Canada Forum on Geospatial Standards Meeting
112th OGC TC meetings
Banff, AB, Tuesday September 10th, 2019
10.15 - 14.30 (Mountain Time)

Canada: a world leader in standards-based geospatial innovation, driving social and economic development for all in a fast-changing world

What Should the Canadian Geospatial Community do Next?
Canada has historically been a world leader in standards-based geospatial technologies that support the ability to find, access, analyze, share, and re-use geospatial data and information. Collaboration between government, the private sector, academia and research, with a strong focus on international partners and export markets, has remained at the core of Canada’s geospatial ecosystem and underscored the value of standards-based technologies. Canadian organizations now provide technology, expertise, policy guidance and more to assist in developing geospatial capacity in Canada and throughout the world.

The world is on the cusp of a geospatial revolution, with rapid changes in the rate of collection and availability of location data from traditional and emerging sources. This is occurring at a crucial time, with the number and intensity of issues related to climate change on the rise. Canada is already witnessing climate-related impacts to its lands, coasts, oceans, and Arctic territories – impacts that will only continue to increase and further challenge Canada’s economy, its ability to build and maintain sustainable communities, and the safety of its citizens.

The OGC Canada Forum on Geospatial Standards aims to bring together diverse geospatial stakeholders to identify requirements for all aspects of geospatial data and information (e.g. sharing, capacity building, innovation, outreach, business development). A volunteer effort comprising Indigenous, government, private, academic, and research representatives, the Forum strives to reinvigorate Canadian collaboration within an increasingly challenging and competitive world. In consultation with the Canadian community, areas of interest have been identified, including the Arctic; coasts and oceans; natural disasters; smart and resilient communities; and others. At the core is a need to focus on innovation and to harness the expertise of the community for the common benefit of Canada and the world.

The Canada Forum will meet to discuss options for a work plan with the goal of presenting a progress update in June 2020, at the planned Montreal OGC meetings. All interested representatives from Canadian organisations are invited to attend the Banff meeting, in person or remotely. More information is available at ogcmeet.org. We hope to see you there!
Meeting Purpose

Representing the first working meeting of the Canada Forum, this session will aim to collaboratively identify work items viewed as critical by the community to advance geospatial requirements. Given the context outlined above, the Forum co-chairs propose that these work items aim to develop a strategy for the following questions:

- How can Canada become a leader in the upcoming geospatial revolution?
- How can Canada demonstrate its leadership to help solve current and future geospatial challenges?

Meeting Structure

The meeting will consist of two sessions to encourage dialogue and make progress on these questions.

- Session 1: Provide examples of standards-based technologies, services, and policies related to, for example, the Arctic, Indigenous needs, oceans and coasts, disaster management, smart and sustainable cities, presented in the context of these questions.
- Session 2: Review, in break-out format, the short list of previously identified work items related to Innovation and the Economy, Standards Community of Practice, Academia, and various Indigenous communities.

Potential Outcomes

Potential outcomes could include:

- Final agreement on the short list of work items
- Selection of a subset of work items for focus
- Formation of sub-groups to act on the agreed upon work items.
- Agreement to schedule a follow-on meeting of the forum during the OGC TC meetings in Montreal in June 2020 (supported by CAE) as a milestone or deliverable date for the agreed upon work items.

Registration

If you are interested in attending the Canada Forum session, remember to sign-up for the event as part of your Banff TC meeting registration. The Canada Forum is a free and open to all, including non-members. Remote access will also be available.
Draft Meeting Agenda

10.15 - 10.20 Introduction and Welcome (Forum Co-Chairs)
10.20 - 12.00 - Themes
  ● The Arctic (Cameron Wilson, NRCan)
  ● Coasts and Oceans (Andy Hoggarth, Teledyne CARIS)
  ● Natural Disasters and Extreme Events (Tom Landry, CRIM)
  ● Smart and Resilient Communities (Bradford Dean, MCK)
  ● Innovation and Growth (Gobe Hobona, OGC)
12.00 - Lunch Break
13.00 - 14.00 - What should we do next? Breakout Groups
  ● Innovation and the Economy
    ○ Innovation Showcase
    ○ Trade Missions
  ● Standards Community of Practice
    ○ National Standards Strategy
    ○ Policy Hackathon
  ● Academia
    ○ Ideas to increase activation
    ○ Curriculum Development
  ● Indigenous Communities
    ○ Data Stacks
    ○ Leadership Council
14.00 - 14.30 - Report from Groups
14.30 – Close

Questions or Comments?

Please contact the co-chairs of the Canada Forum with any questions or comments:
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