Why Libraries Should Maintain the Open Data of Their Communities

Mita Williams, Leddy Library, University of Windsor

Wed, Jan 27 | 3:05 pm - 3:45 pm, MTCC 206D

Ontario Library Superconference 2016

Learning Outcomes

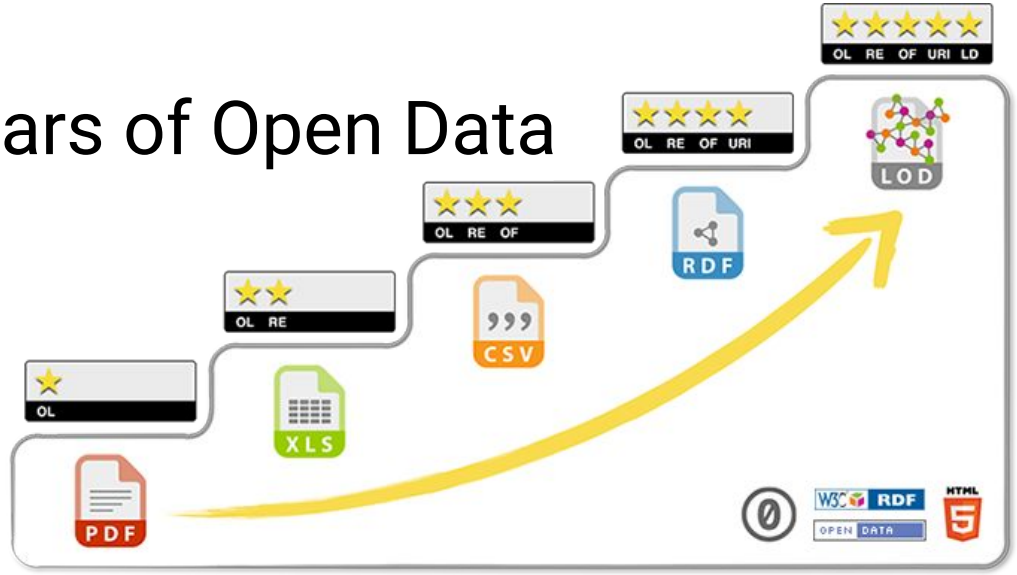
- Become familiar with some of the standards and technologies of Open Data
- Understand what Open Data is and its context in the Canadian landscape
- Learn how public libraries, academic libraries and nonprofit groups have encouraged the use and the collection of Open Data

A trilogy of four parts

- What is Open Data?
- Where is the Open (Government) Data in Canada?
- Where do Libraries Fit In?

What is Open Data?

The Five Stars of Open Data



★	make your stuff available on the Web (whatever format) **under an open license**
★★	make it available as structured data (e.g., Excel instead of image scan of a table)
★★★	make it available in a non-proprietary open format (e.g., CSV as well as of Excel)
★★★★	use URIs to denote things, so that people can point at your stuff
★★★★★	link your data to other data to provide context

Open is a format ...

David Eaves' Three Laws of Open (Gov) Data

> If it can’t be spidered or indexed, it doesn’t exist
>
> If it isn’t available in open and machine readable format, it can’t engage
>
> If a legal framework doesn’t allow it to be repurposed, it doesn’t empower

“In other words, Open Data allows us to ... LOOK, PLAY, and SHARE”

Does "open" mean openly licensed content or code? And, again, which license is really "open"? Does "open" mean "made public"? Does "open" mean shared? Does "open" mean "accessible"? Accessible how? To whom? Does "open" mean editable? Negotiable? Does "open" mean "free"? Does "open" mean "open-ended"? Does "open" mean transparent? Does "open" mean "open-minded"? "Open" to new ideas and to intellectual exchange? Open to interpretation? Does "open" mean open to participation — by everyone equally? Open doors? Open opportunity? Open to suggestion? Or does it mean "open for business"?

From "Open" to Justice, #OpenCon2014
Audrey Watters, 16 Nov 2014
http://hackeducation.com/2014/11/16/from-open-to-justice/

What does the Tri-Council mean by Open Data?

Capitalizing on Big Data: Toward a Policy Framework for Advancing Digital Scholarship in Canada

Consultation Document
(16 October 2013)

SSHRC CRSH — The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)

CIHR IRSC — The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

NSERC CRSNG — The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC)

INNOVATION.CA — The Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)

"Open data is data that meets the criteria of intelligent openness.

Data must be accessible, useable, assessable and intelligible."

What do *I* mean by Open Data?

“Open data is data that can be freely used, reused and redistributed by anyone – subject only, at most, to the requirement to attribute and sharealike.”

Open Knowledge Foundation okfn.org

… Open is a permission

Since everything is automatically given copyright, to release your given rights you need to assign an alternative licence to place it in the “Creative Commons”

CC-0	Public Domain
CC-BY	Attribution
CC-BY-ND	Attribution, No Derivatives
CC-BY-SA	Attribution, Share Alike
CC-BY-NC	Attribution, Non-commercial

Not all Creative Commons material is “Open”

“Open data is data that can be freely used, reused and redistributed by anyone – **subject only, at most, to the requirement to attribute and sharealike.**”

Open Knowledge Foundation okfn.org

CC-BY-ND NOT OPEN!

CC-BY-NC NOT OPEN!

“You don’t like CC-NC? What kind of monster are you? Some sort of Census-hating neoliberal?”

