R package development with GitHub Pages and `pkgdown`

Pre-workshop setup steps

Knowledge background

- Participants should have prior experience with Git, but don't need prior experience with `pkgdown` or GitHub Pages.
- Participants should also have some basic familiarity with the structure of R packages (e.g., the `R/` folder and the `man/` folder).

Software installations

- Please ensure you have all of the following software installed (and updated to the most recent versions):

Software	Version	Installation link
R	4.5.0	https://cran.rstudio.com/
Rtools	4.5	https://cran.r-project.org/bin/windows/Rtools/
RStudio	2025.05.0+496	https://posit.co/download/rstudio-desktop/
Git	2.49.0	https://git-scm.com/downloads

Git and GitHub setup

- We will be using GitHub (and GitHub Pages) for this workshop. Please ensure you have a GitHub account that you're able to log into and access during the workshop.
- Before the workshop, please ensure that Git is configured properly on your machine. In RStudio, you can run the `git_sitrep()` function from the `usethis` package to verify your configuration.
    - You should see your name and email under the "Git global (user)" section
        - If this isn't the case, see **Appendix A**
    - You should see Vaccinated: TRUE
        - If this isn't the case, see **Appendix B**
    - You should see the username and email associated with your GitHub account, and you should see the word "discovered" beside the line that says "Personal access token"
        - If this isn't the case, see **Appendix C**

```
> git_sitrep()
── Git global (user)
• Name: "Melissa Van Bussel"
• Email: "melissalisevb@gmail.com"
• Global (user-level) gitignore file: C:/Users/16138/.gitignore
• Vaccinated: TRUE
• Default Git protocol: "https"
• Default initial branch name: "master" and "main"

── GitHub user
• Default GitHub host: "https://github.com"
• Personal access token for "https://github.com": <discovered>
• GitHub user: "melissavanbussel"
• Token scopes: "gist", "repo", "user", and "workflow"
• Email(s): "melissalisevb@gmail.com (primary)"

── Active usethis project: "C:/Users/16138/Documents/Talks/rmedicine" ──

ℹ Active project is not a Git repo.
```

Appendix A: Adding your global git configuration

If you don't see your name and email under the "Git global (user)" section when you run the `git_sitrep()` function from the `usethis` package:

- Run the `use_git_config()` function with your name and email, e.g.,

```
use_git_config(
  user.name = "Melissa Van Bussel",
  user.email = "melissalisevb@gmail.com"
)
```

- Rerun `git_sitrep()` afterwards to verify that you see the information updated.

```
> use_git_config(user.name = "Melissa Van Bussel", user.email = "melissalisevb@gmail.com")
> git_sitrep()
── Git global (user)
• Name: "Melissa Van Bussel"
• Email: "melissalisevb@gmail.com"
• Global (user-level) gitignore file:
  C:/Users/16138/.gitignore
• Vaccinated: TRUE
• Default Git protocol: "https"
• Default initial branch name: "master" and "main"
```

Appendix B: Using the `git_vaccinate()` function

If you don't see `Vaccinated: TRUE` when you run the `git_sitrep()` function from the `usethis` package:

- Run the `git_vaccinate()` function from the `usethis` package
- Rerun `git_sitrep()` afterwards to verify that you see the information updated.

```
> git_vaccinate()
> git_sitrep()
── Git global (user)
• Name: "Melissa Van Bussel"
• Email: "melissalisevb@gmail.com"
• Global (user-level) gitignore file: C:/Users/16138/.gitignore
• Vaccinated: TRUE
• Default Git protocol: "https"
• Default initial branch name: "master" and "main"
```

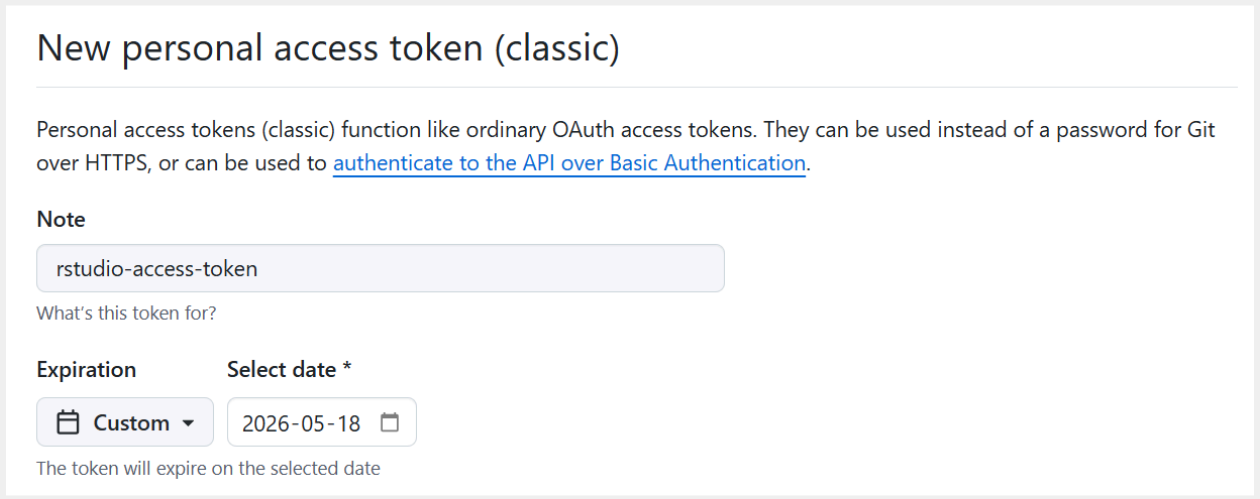
Appendix C: Adding your GitHub Personal Access Token

If you don't see the username and email associated with your GitHub account as well as the word "discovered" under the "GitHub user" section when when you run the `git_sitrep()` function from the `usethis` package:

- Run the `create_github_token()` function from the `usethis` package

```
> usethis::create_github_token()
□ Call gitcreds::gitcreds_set() to register this token in the local Git credential store.
i It is also a great idea to store this token in any password-management software that you
  use.
✓ Opening URL
  <https://github.com/settings/tokens/new?scopes=repo,user,gist,workflow&description=DESCRIBE
  THE TOKEN'S USE CASE>.
```

- Create a new personal access token on GitHub. You can name your token whatever you like, set an expiration date for 1 year in the future, and leave all of the other options as their defaults.



- Run the `gitcreds_set()` function from the `gitcreds` package. Paste your personal access token when prompted.

```
> gitcreds::gitcreds_set()

? Enter password or token: [redacted]

-> Adding new credentials...
-> Removing credentials from cache...
-> Done.
```

- Rerun `git_sitrep()` afterwards to verify that you see the information updated.