

Note from the President

Greetings. Recently the BC Chapter of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) has been working hard on the upcoming Spring 2003 Seminar. Earlier in the year the executive carefully pondered the many concepts and issues pertinent to the GIS industry today. From the many suggestions put forth the decision was made to host a seminar that would focus on the organizational and administrative aspects of GIS in the enterprise.

"Moving GIS into the Enterprise" will showcase the various ways of building a successful GIS. We hope that you will join us on May 22nd for this event. It is sure to be a unique and interesting theme for GIS and IT professionals alike.

As president of URISA BC this past year I have had the great fortune of working with a very dedicated executive. Our past year's success can be directly attributed to the people who volunteered and worked hard on our website, newsletter, finances, sponsorship, membership and seminars. Since my tenure as

president is winding down I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the URISA BC executive for their hard work and dedication in the past year. I wish you all the best!

Upcoming Seminar – "Moving GIS into the Enterprise"



The B.C. Chapter of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association is hosting a seminar entitled *Moving GIS into the Enterprise*. You are invited to attend this one-day event at the Ramada Plaza Conference Resort on May 22nd, 2003 between 8:30am and 3:30pm. Lunch and Coffee will be served.

This seminar will explore the various aspects of integrating GIS into a corporation. Issues such as organizational structures, data models, software solutions, the usability of spatial applications and controlling digital data formats will be presented in the morning. In the afternoon, a discussion panel of experienced professionals in the field of integration will debate the hardware, software and people issues surrounding enterprise GIS.

Agenda available at www.urisabc.org

If you are a professional in Information Technology or GIS then you will find this seminar most beneficial. Also, managers who wish to use GIS technology in their business are encouraged to attend.

Regards
Shawn McLeod

GITA 4th Annual Conf.

The GITA Pacific Northwest conference will be held this year at **The Westin Salishan Lodge and Golf Resort**, Gleneden Beach (south of Lincoln City), OR, on **October 20 - 21, 2003**. We expect to have 100 attendees with 12 vendors exhibiting. This is a super location and there is an opportunity for you to spend time pre and post conference, for as little as \$65.00 US per night.

For more information: <http://www.gita.org/chapters/pacific/pacific.html> or if you want to present a paper please contact: Volker Elste - vhelste@ingr.com

Successful GIS in planning event

Thanks to all who participated in the "GIS in Planning" event on February 20, 2003, jointly presented by the Planning Institute of British Columbia (PIBC) and URISA BC

The purpose of the event was to introduce the latest GIS technology to Planners through practical examples. GIS real life examples presented included the use of GIS technology to:

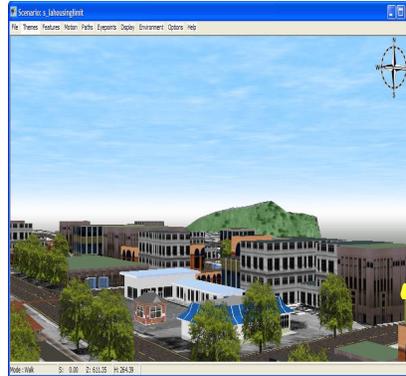
- Assist in the rewrite of the Zoning Bylaws of the City of Vernon (presented by Ekistics Town planning)
- Compare, analyze and forecast land use alternatives (presented by CommunityViz.).

The event was concluded with a panel discussion of the applicability of GIS at the various levels of planning, the importance of accurate data, and the use of web based GIS technology.

Judging from the response of the participants, the event definitely succeeded in creating a renewed interest in GIS amongst the BC Planning community and URISA BC is looking forward to work with PIBC on future events. The Vernon presentation is available at the URISABC web site.

New GIS Product

ESRI Canada is now an official reseller of CommunityViz



CommunityViz offers an innovative suite of software and solutions that combine scenario analysis, 3D visualization and forecasting models to create a comprehensive planning decision support system. CommunityViz is a powerful decision-support framework that offers users the ability to:

- Create and analyze alternative land use scenarios
- Visualize these alternatives in 3D
- Analyze proposed development policies and their impacts over time

Has 3 programs;

- Scenario Constructor is a scenario analysis tool with the functionality of a "spatial spreadsheet" that can perform numerical computations on geographic data in real time.

- SiteBuilder 3D builds photo-realistic, three-dimensional, interactive. Users can "fly-through" and explore their virtual models and even change them in real time.
- Policy Simulator uses agent-based modeling techniques to simulate likely future impacts of community planning proposals. This provides planners with a view of likely economic and demographic outcomes years into the future.

For more information please contact ESRI Canada at 1-800-GIS-XPRT or info@esricanada.com

City of Surrey EIIS – Managing Knowledge

Since CAD was already being utilized by the City of Surrey and we had extensive conversion routines to convert all of the CAD data to our GIS system, we decided to create a customized application for our CAD system that would enable us to leverage the skills and knowledge of existing staff to add data to the spatial database. The idea grew into The City of Surrey's Engineering Infrastructure Information System (EIIS). EIIS is a customized version of

Microstation that allows for the input of graphic and attributive data to create spatial data. Graphics are added in Microstation, attributes added to Oracle Database tables and then subsequently converted to ArcINFO for viewing and analysis via our GIS.

Our data maintenance processes have been substantially streamlined by re-engineering our processes and implementing EIS, which we developed with Pacific Alliance Technologies. Our sanitary backlog was completed and subsequently published to our GIS in 3 months!

If you are interested in more information Karen Stewart, will be speaking at the **'GIS in Action 2003'** conference in April, <http://www.orurisa.org/events/gisinact/2003event/> and at the **Bentley International Users Conference** in May, <http://www.bentley.com/biuc/>.

Feature Web Site

BurnabyMap, Mapping Hits the Internet



BurnabyMap provides various tools to interact with the

maps and examine data. They include standard tools such as zoom-in, zoom-out, and pan as well as custom tools to select information and print maps. They can be saved to your clipboard, embedded in documents, e-mailed, and printed.

BurnabyMap has layers containing different types of data. For example, the roads layer contains data about local, collector, arterial, and other types of roads. Turning layers on and off allows you to focus on data that is important to you.

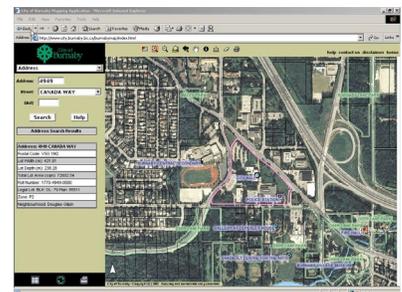
Easy-to-use search routines are provided that will allow you to find a variety of services, amenities, and facilities. For example, a search by street address allows you to find properties and view information such as lot dimensions, postal code, zoning, and legal descriptions. A zoomed-in map is created with a selection box around the property.

Pull-down menus are provided to locate a variety of features such as parks, fire halls and policing services. You don't need an address to locate these features. Simply select the item from the pull-down menu

and BurnabyMap will create a zoomed-in map.

Maps can be created for engineering related data such as water, sanitary and storm mains, and roads. Colour or black and white aerial photographs can be turned on or off by a click of a button.

City staff from Information Services and the Engineering, Planning, Building, and Parks departments developed BurnabyMap. The successful implementation of BurnabyMap would not have been possible without their contribution, dedication, and teamwork.



BurnabyMap can be accessed from the City of Burnaby home page or by going to <http://www.city.burnaby.bc.ca/burnabymap/>.

Any suggestions or comments on the newsletter please e-mail me at jerry@maedel.ca

Happy GISing!