



Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada

Canada

# CANADA OPEN GOVERNMENT WORKING GROUP

Joint Councils – February 27, 2020

[open.canada.ca](https://open.canada.ca)

OPEN  
GOVERNMENT



Open Data

Open Information

Open Dialogue

# Purpose

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- Update on key accomplishments of the Canada Open Government Working Group (COGWWG) work plan priorities and ongoing progress.
- Report on other notable jurisdictional accomplishments and ongoing challenges.
- Outline a few immediate next steps.
- Outline of the key elements of the COGWWG 2020 Workplan.

# Open Government and why it matters

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Open Government is about greater transparency and accountability, strengthening democracy and citizen participation, and driving innovation and economic opportunities for all Canadians. It is:

- A key priority for the Government of Canada and governments across Canada;
- A recognized international undertaking;
- An opportunity for public servants to more effectively deliver the programs and services Canadians want and expect;
- Well aligned with the Joint Council's priorities on digital strategy and client-centric Services.

# Canada Open Government Working Group (COGWWG)

- A forum for multi-jurisdictional collaboration and advancement of key pan-Canadian Open Government (OG) priorities.
- Comprised of members from federal, provincial and territorial governments, and national municipal organizations.
- Currently co-chaired by the Government of Canada and **TBC**.
- Meets regularly to advance work and ensure alignment on key open government priorities.
- Provides expert advice on OG and reports to the Joint Councils.



# COGWWG 2018-19 Priorities and Progress

## Leads

1



ON GC

2



QC NS

3



GC

4



BC NS

5



SK AB

## Priorities



open  
data  
charter

Promote Adoption  
of International  
Open Data  
Charter (IODC)



Standardization  
of high value  
datasets



Expanded  
Federated Open  
Data Search



Open Data  
Literacy



Inclusion and  
public  
engagement

## Accomplishments

- Survey released to identify potential adopters
- IODC resources on GCcollab continually increased

- Open data community engaged
- Template and standards for four high value datasets released on GCcollab

- Technical documents shared with multiple jurisdictions
- Engaged with provinces and municipalities to federate with GC Portal

- Digital knowledge base and curriculum being developed to be shared across the jurisdictions

- E-scan and mapping of principles and practices completed
- Determined need to work further in order to develop engagement strategy

# Major Jurisdictional Milestones and Challenges

## Jurisdictional Accomplishments

- Yukon has launched its [open data portal](#)
- NWT has released its [open government policy](#) and [website](#)
- ON has released a [new digital plan](#)
- QC has launched a [digital strategy](#) for government transformation
- Saskatchewan is creating a public engagement office
- Manitoba has launched the engagement section of their website

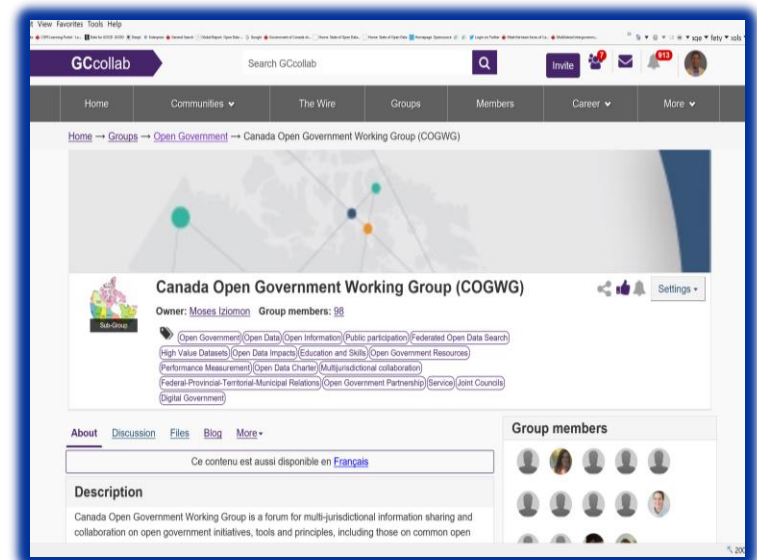
## Ongoing Challenges

- Lack of resources (*HR and funding*) in some jurisdictions to fully engage on OG
- Slowdown in momentum on OG programs in some regions due to political transition
- Inconsistent approach to metadata profiles and IT infrastructure
- Concerns over legal considerations regarding the Open Data Charter

# Some Immediate Next Steps

Build on ongoing progress and collaboratively implement the 2020 work plan.

