

Land Information Ontario

April 2010

Coordinator's Report

By *Raphael Sussman*

The end of March signifies the end of the Ontario Government's fiscal year and, with it, an evaluation of how well we met the objectives we set at the beginning of the year in April 2009.

LIO did well meeting its target objectives. Among the highlights is the announcement by Statistics Canada to align its road network with the Ontario Road Network (ORN) for the 2016 Census. This has resulted in many new municipalities signing the LIO ORN participation agreement to provide their roads data. We've had good response to the "Do We Have Your Trail?" campaign. LIO's "Make-a-Map"

application has been upgraded in response to user suggestions. A new application will soon be available for geocoding addresses and postal codes, called LIOcoder.

The beginning of April is also that infamously short period in Ontario when the snow has gone and the trees are not yet in leaf: time for aerial photography! This year sees us gearing up for South-Western Ontario Orthophotography Project (SWOOP) 2010. Thank you to all the partners for their patience and contributions towards what will undoubtedly be another success. We'll keep you posted on our progress.

Defining the Future of LIO

by *Brian Maloney*

For the last 10 years, LIO has worked towards making geospatial data about Ontario well-managed, accessible, easy to integrate and affordable. Technology,

and especially the capability of individuals and organizations to acquire and use geospatial data, has changed dramatically over the last few years. It's time to evaluate how well LIO meets the needs of Ontario's Geomatics communities. To do this, we're reviewing everything we do to

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ensure LIO is providing the right programs and services to our partners and clients. Our intent, among other objectives, is to propose a fair and equitable funding model that will allow LIO to continue as effectively and efficiently as possible. We'll keep you posted on our progress.

Natural. Valued. Protected.

Ontario Road Network Report

By Carol-Anne Albertson

The Ontario Road Network (ORN) now contains information on more than 275,000 kilometres of roads across Ontario!

The ORN Segment with Address data class was also redesigned to align with the LRS.

To better support our partners and clients, the ORN Road Net Element data class has been enhanced to improve the functionality of the ORN Linear Reference System (LRS). The ORN Segment with Address data class was also redesigned to align with the LRS.

A notable change is the creation of an ORN Segment with Address table. This table includes alternate street names, multiple municipality fields, and route name(s) and number(s). The addition of shield type will allow clients to enhance their cartographic products.

For more information on how the ORN can be used to support your business needs, please contact carolanne.albertson@ontario.ca.



Ontario Trail Network Report

By Carol-Anne Albertson

Land Information Ontario continues to work with the Ministry of Health Promotion to map recreational trail locations across Ontario. We collected over 1,000 trailhead locations representing over 17,000 kms of trails in 2009. We've also collected over 2,500 kms of trail segments representing 4,000 kms of trails.

We'll continue to work with our partners to add more trails in 2010. Check our **web map** to see if we have your trail in English or French. If you don't see it, let us know at trails@ontario.ca. By adding your trail to the Ontario Trail Network, it will be accessible at no cost to government ministries and other organizations for planning, analysis and emergency management.

For more information about the Ontario Trail Network, please contact carolanne.albertson@ontario.ca.



Ontario Parcel Report

By Carla Jordan-Cooke

The Ontario Parcel is a province-wide, geospatial database of assessment, ownership, and crown land parcels built and maintained with an agreement between Teranet, MPAC and MNR. MNR's agreement with the other two parties expires in 2012 and MNR needs to determine if and on what terms it would seek approval to renew the agreement. Besides the efficiency gained from managing the three products together, and the increased data quality and level of integration, the Agreement has made the Ontario Parcel available at no cost to a long list of public sector organizations. Over the next two years, the terms of this Agreement will be re-examined and we'll be seeking input from organizations that use and do not use the Ontario Parcel.



... the agreement has made the Ontario Parcel available at no cost to a long list of public sector organizations.

If you have any comments, suggestions or concerns about the Ontario Parcel or would like more information, please contact carla.jordan-cooke@ontario.ca.

Technology Report

By Chris Eckstein and Colin Brethour

In the coming months and years, LIO's core applications and services will be modernized. We are busy researching and evaluating alternatives and building prototypes and look forward to sharing our innovative solutions with you as they become available.

In the meantime, improvements and enhancements will continue as usual and previously planned applications like the LIOcoder will be implemented. LIOcoder is a public web app, based on

LIO's GeoCoder Web Service, that lets users turn addresses or postal codes into point locations for mapping and analysis. Results are displayed in a table and spatially on a map. The results can be exported to Text (*.txt), Markup Language (*.XML) or Shapefile (*.shp) formats.

