GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION DAY

October 26, 2017

395 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario

uOttawa   Carleton UNIVERSITY   Library and Archives Canada   Bibliothèque et Archives Canada   Canada

Program outline

1. Welcoming remarks
2. Morning theme: Access to government information and data in an era of "open by default"
   a. Perspectives on "open by default" and the Directive on Open Government
   b. Panel presentations on the government information and data ecosystem
3. Networking lunch
4. Afternoon theme: Extending preservation and access – Government information and data beyond government
   a. The art of the possible: Making "open by default" a government reality
   b. Collaboration showcase: Capturing, sharing and preserving heritage data
   c. Breaking down silos and creating a nationwide, sustainable dialogue
5. Commentary and closing remarks

Detailed program outline

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	**Registration**

8:30 – 9:00	**Housekeeping and welcoming remarks**

General housekeeping remarks

Opening remarks

> Normand Charbonneau, Assistant Deputy Minister and Chief Operating Officer, Library and Archives Canada (LAC)

Welcoming remarks

1. Jerry Tomberlin, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic), Carleton University

2. David Graham, Vice-President Academic and Provost, University of Ottawa

Master of ceremonies: Karl-Xavier Thomas, Manager, Government Archives Division, LAC

9:00 – 12:30	**Morning theme:**
	Access to government information and data in an era of "open by default"

9:00 – 10:25	**Perspectives on "open by default" and the Directive on Open Government**

Context: The Government of Canada released its Directive on Open Government in the fall of 2014. As stated in the End-of-Term Self-Assessment Report on the Action Plan on Open Government 2014–2016, "the Interim Directive sends a strong message across federal institutions that government information belongs to the people it serves and should be open by default" (Government of Canada, 2017). As the government strives to embed the principles and practices of openness into the day-to-day activities of government, it is important to explore and understand areas of progress and continuing barriers, including shifts in organizational culture and the value of information management in supporting the Directive. This session seeks to provide the audience with an understanding of the "open by default" landscape at the federal level in Canada, from both government and non-government perspectives.

Format and speakers:

1. 30-minute presentation

   Mélanie Robert, Executive Director, Services and Open Government,
   Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat

2. 30-minute presentation

   Teresa Scassa, Canada Research Chair in Information Law and Faculty of Law Professor,
   University of Ottawa

3. 25-minute combined audience Q&A

10:25 – 10:45   **Coffee break**

10:45 – 12:30   **Panel presentations on the government information and data ecosystem**

Context: Building on the first group of presentations, this series will provide the audience with diverse perspectives on how government information and data is produced, requested/used, and advocated for. The goal of this session is to provide the audience with insights into the various parts of the government information and data "ecosystem" by providing diverse perspectives from stakeholders involved in various aspects of the environment of access. Presenters will be asked to explore the question: what does access look like in an era of "open by default"? They will explore what government openness means to them and how the principles of open by default have impacted their work or research.

Format and speakers:

1. 20-minute presentation

    Producer: government information or data owner/specialist
    Emily Gusba, Director, Information Management Division, Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission

2. 20-minute presentation

    Requester/user: experience making ATIP requests
    Dean Beeby, Senior Reporter, CBC Ottawa Parliamentary Bureau

3. 20-minute presentation

    Advocate: representative from civil society
    Tracey Lauriault, Assistant Professor of Critical Media and Big Data, School of Journalism
    and Communication, Carleton University

4. 30-minute facilitated Q&A

    Moderator: Candace Loewen, Director, Government Records Initiatives Division, LAC

5. 15-minute audience Q&A

12:30 – 2:00 p.m.   **On-site lunch and networking**

2:00 – 4:15   **Afternoon theme:**
Extending preservation and access – Government information and data
beyond government

Context: Commitment 4 of Canada's Third Biennial Plan to the Open Government Partnership states
that "the Government of Canada will establish government-wide initiatives, platforms, and tools
to ensure that open information is discoverable and accessible for use by future generations".
Partnerships, both formal and informal, are key for the government to make progress toward this
commitment and toward broader initiatives of preservation and access. Afternoon sessions will provide
varied perspectives on the topics of preservation and access.

2:00 – 2:40   **The art of the possible: Making "open by default" a government reality**

Context: Making "open by default" a reality for the Government of Canada is no small feat. Not only is it about extending access for Canadians, but it is also about changing institutional culture. In an open, digital world, Canadians need the government to have both an agile and proactive focus on service. As technological innovation accelerates, organizations and governments must evolve to better meet the needs of citizens. For exponential organizations, information is the greatest asset, and the Government of Canada is no exception.

Format and speaker:

1. 30-minute presentation

    Alex Benay, Chief Information Officer, Government of Canada

2. 10-minute Q&A

2:40 – 3:20   **Collaboration showcase**

Context: This presentation will explore a unique collaborative project between government and the academic sector to capture, share and preserve heritage data. This project highlights the unique ways in which partnerships can occur, with benefits for access, creation and preservation.

Format and speaker:

1. 30-minute presentation

    Stephen Fai, Director, Carleton Immersive Media Studio

2. 10-minute Q&A

3:20 – 3:45   **Coffee break**

3:45 – 4:15   **Breaking down silos and creating a nationwide, sustainable dialogue**

Context: The final afternoon presentation is a continuation of the afternoon theme and will explore next steps and moving forward as a community to preserve and improve access to government information and data. How can we create a nationwide, sustainable dialogue on these topics? How can we move from working in silos to working through meaningful and mutually beneficial partnerships?

Format and speaker:

1. 20-minute presentation

    Jean-Noé Landry, Executive Director, Open North

2. 10-minute Q&A

4:15 – 4:30   **Commentary on the day and closing remarks**

Context: Commentary and closing remarks to provide a brief summary of key themes that were present throughout the day.

Format and speakers:

1. 10-minute presentation

    Leslie Weir, University Librarian, University of Ottawa