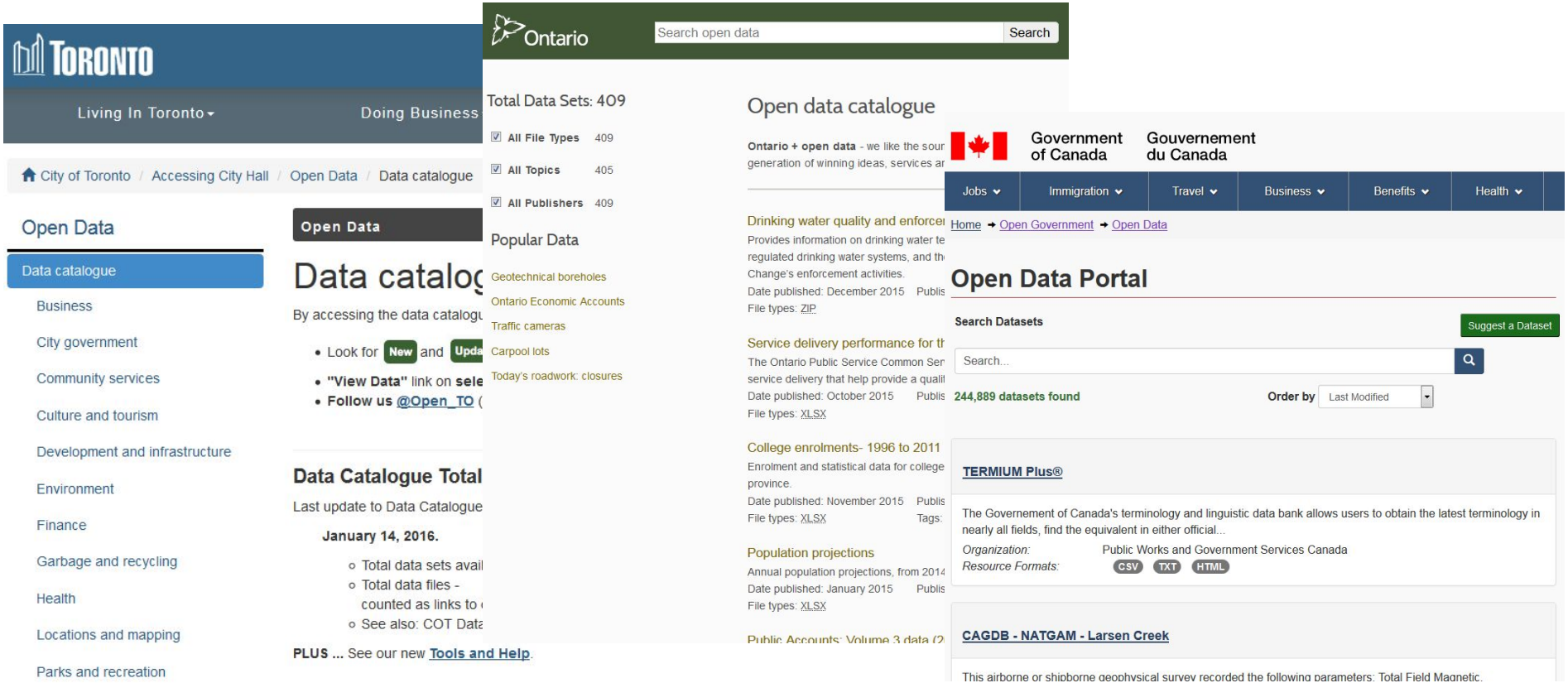
- “Academic-use only” hurts our nonprofit communities
  - Where can anti-poverty groups get their data for evidence based decisions?

- The costs of cost recovery efforts are *substantial*
  - Data Liberation Initiative for universities
  - The Community Data Program
- It is speculated that cost recovery results are not significant

- Journalists, artists and writers rely on the ability to sell their work
- ~~CC-NC keeps content out of the Public Domain FOREVER~~
- CC-NC complicates how re-worked derivative material is handled

Where is Open (Government) Data (in Canada)

The data is in Open Data Catalogues (or portals)



Open Data Portal

Search Datasets

Suggest a Dataset

Search...

65 datasets found

Order by Last Modified

Library and Archives Canada ✖

Soldiers of the First World War - CEF

Over 600,000 men and women enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) during the First World War (1914-1918) as soldiers, nurses and chaplains. The CEF database is an...

Organization: Library and Archives Canada
Resource Formats: XML HTML

Alcohol consumption; smoking in Canada: a national survey - 1976/12

Search Filters

Organization

Library and Archives Canada (65)