In the coming months and years, LIO's core applications and services will be modernized.

In our next technology report, we'll share a progress report about LIO's modernization activities along with metrics that illustrate the breadth of use and value of provincial geospatial data in the daily lives of Ontarians.

LIO clients can be assured that established service targets regarding availability and reliability will be met throughout this modernization process.

For more information, please contact chris.eckstein@ontario.ca.

Select Ontario: MEDT's GIS Site Selection Tool

*By Ilka Guttler,
GIS Coordinator, Marketing Branch,
Ministry of Economic Development
and Trade*

As part of Ontario's Open Ontario initiative, the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (MEDT) launched *Select Ontario*, a web-enabled Geographic Information System (GIS) site selection tool in February 2010. *Select Ontario* is a powerful business and marketing tool that allows investors and site selectors

to make timely and informed decisions about where to locate their business projects in Ontario.

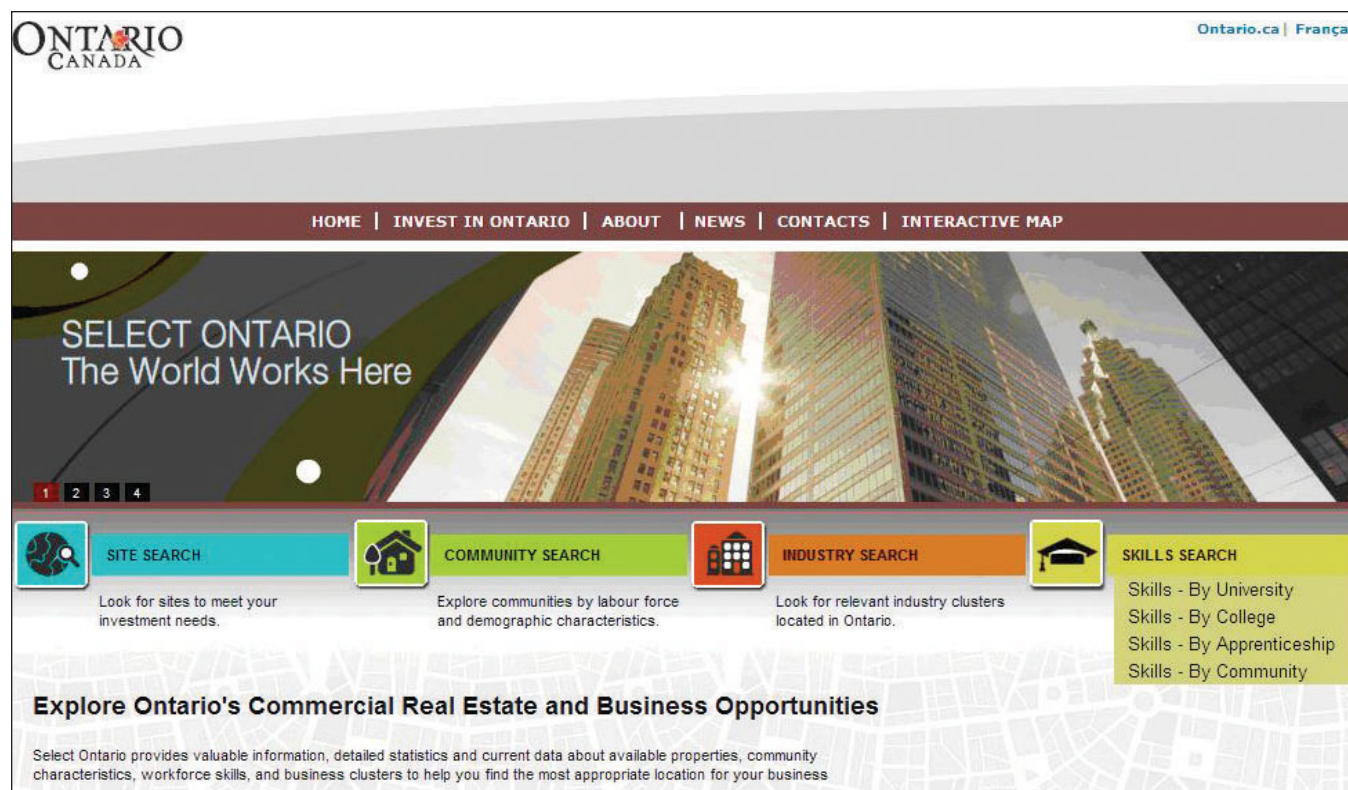
The tool provides a one-stop shop for valuable information, detailed statistics and current data about available properties, community demographics and labour force characteristics, workforce skills and business clusters. It allows users to conduct property, community, business and skills searches, generate reports and maps, and perform advanced proximity analysis on selected features. The flexibility of the searches and the variety of search criteria incorporated into the tool will

help establish Ontario as one of the leaders in the use of GIS technology for site selection.

