Technical Workshop of the GeoConnections' Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure

CGDI Application Communities

Tuesday & Wednesday July 8 & 9, 2003

Sponsored by:
GeoConnections (Access Node/CGDI Development Network and Technology Advisory Panel/CGDI Architecture Working Group)

Hosted by:
Natural Resources Canada, Earth Sciences Sector
601 & 615 Booth Street, Ottawa

Agenda Final

Objectives: To develop and deploy the necessary framework and mechanisms to:

- Highlight success to date, future needs, and a roadmap ahead from the perspective of CGDI application communities and the CGDI Technology and Access Advisory nodes
- Identify CGDI services supporting applications with a broad user spectrum
- Prioritize development, enhancement and generalization of these enabling services
- Support the sharing and distribution of these underlying services, enabling applications, and supporting business practices among CGDI Application Communities

Audience: Technical implementers and program/project managers representing application communities contributing to the CGD, GeoConnections program representatives
Format: Presentations, Demonstrations, Meet the community, Information Exchange and facilitated discussion

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Tuesday, July 8, 2003

9:00 – 9:15 Welcome, Introductions and Workshop Objectives (Brian McLeod)

9:15 – 13:15 CGDI Community Status, Future Plans and Common Requirements
Lead: Cameron Wilson

Components of the CGDI has been implemented to date by several application communities that are clustered around geographic or thematic areas of interest. This session will review the current and future plans for key application communities. The objectives of this session are to identify and prioritize inter-community needs and identify opportunities for sharing and collaboration.

9:15 Reports from workshop participants representing application communities on current activities and plans for the future.

National Forest Information Service – Robin Quenet
Canadian Information System for the Environment – Geoff Howell, Ian Gillespie
Marine Geospatial Data Infrastructure/Geoportal – Dave Pugh
GeoNova – Ed Light

10:30 break

10:40 Continuing reports from workshop participants representing application communities and initiatives

Land Information Ontario – Greg Bay
Canadian Geoscience Knowledge Network – Jamie Rupert
National Land and Water Information Service – Peter Schut

noon-13:00 Break for lunch (no host)

13:00 – 13:30 Continuing reports from workshop participants representing application communities and initiatives

Toporama, Geobase portal – François Paquette
GeoConnections Discovery Portal, CGDI core services – Brian McLeod

13:30 – 14:00 Common Requirements Identification and Discussion – Cameron Wilson

Summary of possible synergies, gaps, and requirements made evident through previous presentations, input for further discussion

14:00 – 16:30 CGDI Technical Architecture and Services
Lead: Richard Mathews, CGDI Architecture Working Group

The technical architecture and target vision for the CGDI has been developed under leadership of the CGDI architecture working group, with input from international standards bodies such as the Open GIS Consortium. This session will provide an update of the past successes, current and planned activities that relate to CGDI services and supporting architecture. The primary objective of this session is to provide input from Application Communities to the future evolution of the CGDI architecture, vision and implementation plan.

14:00 Overview of adopted, emerging and future needs for CGDI services

14:30 break

14:40 – 15:00 Web Services Architecture review – overview, mainstream services, CGDI services

15:00 – 15:30 Schemas – metadata, data, service

15:30 – 16:00 Way forward

16:30 Day One Wrap up
Lead: Brian McLeod

16:40 Social Break - Open invitation to participants to gather for drinks and conversation at a local watering hole….additional details to be provided

Wednesday, July 9, 2003

09:00-9:10 Welcome (Brian McLeod)

9:10-10:00 CGDI Operations Architecture
Lead: Brian McLeod

The operations architecture for the CGDI has been loosely coordinated through the CGDI Development Network. This session will identify organization and operational issues that relate to creating a CGDI that is reliable, efficient, scaleable and sustainable. The session will provide a forum for application community input on best practices, current and planned activities that relate to operational architecture. The primary objective of this session is to provide input from Application Communities towards moving the CGDI from a pre-operational "testbed" to operational, robust infrastructure.

Some topics for discussion include:

- General CGDI operations architecture
- Relationship to IT/IM architecture
- CGDI services:
- Discovery
- Evaluation (e.g. quality of service)
- Availability
- Replication
- Scalability
- Deprecation
- Monitoring
- Security (authentication, authorization, confidentiality, supporting tools)
- Organizational issues (roles & responsibilities, coordination, communication)
- Cultural and organization inertia barriers to data sharing
- Potential partnerships in support of robust CGDI operations architecture

10:00 - 10:30 break

10:30 – noon CGDI Business Principles
Lead: Robin Quenet, NFIS

The application communities that participate in the CGDI have been developed in accord with a variety of business principles. This session will examine, define and develop broad business practice guidelines in support of: achieving the widest and most efficient and effective sharing of enabling technologies and achieving the minimizing impact on jurisdictional partners and information providers. The primary objective of this session is to facilitate collaboration with respect to development and evolution of business principles that will guide the further evolution of the CGDI.

Some topics for discussion include:

- Minimum impact on information providers including their internal business practices
- Shared infrastructures for accessing to jurisdictional data stores
- Vendor neutrality
- Intellectual property rights
- Open source/proprietary systems
- Co-ordination/communication of developing enabling technologies

noon – 13:00 Lunch

13:00 – 15:00 Additional Application Community input, recommendations and way-forward
Leaders: Cameron Wilson, Richard Matthews, Brian McLeod, Robin Quenet

This session will begin with a final opportunity for CGDI Application Communities to table additional activities and issues for potential collaboration. In addition, activity leaders will review discussion summaries, resolutions and actions. The objective of this session is to clearly detail decisions and recommendations to CGDI Applications communities and GeoConnections program administrators and to explore future options to facilitate inter-community collaboration.

13:00 – 14:00 Additional input from Application Communities – all
14:00 – 15:00 Review/refine summary, resolutions and actions – activity leaders

15:00 Workshop close