- In-person meeting to:
  - Discuss lessons learned on the implementation of the 2018-19 work plan
  - Identify ongoing projects for 2020
  - Determine collaboration opportunities for the 2020 work plan
  - Identify additional opportunities to foster holistic pan-Canadian efforts overall.
- Support the development of the new Open Government Partnership Local Strategy.
- Create partnerships to host federal and local government engagement sessions on the 5th National Action Plan on Open Government.



## Work Plan\*

### Overview of COGWWG 2020 Workplan

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- *More detailed information on COGWWG 2020 Work Plan is available in [Gccollab](#)*



# 1. Open Data User Stories

<b>Issue</b>	Canadians don't know what can be done with open data → The social and economic impact of open data is not maximized
<b>Expected Outcome</b>	Inventories of stories are created → Governments can showcase their efforts and impacts → Canadians are inspired by these stories and use open data
<b>Leads (L) &amp; Partner (P)</b>	<b>TBS and TBD</b>
<b>Activities</b>	<u>March</u> : initial inventory of user story established. <u>June</u> : release of minimum 1 user story on the open government portal. <u>September</u> : second round of releases based on lessons learned from first release. <u>December</u> : Systematic ongoing collection of user stories for the inventory and for release.

## 2. Support and enhancement of Digital common extensions (CKAN) for open governments portals

<b>Issue</b>	Jurisdictions working in isolation → Duplication of work across Canada → Slower pace of advancement
<b>Expected Outcome</b>	Ongoing collaborative support and enhancement of CKAN → Common extensions used across jurisdictions → Better awareness of new resources, faster development
<b>Leads (L) &amp; Partner (P)</b>	<b>TBS and TBD</b>
<b>Activities</b>	<p><u>March</u>: Working group established.</p> <p><u>June</u>: Engagement with CKAN community through the online forums.</p> <p><u>September</u>: Sharing resources developed and best practices among the community (data quality, visualizations, system integrations); sharing of templates for working in the open.</p> <p><u>December</u>: Ongoing community engagement at developer level and beyond to ensure momentum and continued use of CKAN and its common extensions.</p>

### 3. Publish with a purpose

<b>Issue</b>	Disconnect between what is published and what would be most beneficial to businesses, researchers and civil society. → The social and economic impact of open data is not maximized
<b>Expected Outcome</b>	Shift to a user-led approach to data releases → Open data released is of high value to users, maximizes usability → Process to release open data is consistent with established open government practices, including co-creation, participation and accountability
<b>Leads (L) &amp; Partner (P)</b>	Ontario – TBD
<b>Activities</b>	<u>March</u> : Conduct and share user research on data catalogue usability and open data user personas <u>June</u> : Compile and publish open data user research results from Canadian jurisdictions <u>September</u> : Design approach to sharing data catalogue analytics publically <u>December</u> : Explore more opportunities for public feedback on data use and reuse – storytelling, case studies, etc.

## 4. Open Government Literacy

<b>Issue</b>	Canadians don't know that they can influence government decisions and have access to government data and information → Low participation rates and low trust in government
<b>Expected Outcome</b>	Common resources are made available to develop the skills of public servants of all level → Public servants are better equipped to explain open data, open information and open dialogue → More Canadians understand what open government can do for them and get involved
<b>Leads (L) &amp; Partner (P)</b>	Ontario – BC – NS (TBD)
<b>Activities</b>	<u>March</u> : Multi-jurisdictional working group established. <u>June</u> : Establish an inventory of existing resources across jurisdictions and determine which resources are missing. <u>September</u> : Existing resources are released and new resources are developed. <u>December</u> : Ongoing release of resources made available to public servants.

## 5. Inclusion, Public engagement and Dialogue

<b>Issue</b>	Engagement efforts are duplicative or misaligned → Canadians feel over-consulted → Engagement approaches are not as inclusive as they should be
<b>Expected Outcome</b>	Coordinated collaborative mechanisms for public dialogue and engagement across jurisdictions are available.
<b>Leads (L) &amp; Partner (P)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Saskatchewan and Alberta (L)</li><li>• North West Territories (P)</li></ul>
<b>Activities</b>	<p>March: Identify the key principles and practices of focus from e-scan and mapping, and consult with COGWWG.</p> <p>June: Release the key principles and practices for public servants to access.</p> <p>September: Develop learning plan on key engagement principles and practices, including elements of FOGO and GBA+.</p> <p>October: Establish a method to engage COGWWG members on public consultations.</p> <p>December: Hold learning sessions open to public servants in each jurisdiction to present and discuss key engagement principles and practices.</p>