

# 2019: February

Hello everyone

This is the running update from the Executive Director. Have questions or comments? Suggest some added information or edits? Contact ED Colin at [kantarainitiative.org](mailto:kantarainitiative.org).

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While weather extremes continue to impact our members around the globe be it the searing heat and bush fires in Australia, unseasonal heat and peat fires in the north of England, or heavy dumps of snow in the US (even snow in Las Vegas and Hawaii!), the digital identity and personal data privacy domains stepped up a gear as this year's conference season gets into full swing.

February enabled Kantara's Assurance program to show the results of weeks of intense activity in the Assurance Review Board with two major announcements. The first was [Experian's CrossCore Platform Service](#) which was approved under Kantara's "NIST 800-63 rev.3" Class of Approval and gained the coveted Kantara Trust Mark for NIST 800-63 rev.3-conformant services. The second was [Excelsior Security Solutions](#), that became a Kantara Accredited Assessor the last week of February following a recommendation by the Assurance Review Board and Kantara Board of Director's approval.

February 1st heralded the official opening of calls for proposals for Kantara Initiative Europe's 2019 European Union H2020 grant funded [NGL\\_Trust project](#) with other consortia members GEANT, Fraunhofer, Tecnalia, EFIS and EDN. The call closes April 30th and has received strong interest already with nearly two months remaining. Regardless of whether you are a European-based individual, research institute, start-up or mature company that is building solutions for the [Next Generation Internet](#), we need your help to make those solutions [human-centric](#) by developing them to be both scalable as well as privacy and trust enhancing. Our two other bids with a different mix of consortia are looking good! I hope to update you on our progress in due course.

The second week of February saw your European-based staff gather in Vienna for the [TIIME workshop](#) brilliantly convened by eGov WG Chair Rainer Hoerbe. We find this a perfect venue to brainstorm longer term strategy and work through detailed plans for both the Assurance program and the R&D program, because we are surrounded by our friends from the Research and Higher Education Federations who regularly attend this conference to engage with each other and with Kantara too, one of the few (if only) industry consortia to be bestowed such honor, given the alignment of our collective ethics and ethos. There were some inspiring ideas flowing from the proceedings in the link above. In addition, I was able to take two sessions on [NGL\\_Trust](#), with over a handful participants from this event showing a strong interest shown in developing proposals. A significant output from the staff gathering was to learn of the appointment of Ruth Puente as an additional Director for Kantara Initiative Europe, the Estonian incorporated non profit trade association that licences Kantara's brand and artifacts from US incorporated Kantara Initiative Inc for promotion in that region.

While on the subject of R&D, as part of KIPI, the DHS signed off on Phase 3 of [Exponent's MOB4PACS project using smartphones as PIV cards with NFC and BLE](#). This is the final phase of this project which sees this fantastic technology ready itself for commercialization.

On the community side of the house:

- the Consent & Information Sharing WG is working towards the revision of its Consent Receipt real world use case demo and its respective Consent Receipt Generator;
- the UMA WG is in advanced preparations to present UMA v2.0 to the 104th IETF meeting in Prague in April to ready it for a standards track contribution;
- the Identity Assurance Work Group is working hard on preparing [comments](#) on the [Pan Canadian Trust Framework](#) whose overview is out for public review;
- the [ID Proofing and Verification Discussion Group](#) is assembling a strong set of use cases into a report to ISO SC27 Working Group 5 later in March in time for the Study Period's findings in Tel Aviv in April; and
- [Kantara's liaison with Working Group 5](#) is seeing increased activity as the international standards drafts covering identity and privacy reach a more developed and mature stage in their development.

As we prepare the privacy session for our friends ID Pro in their education sessions for identity professionals at [KNOW Identity in Las Vegas later in March \(hurry - there's still time to grab a ticket with the Kantara discount code\)](#), we are also setting the workshop agendas and speaking slots for Kantara members at the European Identity Conference in Munich in May and in June the slew of events starting with Identity North in Toronto, then Identity Week UK, EEMA UK, Think Digital Identity UK, Whitehall Media IDM UK, and in the last week Identiverse in Washington DC. If you are attending the EIC in Munich in May, please make sure you arrive a day early and [register here for the Kantara Members Plenary](#) on Monday May 13th. community discounts and planning [our participation at Conferences and Events](#) too. Of course our participation is your participation.

Please join me in welcoming new organizational members the [Lush Group](#) and [Seadot](#) as well as individual contributor Lisa LeVasseur.

And welcome back renewing members in February two New Zealand organizations [Sphere Identity](#) and the [Department of Internal Affairs](#), as well as long-serving Board member, the [Internet Society](#) and individuals contributors Mary Hodder and John Wunderlich. A great big thank you to you all for continuing your support of Kantara.

Hang on tight folks - it's going to be a busy few months!

Kind Regards,

Colin

**Around the Houses:**

**Marketing:**

- Follow us online: <https://twitter.com/KantaraNews> and <https://twitter.com/UMAWG> and <https://twitter.com/KantaraCISWG>.
- Miss something? See our press releases [here](#).
- Want to start a Kantara local chapter in your town? We are happy to help. Just [Contact us](#).

**Program, Work Group and Discussion Group Updates:**

- You can always keep up with the latest news from the Work and Discussion Groups directly on the [Leadership Council's Blog](#). See the list of public groups [here](#).
- As always, our Specifications, Recommendations and Reports are available for download from our [Reports and Recommendations](#) web repository - now with frictionless access.
- Not sure where to find things? Staff are only too willing to assist. [Contact them via email](#).

**Events:** [See them all here!](#)