1.3. Do you use attributes to provide a persistent user experience across multiple sessions?

Yes

4.1.4. Do you aggregate session access records or record specific information accessed based on attribute information.

An individual entering the system for the first time via Shibboleth must either create or claim an existing BCNET Wiki account. That account is then associated with any actions the user performs

4.1.5. Do you make attribute information available to other services you provide or to partner organizations?

No.

4.2 Technical Controls

4.2.1. What human and technical controls are in place on access to and use of attribute information that might refer to only one specific person (i.e., personally identifiable information)? For example, is this information encrypted for storage in your system?

The EPPN is stored in an LDAP directory. Data in the LDAP directory is not encrypted, but is access-controlled by both authentication and host-based firewall

4.2.2. Describe the human and technical controls that are in place on the management of super-user and other privileged accounts that might have the authority to grant access to personally identifiable information?

BCNET Systems administrators have root-level access to the LDAP directory. All root-level access is logged.

4.2.3. If personally identifiable information is compromised, what actions do you take to notify potentially affected individuals?

<https://wiki.bc.net/atl-conf/display/BCNET/BCNET+Security+Policy> (authentication required).

5. Other Information

5.1 Technical Standards, Versions and Interoperability

5.1.1. Identify the SAML products you are using. If you are using the open source Internet2 Shibboleth products identify the release that you are using.

Shibboleth SP v2.4.3

5.1.2. What operating systems are the implementations on?

Solaris 10

5.1.3. What versions of the SAML protocol (1.1 or 2.0) do you support in your implementations.

SAML 1.1

SAML 2.0

5.2 Other Considerations

5.2.1. Are there any other considerations or information that you wish to make known to other Canadian Access Federation Participants with whom you might interoperate? For example, are there concerns about the use of clear text passwords or responsibilities in case of a security breach involving identity information you may have provided?