Data Type

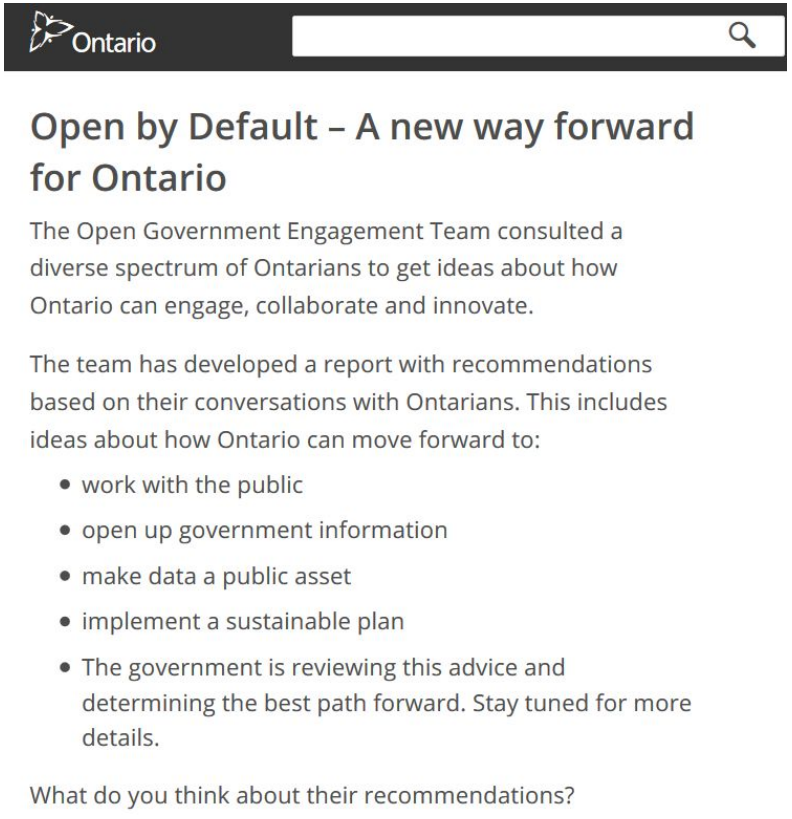
Raw Data (65)

Tags

Canals (10)
Drinking habits (8)
Inland Water Transport (10)
Inland Waterways (10)
Ships (10)

Show more

Wouldn’t it be easier if it was all...



Meanwhile, back at the Federal Level

Work produced by the Canadian Government is under Crown Copyright

Reproduction and other uses of Canadian government produced information, by default, requires permission and the generally involves the payment of licensing fees that have been set for the purposes of cost-recovery.

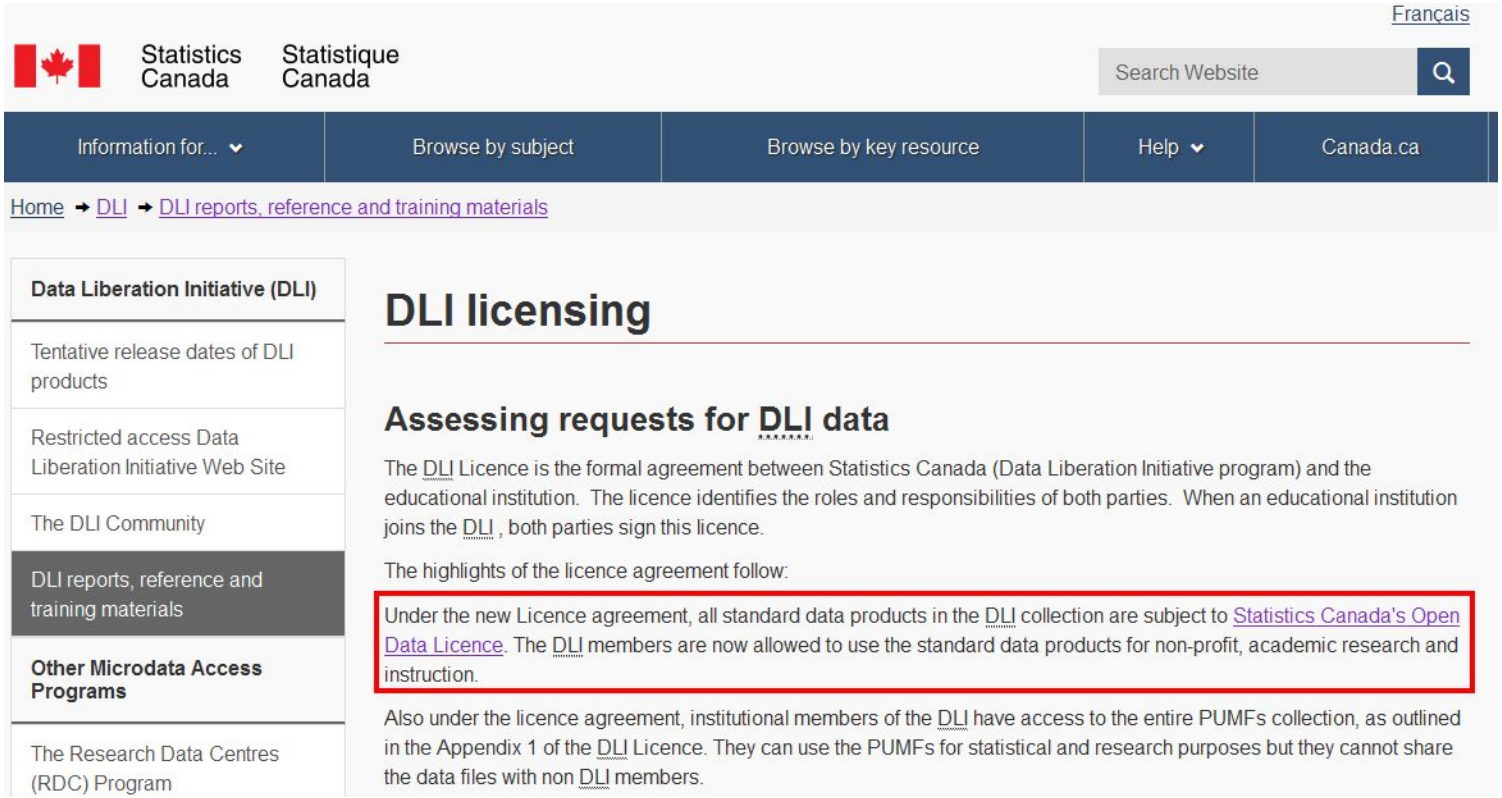
Publishing and Depository Services *used to* administer Crown Copyright and Licensing on behalf of Government of Canada departments and agencies...

