

# EMGCP Meeting – Data Sharing Open Discussion

May 22, 2024 | 14:00 – 15:00

Emergency Management Geomatics Community of Practice (EMGCP)

**Attendees** DFO, DND (CJOC), DND, ECCC, ESDC, NRCan (EGS), PS (GOC Geo), PSPC (Real Property Services), RCMP, StatsCan, TC (Transportation of Dangerous Goods), TC (Transportation & Economic Analysis), TC (Emergency Preparedness), CRC

**Location** Online (Microsoft Teams)

## 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

14:00-14:04

Presenter(s): Darlene Tran - PS (GOC)

### Description

Welcome and notice that meetings going forward will be recorded for note-taking purposes.

### 1.1. CALL TO ORDER

### Description

The attendance is noted by an alphabetical roll call of all departments and/or agencies that are members of the EMGCP.

## 2. SURGE REMINDER

14:04-14:07

Presenter(s): Cameron Bouchard - PS (GOC)

### Description

Discussion of experiences with surge support during the 2023 wildfire season. Topics mentioned include how teams can utilize surge support, challenges faced and considerations for the future.

### 2.1. PS (GOC)

Presenter(s): Cameron Bouchard

- Quick update: A surge capacity survey was created and sent out by the GOC Geomatics to fill it out and identify whether their team has the capacity to provide surge capacity to partners in during times of emergency,
- Examples of cyclical season surge support includes wildfire season which is upon us now, and flooding season which has been relatively quiet or even a some other events like to health related incidents.
- Emphasized the survey's goal to identify support capacity, not commitments, and mentioned the results would be shared with the group.

## 3. Open Discussion – Data Sharing Methods

14:07-14:55

Facilitator(s): Darlene Tran

### Description

Initiated the discussion on data sharing requirements, gaps, and approaches for sharing data both internally and externally. What is your organization's data sharing requirements?

### 3.1. Q&A: *What is your organization's data sharing requirements?*

#### Hugo Mercier (DFO)

DFO's Data Sharing Practices:

- Stated that GIS is relatively new within DFO and mostly involves publicly shared science-based data.
- Highlighted that emergency management data is limited and often sensitive, shared mainly through internal web maps and shared drives.

#### Darlene (GOC)

Follow-up with Hugo Mercier (DFO):

Asked about how intelligence information is shared within DFO.

#### Hugo Mercier (DFO)

DFO's Internal Data Sharing Methods:

- Explained the use of internal web maps, shared drives, and the adoption of ArcGIS Online for dynamic

information sharing.

### **Jeff Cable (RCMP)**

RCMP's Data Sharing Methods:

- Described the use of ArcGIS Enterprise for data sharing, with data stored within the system and some legacy file geodatabases.

### **Jason Gray (RCMP)**

RCMP's Data Sharing Limitations:

- Discussed the small number of GIS personnel and data sharing practices involving purchased products and critical infrastructure data shared with partners like CBSA and US Border Patrol.
- Mentioned the use of PDF reports for sharing protected data.

### **Susan Ann Goulet Powell (RCMP)**

- RCMP's Data Consumption and Resource Limitations:
- Highlighted that RCMP mainly consumes data for situational awareness and internal products due to limited resources for generating new data.

### **Darlene Tran (GOC)**

Acknowledging the Challenges:

- Recognized the challenges in generating and consuming data, emphasizing the need for consumable data formats.

## **3.2. Q&A: *Is there data you have available to share? How does your team currently share that data?***

Facilitator: Darlene Tran

### **Yann Pelcat (StatsCan)**

Statistics Canada's Open Data:

- Explained that most of StatsCan's data is open and available on their website, federal Geospatial Platform, and open government platform.
- Offered assistance for data requests through a helpline.

### **Bradley Lehrbass (NRCan EGS)**

NRCan's Data Sharing Methods:

- Discussed providing value-added products via web services, HTTPS, and SFTP.
- Mentioned the use of geo dossiers for Earth observation data and common restrictions on redistributing data outside the government.

### **Maj Madore (CJOC)**

CJOC's Focus on International Data:

- Stated that CJOC focuses on collecting data outside Canada but has contracts allowing data sharing domestically under certain conditions.
- Mentioned efforts to move unclassified data to a cloud environment.

### **Ahmed El-Mokadem (TC)**

Transport Canada's Protected Data:

- Explained that Transport Canada's data is often proprietary or protected, shared under NDA through ArcGIS platforms or secure file transfer portals.

### **Priti Zachariah (TC)**

Transport Canada's Public and Protected Data:

- Added that while some public data is available, most of their data remains protected and shared under strict agreements.

### **Monica Blaney (TC)**

Introduction to the Transportation Hydrogen Directorate:

- Introduced the new directorate focused on hydrogen projects and emergency management.
- Emphasized proprietary data and data sharing under agreements with consultants and other government departments.

