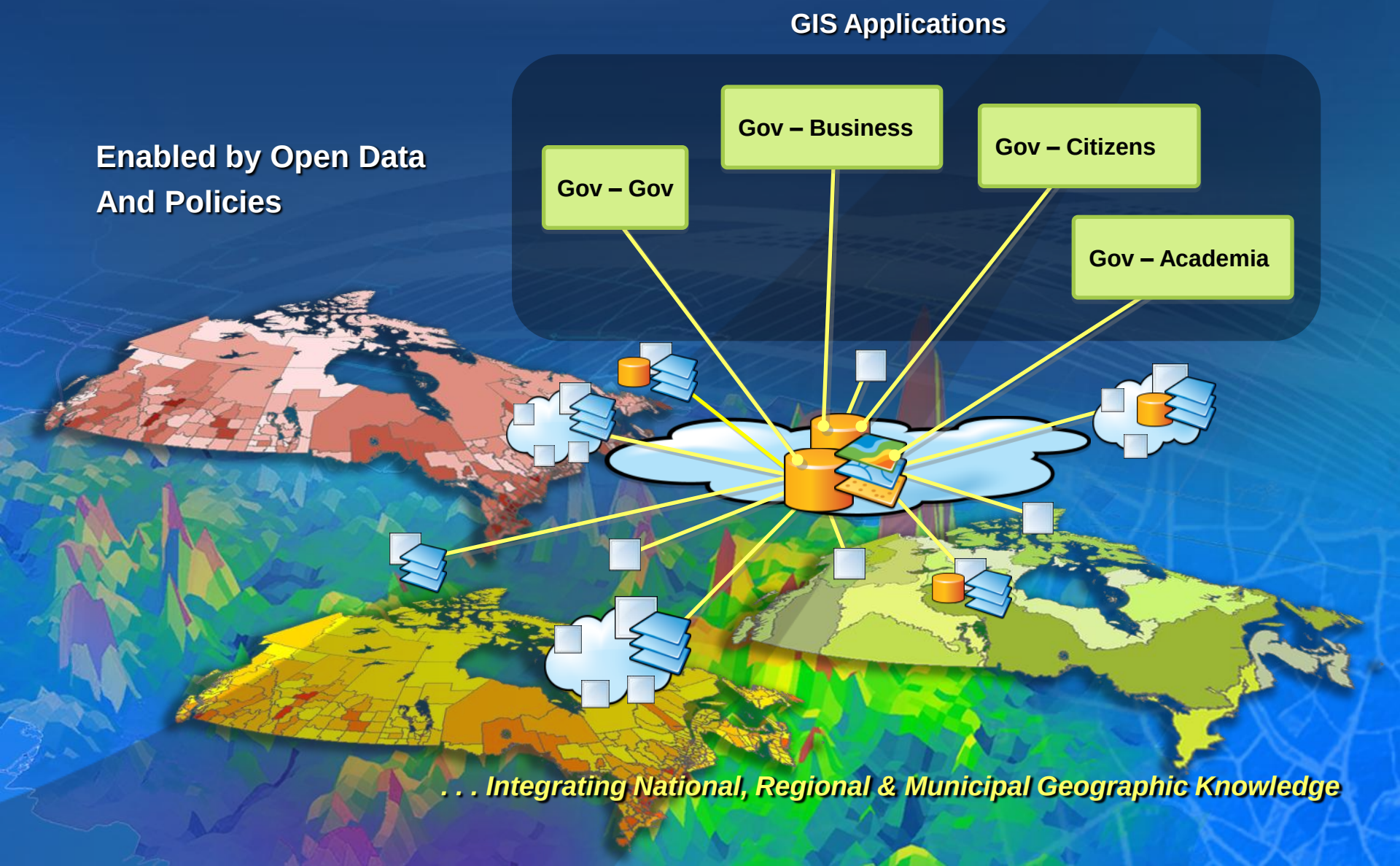
Leveraging Open Data to Engage Citizens, Enhance Public Services & Decision Making