The Federal Level: Everything is confusing

In 2010, the federal government gave notice that it was establishing a licence that gave permission for non-commercial uses without the need for permission

But in 2013, this notice was removed from the Public Works and Government Services site and the announcement was made that, "**as of November 18, 2013 Publishing and Depository Services no longer administers Crown Copyright** and Licensing on behalf of Government of Canada departments and agencies. Should you be seeking copyright clearance for Government of Canada information, **please contact the department or agency that created the information.**"

The Data Liberation Initiative is open? Not open?



Français

Statistics Canada | Statistique Canada

Search Website

Information for... | Browse by subject | Browse by key resource | Help | Canada.ca

Home → DLI → DLI reports, reference and training materials

Data Liberation Initiative (DLI)

- Tentative release dates of DLI products
- Restricted access Data Liberation Initiative Web Site
- The DLI Community
- DLI reports, reference and training materials

Other Microdata Access Programs

- The Research Data Centres (RDC) Program

DLI licensing

Assessing requests for DLI data

The DLI Licence is the formal agreement between Statistics Canada (Data Liberation Initiative program) and the educational institution. The licence identifies the roles and responsibilities of both parties. When an educational institution joins the DLI , both parties sign this licence.

The highlights of the licence agreement follow:

Under the new Licence agreement, all standard data products in the DLI collection are subject to Statistics Canada's Open Data Licence. The DLI members are now allowed to use the standard data products for non-profit, academic research and instruction.

Also under the licence agreement, institutional members of the DLI have access to the entire PUMFs collection, as outlined in the Appendix 1 of the DLI Licence. They can use the PUMFs for statistical and research purposes but they cannot share the data files with non DLI members.

Statistics Canada Open Licence Agreement

This agreement is between Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, as represented by the Minister for Statistics Canada ("Statistics Canada") and you (an individual or a legal entity that you are authorized to represent).

The following are terms governing your use of the Information. Your use of any Information indicates your understanding and agreement to be bound by these terms. If you do not agree to these terms, you may not use the Information.

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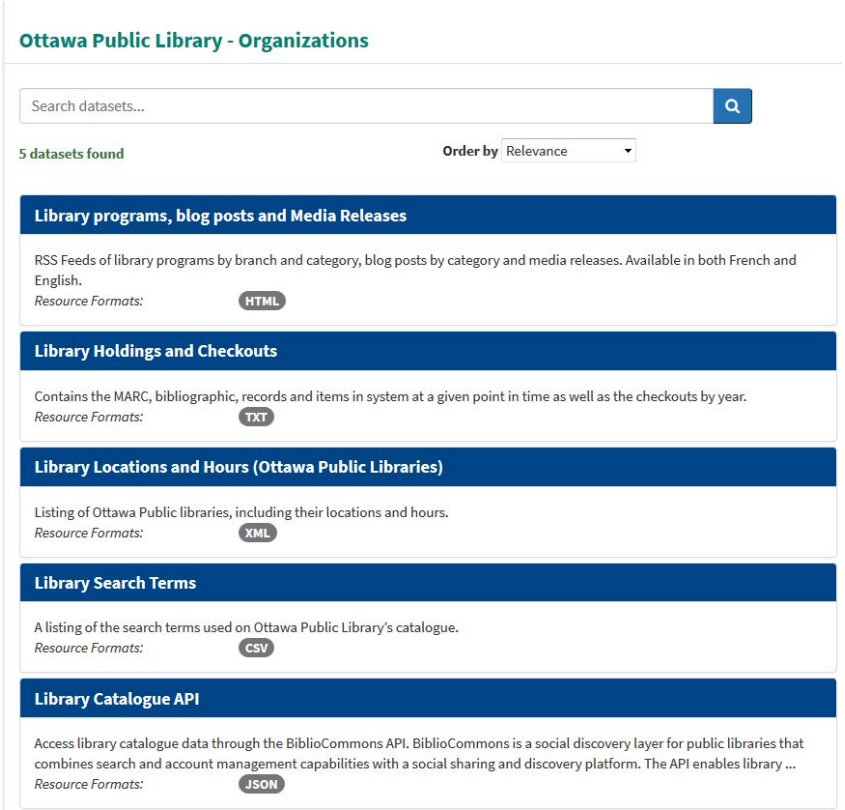
- sublicence any or all such rights, under terms consistent with this agreement.

Where Do Libraries Fit In?

Public libraries are making their data open...



Ottawa Public Library - Organizations

Search datasets...

5 datasets found

Order by Relevance

Library programs, blog posts and Media Releases

RSS Feeds of library programs by branch and category, blog posts by category and media releases. Available in both French and English.
Resource Formats: HTML

Library Holdings and Checkouts

Contains the MARC, bibliographic, records and items in system at a given point in time as well as the checkouts by year.
Resource Formats: TXT

Library Locations and Hours (Ottawa Public Libraries)

Listing of Ottawa Public libraries, including their locations and hours.
Resource Formats: XML

Library Search Terms

A listing of the search terms used on Ottawa Public Library's catalogue.
Resource Formats: CSV

Library Catalogue API

Access library catalogue data through the BiblioCommons API. BiblioCommons is a social discovery layer for public libraries that combines search and account management capabilities with a social sharing and discovery platform. The API enables library ...
Resource Formats: JSON

epl.ca

Browse | What's On | Digital Content | Library Resources

Open Data

Edmonton Public Library's Statement on Open Data

Edmonton Public Library's mission is "we share." In our Shared Values document, we assert our public role as a champion of ideas, community activators, knowledge seekers, and open to all. True to our mission and values, EPL declares our support for the open data movement and recognizes the principles of the G8 Charter on Open Data.

