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## Publisher's Notes

- STEVEN A. HUESING -

I need to start my notes with a very large apology — to Myrna Francis of Infoway and Dave Watling, our eHealth editor — we misquoted Myrna... “Infoway has set an ambitious goal — having the elements of an *inoperable* EHR... within 7 years”... obviously the word should have been “*interoperable*”, our deepest apologies. Unfortunately, we were victimized by an automated spell-checker and our own inadequacy to edit the final proof appropriately. One of our regular readers picked up on the error and, tongue in cheek, congratulated Infoway for achieving their goal 20 years ahead of schedule.

These errors are the epitome of embarrassment for Editors and publishers; I can recall that some 15 years ago I was visiting my friend, Bill Childs, then Publisher of the US magazine, *Healthcare Computing* (now *Healthcare Informatics*) in Denver. He had published a huge 6-page ad (times were good then) announcing the rollout of a major new iteration of TDS's product line. I was suitably impressed and discovered that the header on the published ad boldly announced how this new product would change the face of HEALTH Care. Heads rolled, no doubt. The obvious is often the most sublime.

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Brendan Seaton's article “*Why is Privacy such a hard sell?*” (Page 52) is right on target, our industry's reluctance to embrace and accept privacy (and security) issues becomes more self-evident as we “progress”. You will find John Sabo's article “Minding Your Business: The New Privacy Protocol” (page 54) very instructive as he illustrates the growing impotence of the issue in the private sector. Healthcare is not alone, and it's time that we “get with the program”.

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My personal thanks to Dick Alvarez, CIHI's CEO for his Editorial “*Seize the Moment, or Forever Lament: A challenge to Canada's health informatics community*” — Dick is in a unique position in our industry's schematic — we appreciate him sharing his views with us so openly... I'm told that he will recover from his twisted arm soon.

\* \* \*

e-Health2003 at the Toronto Harbour Castle on May 24 - 27, 2003 will happen as scheduled, according to the latest information that we have - and as the angst about SARS in Toronto dissipates. For the latest information on the conference, check out the e-Health 2003 conference website for full program details and registration at <http://www.e-healthconference.com> ... and pages 10 - 15 in this issue.

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