URISA – BC Chapter

Presented by: Alex Miller

Our Goal is Accessible Geographic Knowledge

. . . A Distributed Network of Systems & Services



Why Open Data

- e-democracy
- e-participation
- Increase accountability into the decision-making process
- Better service delivery
- Reduce operational costs through citizen self-serve capabilities
- Increase transparency into the vast repositories of public information that’s available

GIS on the Web is Changing

Easy, Accessible & Collaborative

Enabled By

- Cloud Architecture
- Web Services
- Mashups
- Crowd Sourcing
- Open Data Sharing Policies

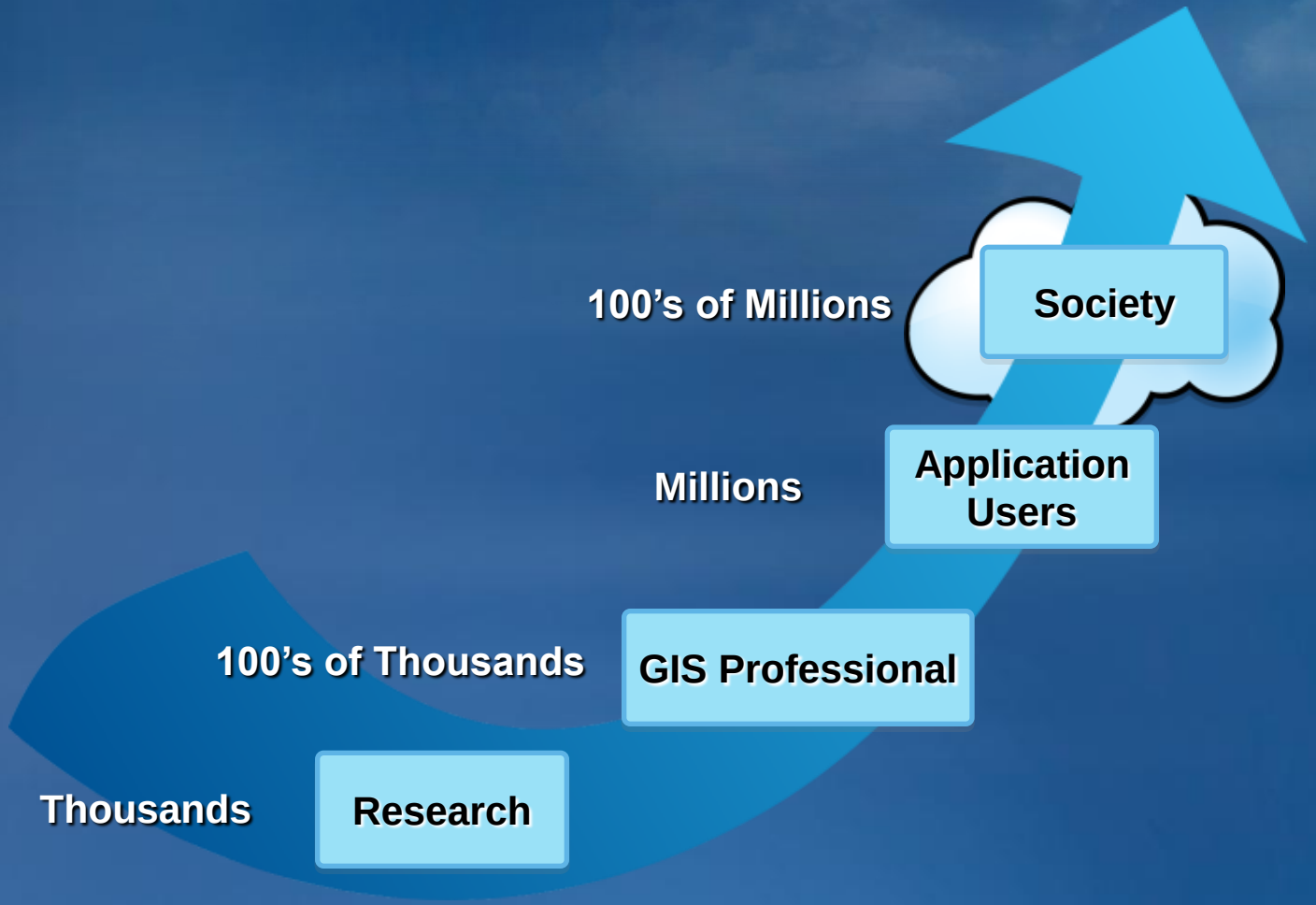
Richer, New Styles and Techniques

… and GIS Servers

GIS Today

A Pervasive System for Using Maps & Geographic Information

Distributing Geographic Information Everywhere



Many New Applications