By recognizing the Charter, EPL accepts our responsibility as a public institution to work towards sharing all of our data by default, while recognising that there are legitimate reasons why some data cannot be released. Following the charter, the data we release will be:

- high-quality, timely, comprehensive and accurate;
- provided in plain clear language with thorough metadata, and
- available in formats readable by both machines and people.

Additionally, we accept responsibility for sharing our technical expertise and experience with other organizations, documenting our open data standards and publishing practices online in the interest of transparency, working to increase open data literacy and encouraging citizens to unlock the value of open data.

EPL shares data through Edmonton's Open Data Catalogue and under the City's Open Government License.

Access EPL's Open Data

- EPL Open Data in the City Open Data Catalogue

Meanwhile, south of the border

Knight Foundation
Informed & Engaged Communities
Browse Knight-
Appl
About the foundation | What we fund | What we're

What we fund / Knight Library Initiative / Open Data to Open Knowledge

Turning Boston's open data collection into an accessible resource by working with Boston Public Library to catalog it and introduce it to the public.

Learn More

Chattanooga Public Library

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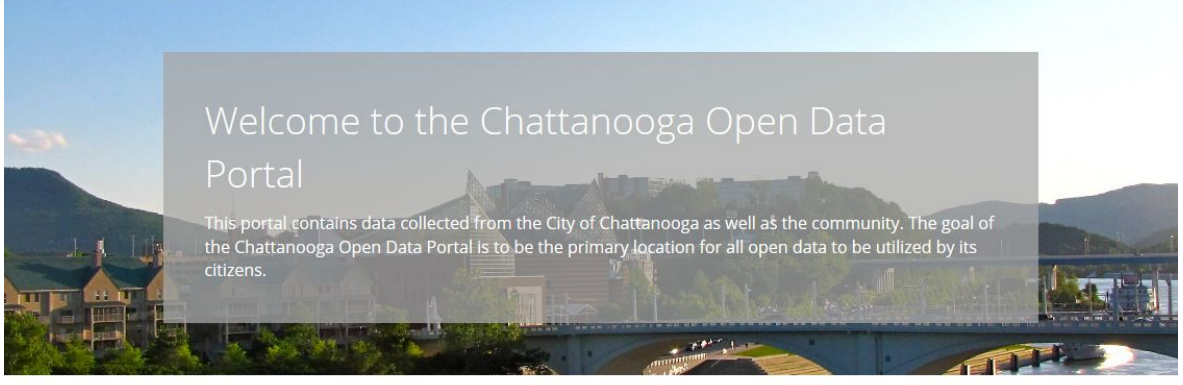
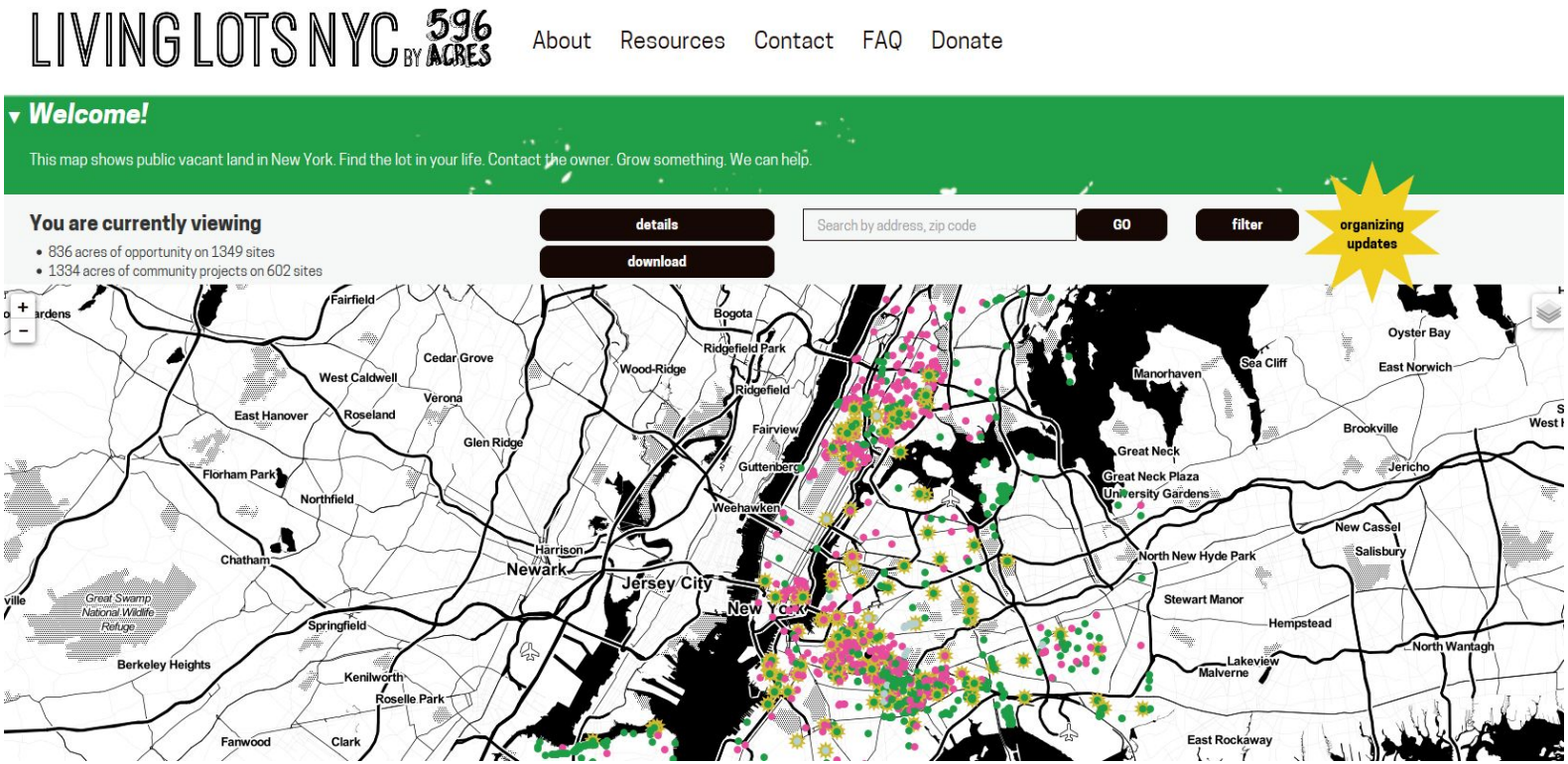
Home | About | Catalog | Video Tutorials | Terms of Use

