



Open Data and Open Government: Implications for the Management of Records

Trust and Digital Records in an Increasingly Networked
Society: Digital Information Governance

John McDonald

Information Management Consulting and Education

May 14, 2014

Overview

- Background
- Open data and open government: characteristics
- Recordkeeping issues
- A proposed approach

The ITrust Project

- The Project:
 - Records Management Implications of Open Data and Open Government
- Objective:
 - Clarify the concepts of ‘Open Data’, and ‘Open Government’
 - identify records-related issues to inform ITrust research projects
- Method:
 - Terminology (led by Richard Pearce-Moses)
 - Recordkeeping implications (led by John McDonald with Valerie Leveille (UBC) and Kat Timms (LAC))
- Timeline:
 - By June 2014: review literature and relevant sources; establish contacts/partnerships; identify characteristics from recordkeeping perspective
 - By September 2014: identify recordkeeping issues; test with selected organizations; suggest/inform ITrust projects



Open Government: Definition

- “The transparency of government actions, the accessibility of government services and information and the responsiveness of government to new ideas, demands and needs” (OECD).
- US Open Government Directive (objectives)
 - Transparency/Accountability
 - Participation/Contribution
 - Collaboration/Partnerships



Open Government: Vision

Vision of the Open Government Partnership:

“more governments become sustainably more transparent, more accountable, and more responsive to their own citizens, with the ultimate goal of improving the quality of governance, as well as the quality of services that citizens receive.”



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
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Open Government

Open Government is about greater openness and accountability, strengthening democracy and driving innovation and economic opportunities for all Canadians.

[Canada's Action Plan on Open Government](#)

Learn more about Canada's commitments to foster greater openness, accountability, and civic engagement through its Action Plan on Open Government.

[Open Government Licence](#)

Review the federal Open Government Licence, which removes restrictions on the reuse of data published on data.gc.ca.

[Open data](#)

Search datasets, learn about open data in Canada, and access apps that were built using Government of Canada datasets.

[Government-wide reporting](#)

Information is readily available on websites to ensure that Canadians and Parliament are better able to hold the Government and public sector officials to account.

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[Access to information summaries](#)

Search summaries of organizations' completed Access to Information (ATI) requests.

[Consulting with Canadians](#)

Information on how to find and participate in Government of Canada consultation activities.

[Canada Gazette](#)

Information on how to find and participate in regulatory consultations which includes current and past issues of the *Canada Gazette*.

[Forward regulatory plans](#)

Includes a listing of links, by organization, to information about anticipated regulatory changes or proposals that departments or agencies intend to bring forward within a given timeframe.



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Open Data: Definitions

- Open data:
 - “Data that can be used freely, shared and built upon by anyone, anywhere, for any purpose.” The Open Knowledge Foundation Network
<http://opendefinition.org/#sthash.ykuWmVZh.dpuf>
- Open government data:
 - “Data produced or commissioned by government or government controlled entities... which ... can be freely used, reused and redistributed by anyone.” Working Group on Open Government Data, Open Knowledge Foundation <http://opengovernmentdata.org>

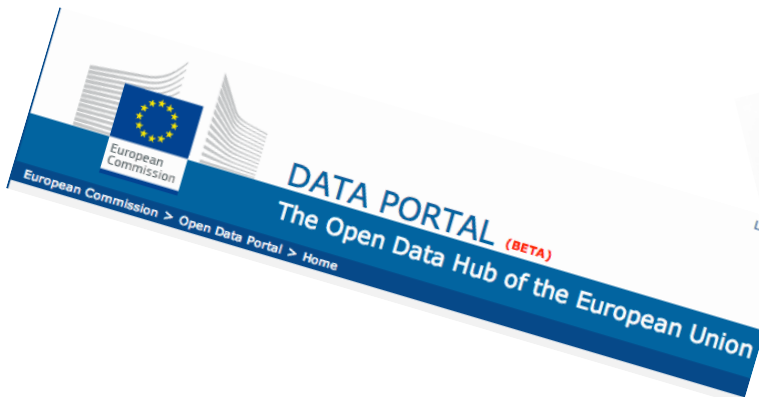
Open Data Objectives

- Economic development
- Innovation
- New knowledge from combined data sources
- Self-empowerment
- Improved government efficiency and effectiveness
- Transparency and democratic control
- Policy impact assessment
- Public participation

Open Data: Examples



Open Stockholm Portal
Öppna data för Open Stockholm Award 2014



OPEN GOVERNMENT

SEARCH DATA



- [Top 25 Datasets](#)
- [38 GC Departments and Agencies](#)
- [Suggest a Dataset](#)



- [Search ATI Summaries](#)
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- [Comments and Feedback](#)
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OPEN DATA IN CANADA



- [Open Data sites in Canada](#)

SHOWCASE



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- [Open Data 101](#)
- [Working with Datasets](#)
- [data.gc.ca Metadata Element Set](#)