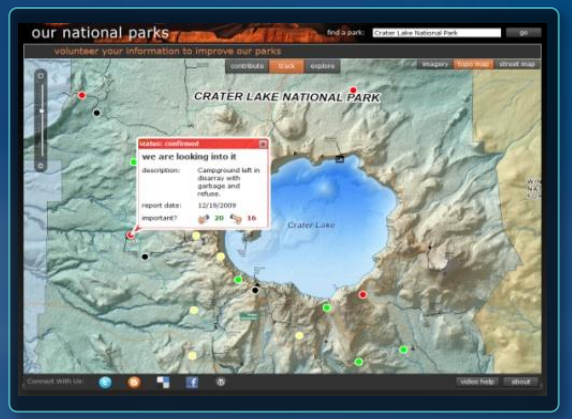
Open Government

USA Government

Citizen Science

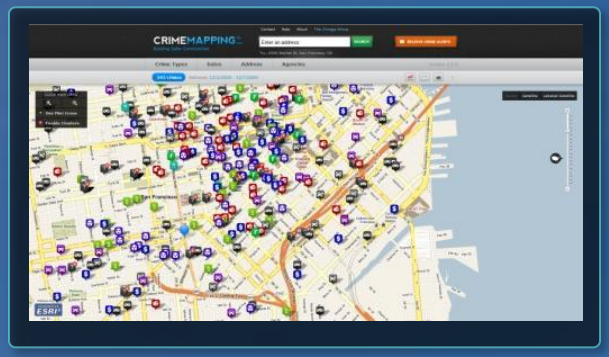
Cornell University

Citizen Reporting



NPS

Crime Mapping



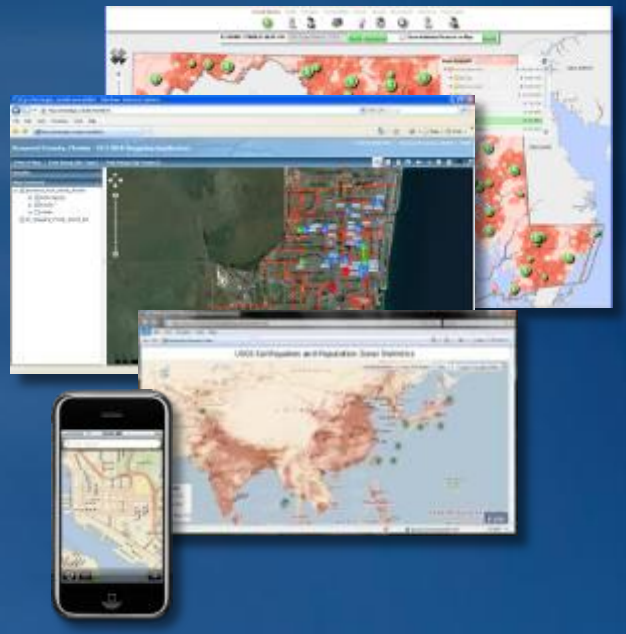
iPhone App's

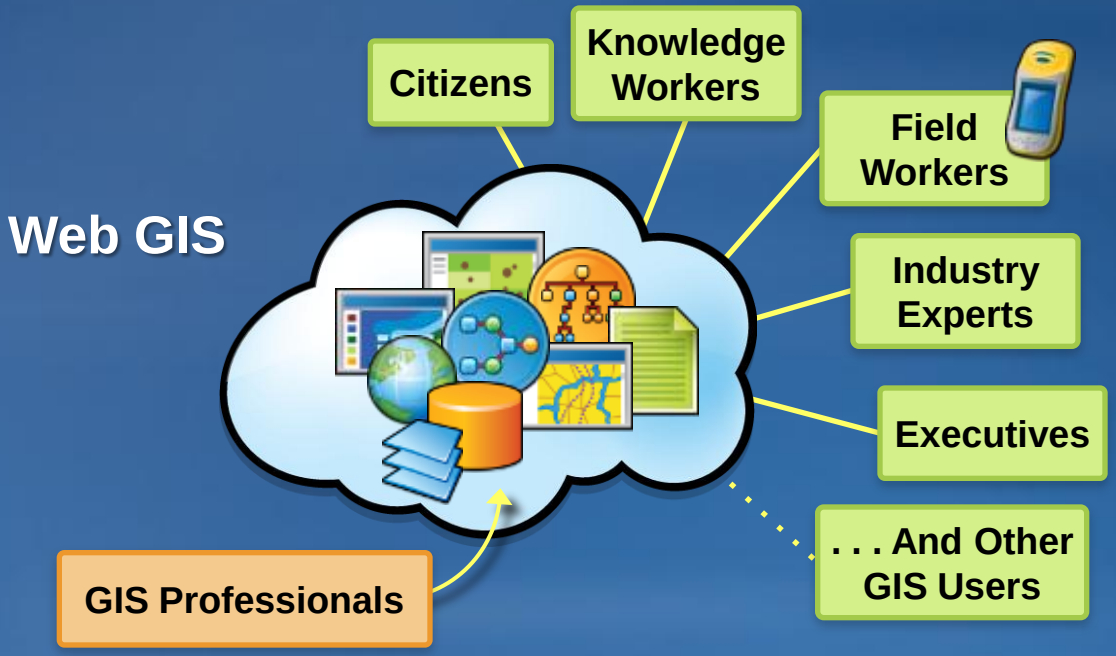
Philadelphia

Field Workforce Location

GIS on the Web

- Serving two-way, dynamic content
- Makes it accessible to lay users
- Harnesses public opinion in real time
- Allows large scale collaboration among amateurs & experts
- Enables Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI)





VGI: A Major Focus

Engaging Citizens in Data Collection & Civic Action

- Observations
  - –Conditions (i.e. potholes)
  - –Delinquent Behavior (i.e. graffiti)
  - –Citizen Science (i.e. bird sightings)
  - –Events (i.e. road accidents)
- Opinions & Feedback
- Systematic Data Collection