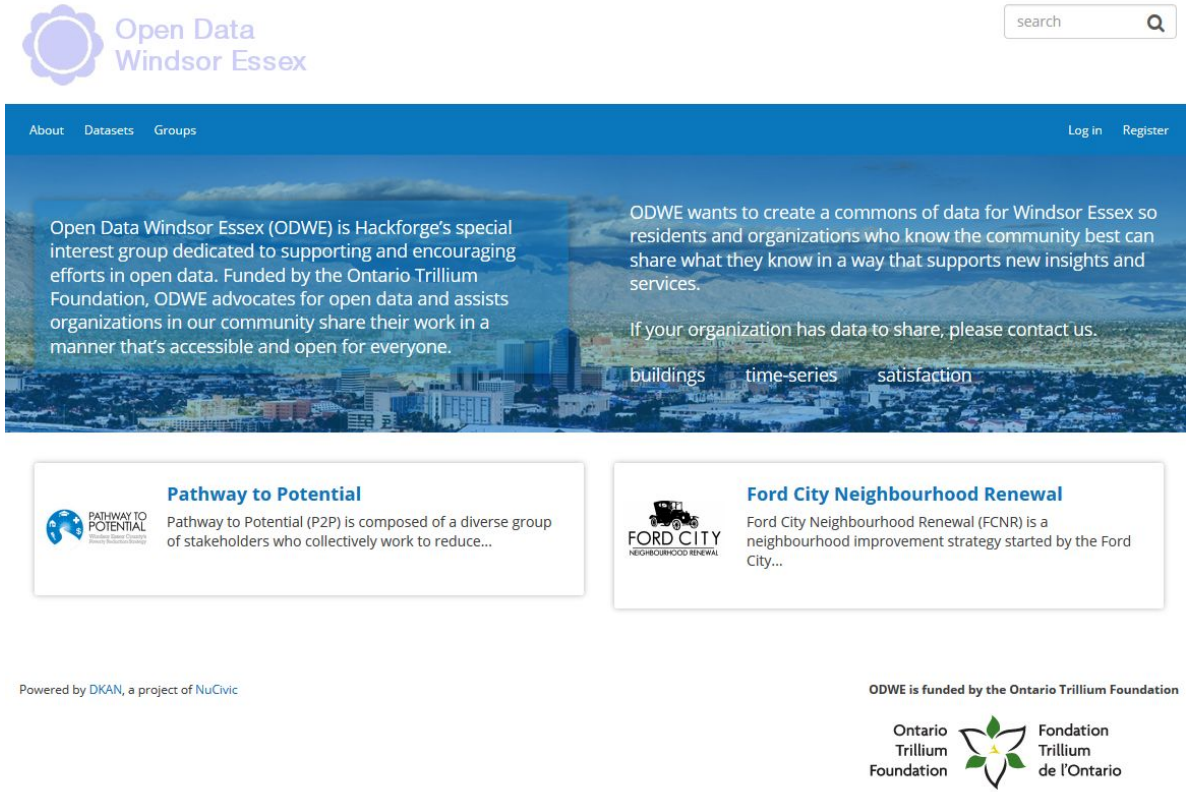


Performance | Budget | Checkbook | Catalog

How to turn the (data) tables



Who will host the data of nonprofits?



The literacy challenge of Open Data

eaves.ca

if writing is a muscle, this is my gym

home • about david • public speaking • publications • in the media • get in touch

June 10, 2010

Learning from Libraries: The Literacy Challenge of Open Data

42 Replies

We didn't build libraries for a literate citizenry. We built libraries to help citizens become literate. Today we build open data portals not because we have public policy literate citizens, we build them so that citizens may become literate in public policy.