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- ▶ Vancouver City Council
- ▶ Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
- ▶ Citizen involvement
- ▶ **Get government information**
- ▶ Bylaws
- ▶ Vancouver's most referenced bylaws
- ▶ The Vancouver Charter
- ▶ Freedom of Information
- ▶ Open Data catalogue
- ▶ VanMap
- ▶ Budgets and finances
- ▶ Expense reports from elected officials
- ▶ Digital strategy
- ▶ Municipal elections
- ▶ City operations
- ▶ Municipal operations
- ▶ Jobs and careers

- Parks, Recreation, and Culture
- Home, Property, and Development
- People and Programs
- Streets and Transportation
- Doing Business

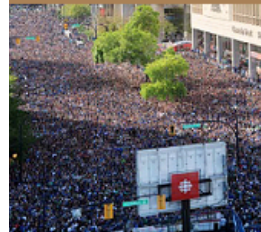
Government information



Vancouver is committed to making our information freely available to the public, while protecting citizens' rights to the protection of their privacy.

In addition to not only making our city accessible, but to also making our city website more accessible to people.

Information



Freedom of Information

BC's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act allows citizens access to information held by the City.



Open Data catalogue

The Open Data Catalogue makes the City of Vancouver's vast amount of data publicly available online.

Ask. Tell. Connect.

Phone 3-1-1

Outside Vancouver:
604-873-7000

Speak your own language

9-1-1 **7-1-1**
Emergencies **TTY**

[More ways to contact us](#) →

Contact the City Clerk's Office

Location

3rd Floor, City Hall
453 W 12th Ave
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4

Fax: 604-873-7419

[MayorAndCouncil@vancouver.ca](#)

2013 employee engagement survey results



Between June 17 and August 6, 2013, we conducted an organization-wide survey to assess the progress we are making towards developing and sustaining a dynamic, healthy, and safe workplace.

- [Read the summary of the survey](#) (1.82MB)
- [View the results by business unit](#)

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Your Government

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 - Vancouver Referendums
 - The Vancouver Charter
 - Freedom of Information and Access to Information Act
 - Open Data Catalogue
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 - Digital Services
 - Municipal Services
 - City Operations
 - Municipal Jobs and Careers

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Request information



Freedom of Information

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City data



Open Data catalogue

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Characteristics of Open Data (OD) and Open Government (OG)

- Roots
 - OD from statistics
 - OG from Freedom of Information
- Objectives
 - OD is economic development and innovation
 - OG is transparency, accountability, citizen engagement
- Records
 - OD is data sets
 - OG is documents and data
- Tools
 - OD is data cataloguing standards, etc.
 - OG is document classification standards
- Communities
 - OD is experts with roots in statistics
 - OG is experts with roots in FOI

Recordkeeping Issues

- Are key terms understood clearly (e.g. publication/data/record)?
- Are relationships defined clearly between:
 - internal processes for developing various information products (e.g. developing a policy for internal approval; generating a data set for internal analysis) and,
 - processes for publishing content to the web (e.g. the final policy or dataset being ‘published’ to the government’s open data or open government portal)?
- Can the quality of datasets and other products made available online be traced back to the quality and integrity of the source records?
- Have ‘anomalies’ in the data (known only to government officials generating the data) been communicated to an otherwise unsuspecting public accessing the data through an open data initiative?

Recordkeeping Issues (cont.)

- Are appraisal criteria in place and are they relevant?
- Are metadata standards in place and are they relevant?
- Are retention specifications and formal schedules in place and are they relevant?
- Are digital preservation plans in place?
- Are policies in place and has accountability been assigned?
- Is the capacity available to enable recordkeeping in open data and open government environments?

Implications for the Business

- Missed opportunities
 - To demonstrate transparency, openness, accountability
 - To maximize the full value of publically funded data
 - To drive economic development and innovation
 - To secure the informed engagement of citizens in the conduct of government
- Increased risk
 - to users who may be using data that are flawed (inaccurate, incomplete, based on weak/poor methodology)
 - To government if unable to meet rising demands for more data
- Increased costs
 - To find information and relate it to other information
 - To place information in context
 - To preserve information/data

An Approach

- Treat open data and open government as part of a greater whole (i.e. the whole of organizational business)
- Use the concept of the business process as a fundamental reference point

Initiate/approve project



develop/confirm methodology



secure data collection approvals

conduct survey



capture/convert data



verify data

process/anonymize data



analyze data



produce reports



produce public use data sets



package for the portal



make available through the portal

Open Data Example

Initiate/approve project



develop/confirm methodology



conduct research

conduct initial consultations



prepare first draft



review first draft

prepare subsequent drafts



conduct consultations



prepare final draft

approve draft



package for the portal



make available through the portal

Open Government Example

An Approach (cont.)

- Adapt existing recordkeeping tools (don't reinvent the wheel)
 - Models
 - ISO standards (ISO 15489, ISO 30300)
 - ISO Technical Report on workflow analysis (ISO/TR 26122)
 - Methods and tools developed by others
- Integrate in tools and methods for open data and open government initiatives
- Build capacity through awareness, training, and recruitment
- Use test beds and pilot projects
- Build partnerships with lead agencies and policy makers responsible for open data and open government



Understand the landscape and get involved



Open Knowledge
Foundation



Tack så mycket