Every Citizen is a Sensor

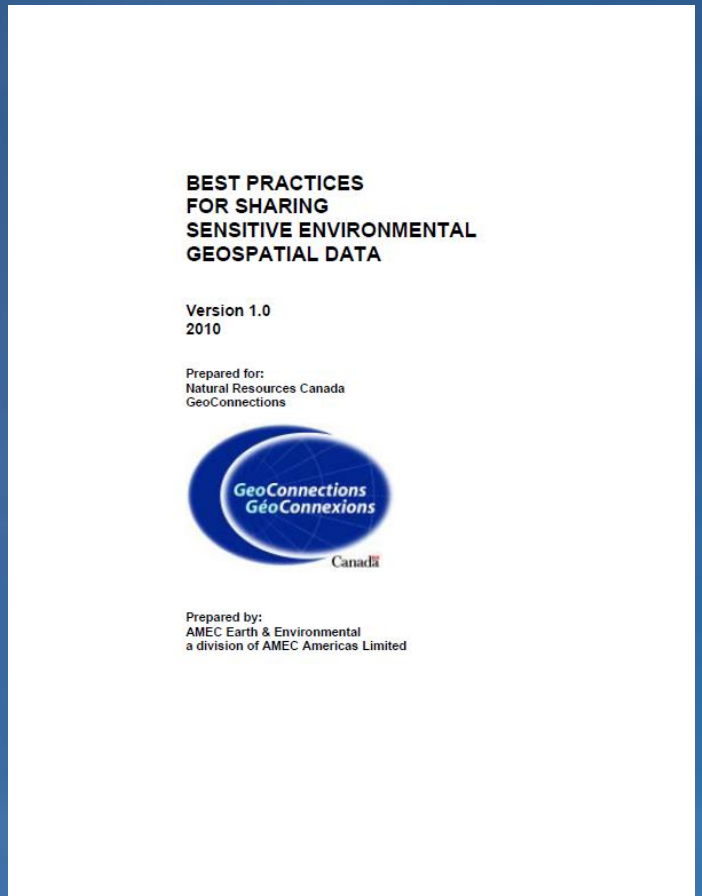
Issues

- Ownership & property rights
- Privacy
- Data accuracy & consistency
- Publishing Updates
- Cost of support
- Loss of trading power

Beyond the Barriers

- Licensing & Liability
  - GeoConnections:

Best practices approach to licensing



BEST PRACTICES
FOR SHARING
SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL
GEOSPATIAL DATA

Version 1.0
2010

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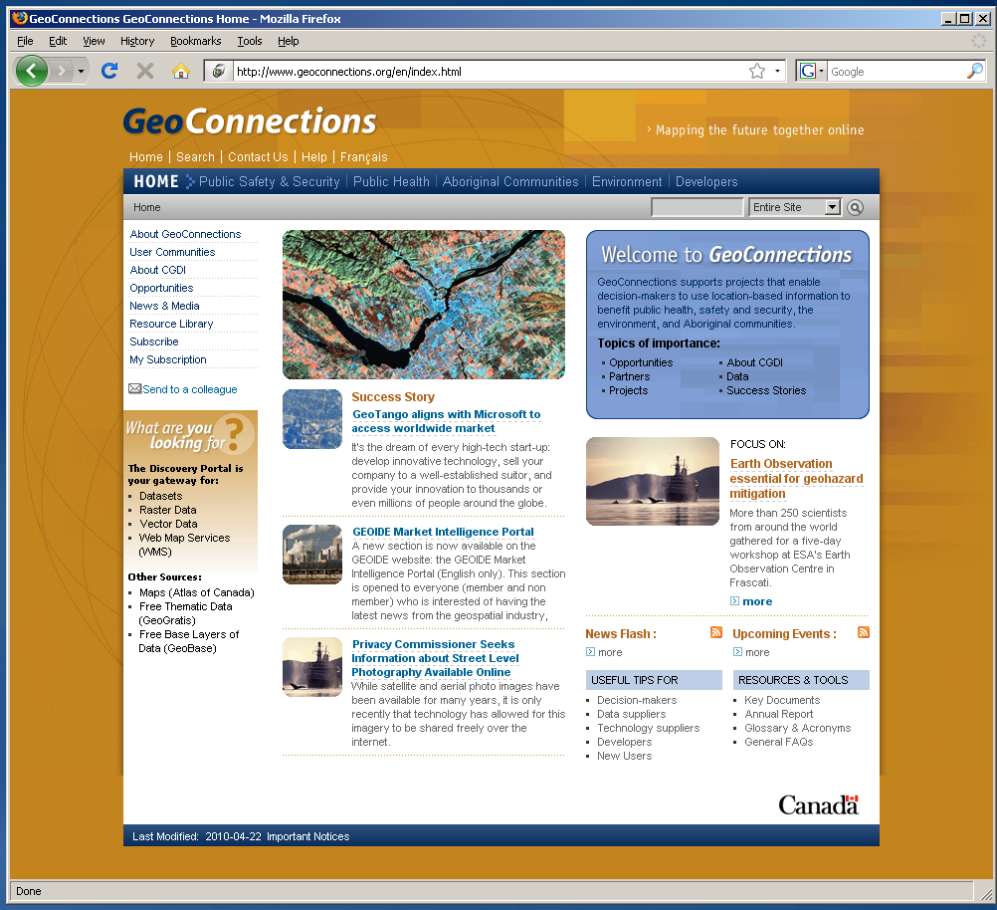
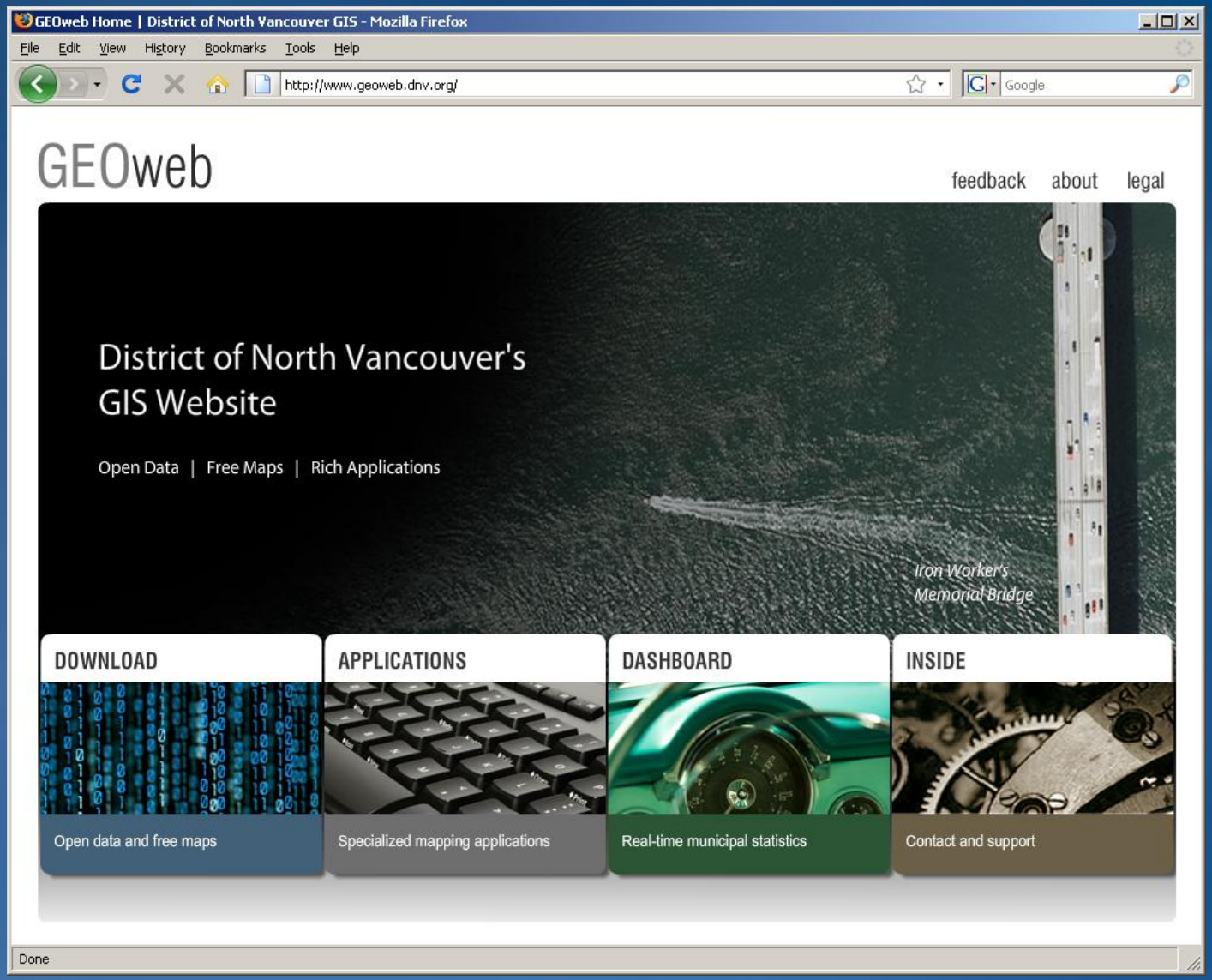


Open GIS Data in Action



Questions?

Thank You