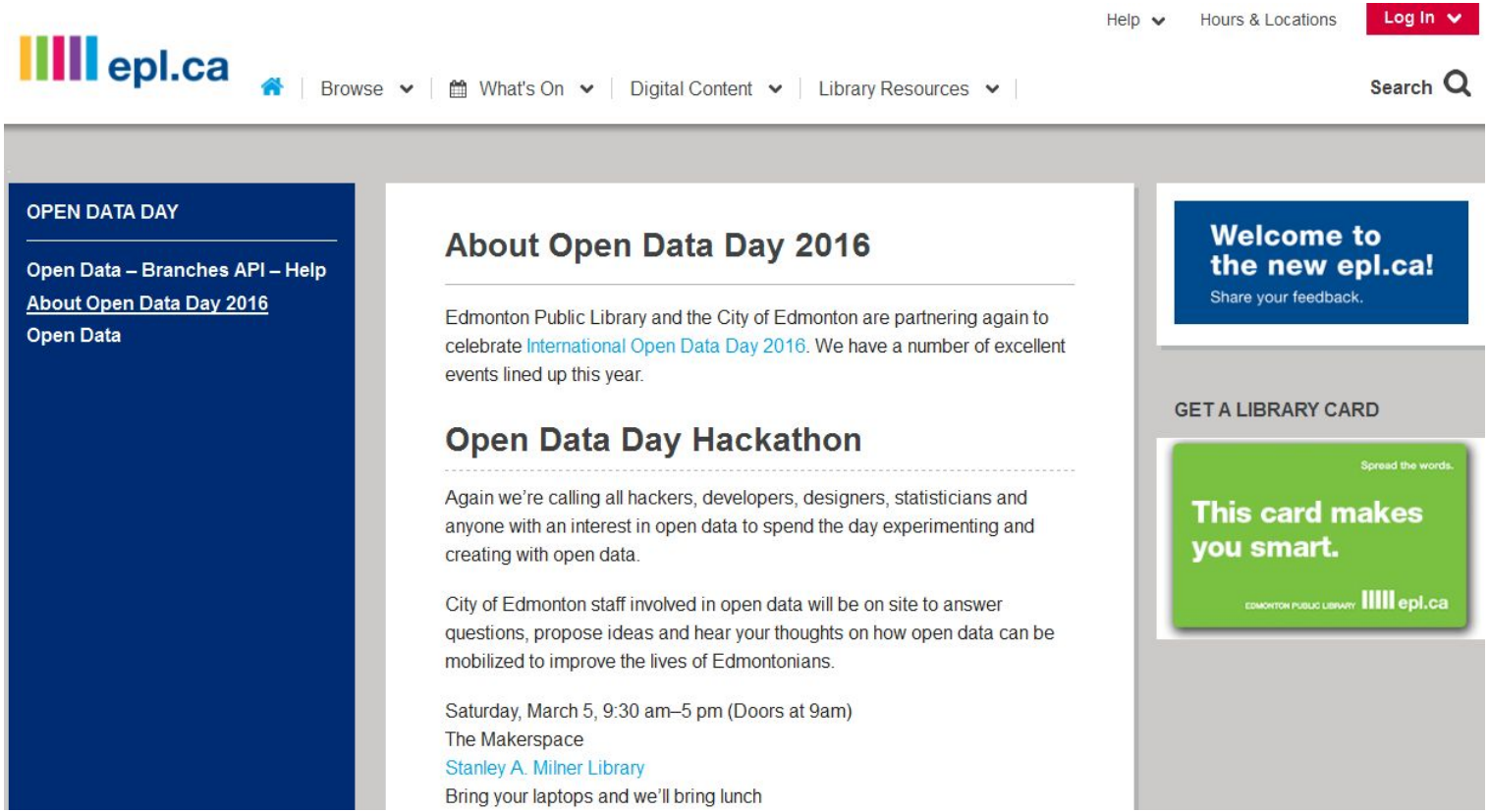
Yesterday, in a brilliant article on The Guardian website, Charles Arthur argued that a global flood of government data is being opened up to the public (sadly, not in Canada) and that we are going to need an army of people to make it understandable.

I agree. We need a data-literate citizenry, not just a small elite of hackers and policy wonks. And the best way to cultivate that broad-based literacy is not to release in small or measured quantities, but to flood us with data. To provide thousands of niches that will interest people in learning, playing and working with open data. But more than this we also need to think about cultivating communities where citizens can exchange ideas as well as involve educators to help provide support and increase people's ability to move up the learning curve.

