PRESENTATION BIOGRAPHIES – June 15th, 2017

Ottawa: How Minecraft Increased Community Engagement in City Planning

Presented by Eric Storie, City of Ottawa and Aaron Koning, Safe Software

Employed with the City of Ottawa since 2005, Eric is an accomplished GIS Support Analyst with a solid record of achievements. He has 33 years of experience in both GIS and Remote Sensing, attaining his B. Sc. Geography in 1986, and M.A. in Geography in 1998 from Carleton University. Past employment includes AutoDesk Canada, SHL Systemhouse, and The Canada Centre for Remote Sensing. His interests include Beach Volleyball, F1 racing, Surfing, Travel, Space memorabilia, Astronomy, and Minecraft.

Aaron Koning is the FME Server Product Manager at Safe Software, and has been a member of Safe's Professional Services team since 2007. As manager of the FME Server support team, he oversees technical assistance for FME Server customers, and helps organizations solve data interoperability challenges across the world. Experienced in GIS and enterprise geospatial technologies, Aaron holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Geography from the University of Northern British Columbia in Canada.

The Dawn of a New Age of GeoPortals

Presented by Ben Arril, GeoBC

Ben's family has been making maps since the 1700's. Following in this tradition, he received a B. Sc. and M. Sc. in Geography from the University of Victoria. Ben joined the BC Government in 2015 after working for the Alberta Government as the Geomatics Lead for Environment and Parks.

Community Engagement Practices in our Web and Digital Space
Presented by Bill McKay, City of Surrey and Mark Masongsong, UrbanLogiq

Bill has worked in the GIS industry for over 20 years for various government agencies and the private sector in the US and Canada. He currently manages the GIS Section at the City of Surrey who support hundreds of GIS technology users in Engineering, Parks, and Planning departments. Bill is passionate about the data side of GIS – ensuring that tools, methods, and processes allow efficient capture, storage and use of the most important component of GIS – the data. He is currently spearheading an ambitious initiative to catalog all data holdings at the City, and improve discovery and access of those data to potential end users.

Mark Masongsong is the CEO and Co-Founder of UrbanLogiq, a data analytics platform for urban planners and municipal governments. With a decade in government and politics, he has been a featured speaker on the future of smart cities and analytics at the White House, World Bank, State Department and Harvard Smart Cities Accelerator. Mark also serves as a director humanitarian and environmental non-profits and was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal.

Taking A New Road: Developing A Smart North East False Creek 3D Model
Presented by Dan Campbell, City of Vancouver

Dan Campbell is a Systems Analyst with the City of Vancouver, responsible for coordinating 3D visualization and analysis activities. Dan has a background in planning and urban design and has spoken at conferences including AutoDesk University, Map Asia, GeoWeb, GeoTec, URISA, RTC BIM Forum, Pitney Bowes Insight, Middle East Geospatial Forum, India Geospatial Forum, and ITEA 3. In 2012, Dan was the recipient of the Pitney Bowes Meridian Award for Technical Achievement

eGovernment as a Platform

Presented by Shane Barnaby, Township of Langley

Shane Barnaby is Manager, Applications at the Township of Langley. Since joining the Township in 2010 Shane has contributed to several systems including the GeoSource online mapping tool, Cemetery Management System, Open Data, and various custom middleware and web applications. Currently Shane is focused on improving citizen experience and engagement with the Township by building upon its eGovernment platform.

Community Engagement at Nootka Elementary

Presented by Joe Drechsler, Northwest Hydraulic Consultants

Mr. Josef Drechsler is a GIS Professional with twelve years of experience working for Northwest Hydraulic Consultants Ltd. Building on a background in archaeology, he has developed a range of technical skills, both through formal training and practical experience. Through preparing data for physical and numerical models, delineating drainage basins and working in the field surveying waterways, Josef has used GIS as a valuable problem solving and communication tool in his work through the years. Producing many maps over his career he recently had a floodplain and a flood hazard map published in the 2016 Esri Map Book.

Hack Our City: A Catalyst for Public Engagement

Presented by Becky Finley, City of New Westminster

Becky Finley, over her 22 year career with the City of New Westminster, has used her extensive experience in geospatial database design and development to work with all departments to enhance their data and GIS uses. Increasingly, her focus has become building custom interactive web and mobile applications that tell stories to inform and engage the public and internal staff. In 2016, Esri Canada shortlisted her Heritage Register Story Map for App of the Month. Other notable apps which Becky has developed are the Community Service Asset Map and the Parks Inventory Mapping Tool. Her extensive experience making data accessible to the public made her an essential team member when the City developed its Open Data program. She was instrumental in researching and developing the open data catalogue. In 2017, she contributed to both the Hack-Our-City event, and to students at BCIT who also used the City's open data catalogue to build new apps, culminating in judging the BCIT apps.

Toronto Police Service Public Safety Data Portal

Presented by Debbie Verduga, Toronto Police Service

Debbie Verduga has been a GIS analyst for the last eight years with experience in several different sectors of the public service. After completing the GIS and Digital Geography program at Ryerson University, she worked as a Geographic Consultant for Statistics Canada for several years. After further studies including Demographic Analysis also at Ryerson, she worked at the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) as a Location Analyst in the Real Estate and Development department. Her role with the LCBO expanded her GIS experience in business and market analysis through the development of market strategies for the agency's store network. Debbie Verduga is currently working as a Crime Analyst in the Business Intelligence and Analytics department at the Toronto Police Service. Her primary role with the service has involved customizing the Public Safety Data Portal using the ESRI Open Data platform, preparing and developing tools for users to visualize and analyze open data.