### **Ethan Howieson (TC)**

Hydrogen Directorate's Data Collection Efforts:

- Discussed proprietary data and efforts to collect public data from international sources.
- Mentioned ongoing projects involving 3D analysis and topography.

### **Patrick Poirier (TC)**

Collaboration and Data Sharing:

- Confirmed ongoing collaborations and potential for future data sharing within the Government of Canada framework.

### **Josh Boettcher (TC)**

Train Traffic Monitoring and Data Sharing:

- Highlighted the use of AI and machine learning for monitoring train traffic, with potential for sharing aggregated data outside Transport Canada.

### **Monica Blaney (TC)**

Clarification on Data Sharing:

- Clarified that certain route information is sensitive and should remain within the government family.

### **Randy McGraw (SPAC/PSPC)**

Question on Distributed Collaborations:

- Asked about the use of distributed collaborations for data sharing and invited the group to share their experiences.

### **Jeff Cable (RCMP)**

Experience with Distributed Collaborations:

- Shared experiences of matching online and Enterprise portal platforms, finding limited advantages and requiring multiple access credentials.

### **Ken Marshall (TC)**

Emergency Management's Data Consumption:

- Noted that emergency management mainly consumes data and discussed the potential for sharing sensitive transportation incident data and alerting systems within a secure framework.

### **Patrick Poirier (TC)**

Future Plans for Data Sharing:

- Mentioned that future updates might be ready for the next meeting or in a couple of years.

### **Cameron Bouchard (GOC)**

GOC Geomatics Team's Data Sharing Practices:

- Described the use of online data sources, web maps, and desktop mapping for data integration.
- Highlighted challenges in sharing protected geo data files and the need for solutions to share sensitive information.
- Discussed efforts to create a unified representation of states of emergency and evacuations across the country, mentioning an ongoing project aimed at this.

### **Darlene Tran (GOC)**

Appreciation for Base Layer Work:

- Credited Yann's team for providing a base layer to work on evacuation data.

### **Randy McGraw (SPAC/PSPC)**

PSPC's Data Sharing Methods:

- Explained that PSPC doesn't share data within or outside the department but provides REST services for PII data from Treasury Board.

### **Sylvain Bisson (ESDC)**

ESDC's Data Consumption:

- Mentioned that ESDC mainly consumes data from sources like StatsCan and other emergency management data for operational needs.

### **Darlene Tran (GOC)**

Call for Additional Group Input:

- Invited other groups to share their data sharing practices or any additional information.

### **Maxime Perron (ECCC)**

ECCC National Environmental Emergencies Center's Data Sharing Practices:

- Described ECCC's limited data production, focusing on shoreline surveys.
- Mentioned the use of interactive mapping during emergency responses and the collection of incident data.

### **Monica Blaney (TC)**

Interest in Incident Data:

- Expressed interest in incident data involving hydrogen products, requesting to discuss further offline.

### **Maxime Perron (ECCC)**

Willingness to Share Data:

- Confirmed the availability of incident data and willingness to collaborate.

**Laura Chaloner (GOC)**

Question on Federal Geospatial Platform (FGP):

- Asked about the usage and cost of the Federal Geospatial Platform by other departments.

**Simon Leclerc-Tolszczuk (NRCan EGS)**

Current Status of FGP:

- Explained the transition of the Federal Geospatial Platform to GeoDiscovery, which now operates the geo.ca platform.
- Offered to arrange a follow-up meeting to explore the resources available and their relevance to the GOC and the committee.

**Laura Chaloner (GOC)**

Acknowledgement and Plan for Follow-up:

- Thanked Simon and agreed to follow up for more detailed information.

**Darlene Tran (GOC)**

Closing Roundtable Discussion

- Invited any final comments or additional topics for discussion before closing the meeting.

**Jason Gray (RCMP)**

Real-Time Data Usage Inquiry:

- Asked about the use of real-time datasets by other departments and their applications, such as vessel tracking and field data synchronization.

**Ken Marshall (TC)**

Real-Time Data Examples:

- Mentioned the use of AIS vessel tracking data and its integration into Transport Canada's data lake for multiple client use.

**Jason Gray (RCMP)**

Real-Time Data Sources:

- Expressed interest in various real-time data sources, including transport tracking, flight transponders, and rail information.

**Maxime Perron (ECCC)**

Potential Collaboration on Real-Time Data:

- Mentioned the potential for collaboration on real-time data use and its applications for emergency management.

**4. ADJOURNMENT****14:55-14:58**

Presenter(s): Darlene Tran - PS (GOC)

Closing Remarks and Next Meeting Announcement:

- Encouraged sharing of contact information for adding new members to the community.
- Invited suggestions for future discussion topics.
- Announced the next meeting on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meeting invites will be sent out in the next few months.