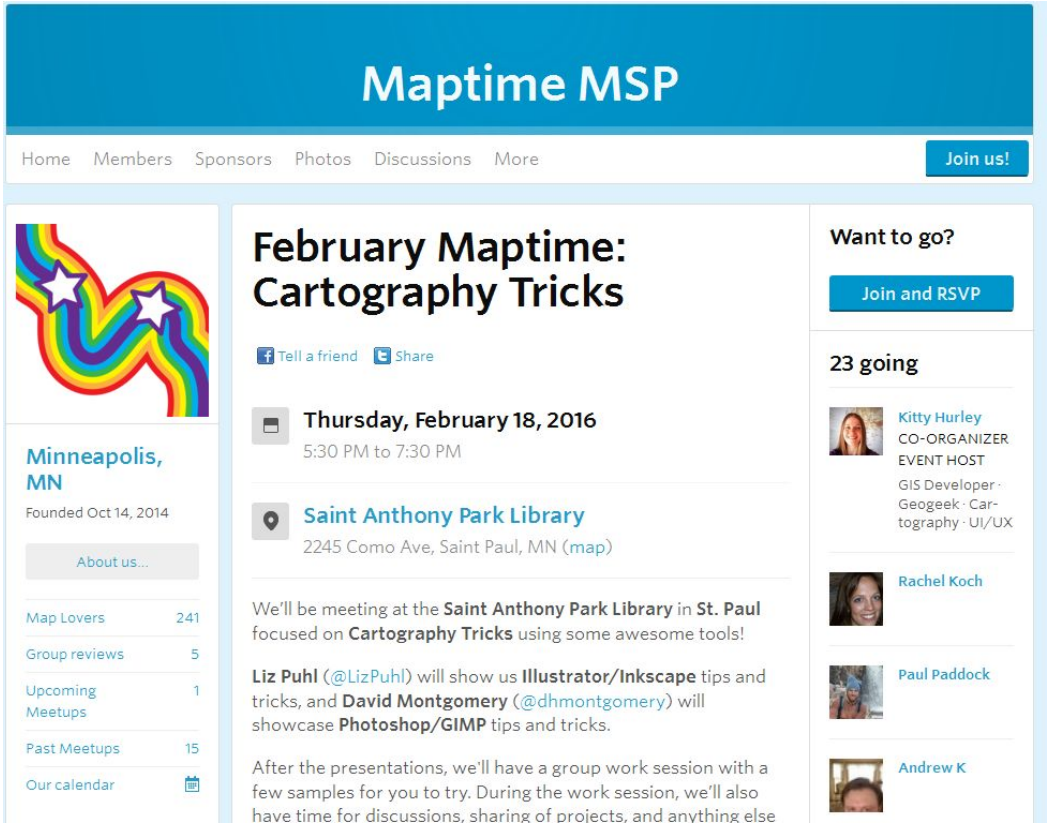
Interestingly, this is not new territory. We have a model for how to make this happen – one from which we can draw lessons or foresee problems. What model? Consider a process similar in scale and scope that happened just over a century ago: the library revolution.

In the late 19th and early 20th century, governments and philanthropists across the western world suddenly became obsessed with building libraries – lots of them. Everything from large

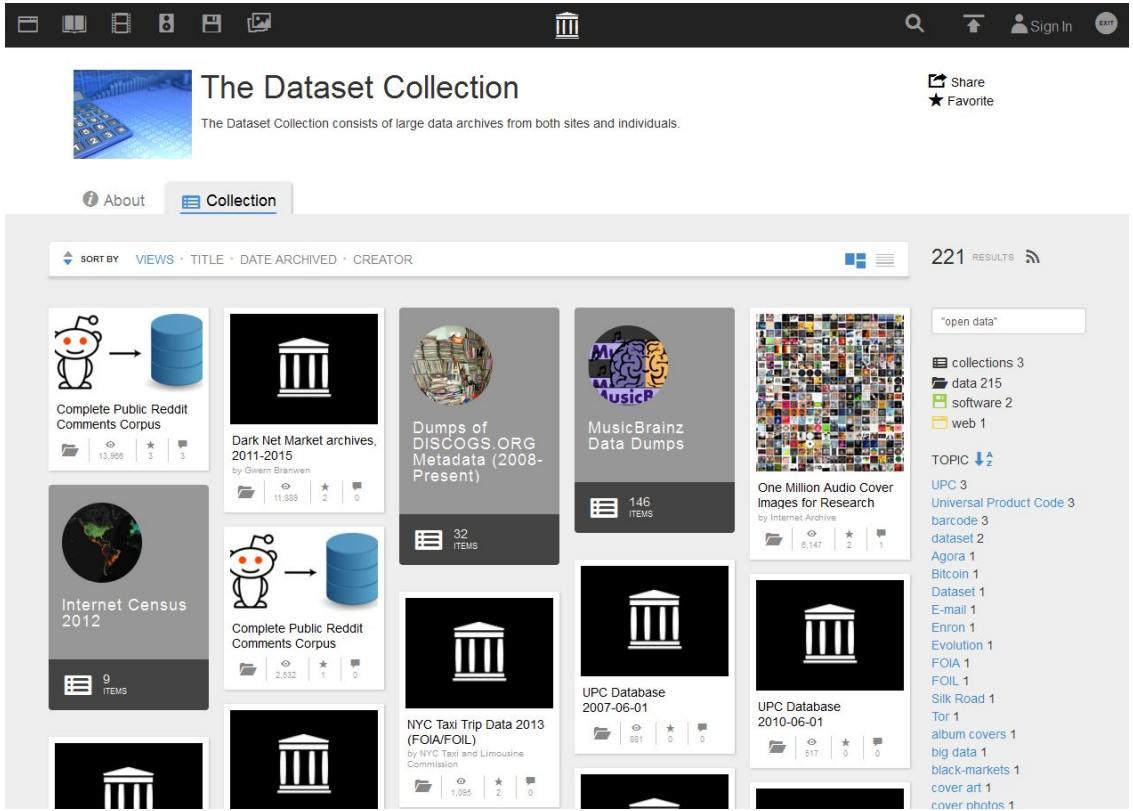
Libraries can Support Data and Policy Literacy



Host open data enthusiasts at your library



Archive Open Data in the Internet Archive?



Thank you!

Slides are available at:
https://goo.gl/Bo6yDI