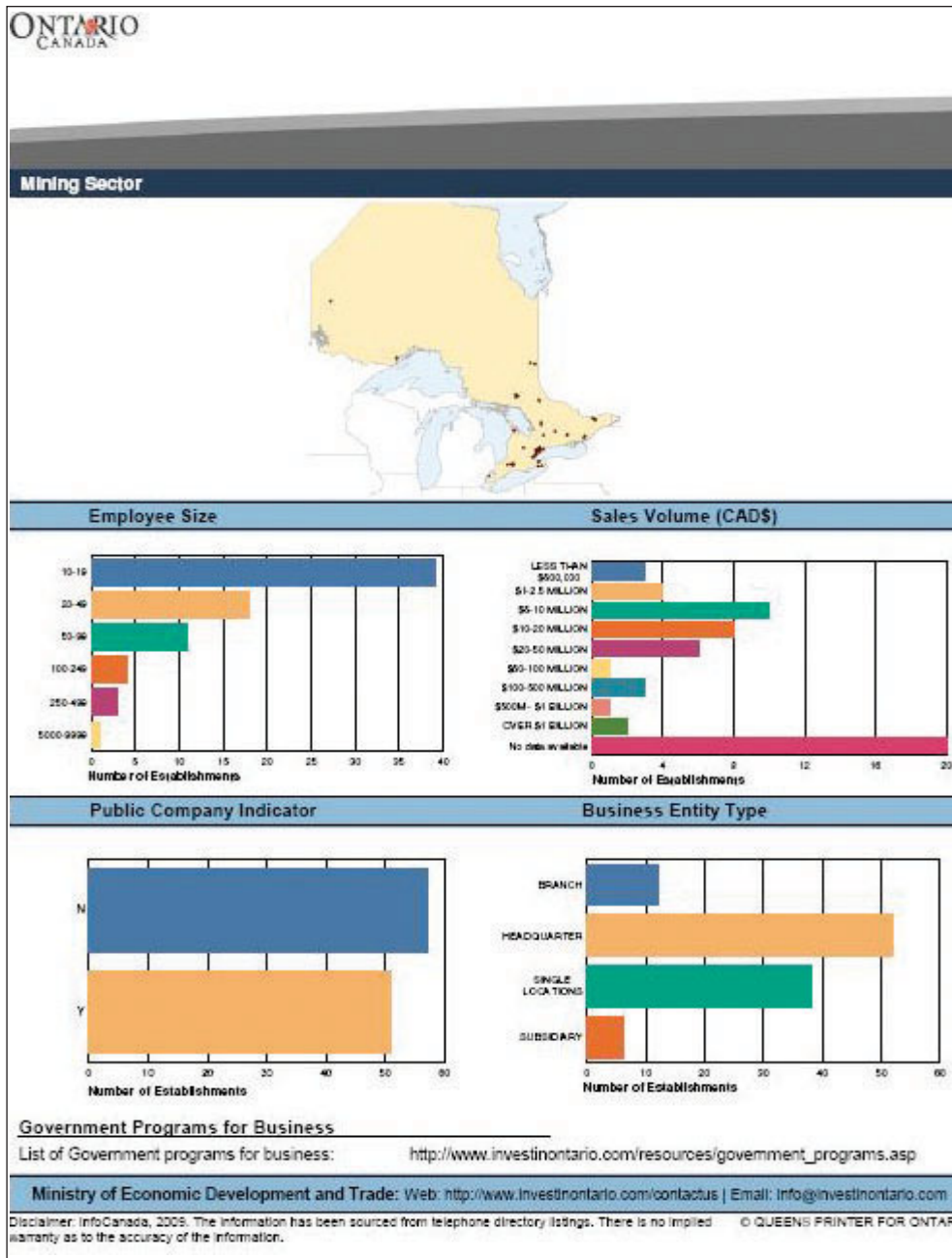
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For MEDT, using a web-enabled GIS was the ideal technology choice because it allows for the interactive exploration and visual comparison of data sets,

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Homepage: MEDT Site Selection Tool



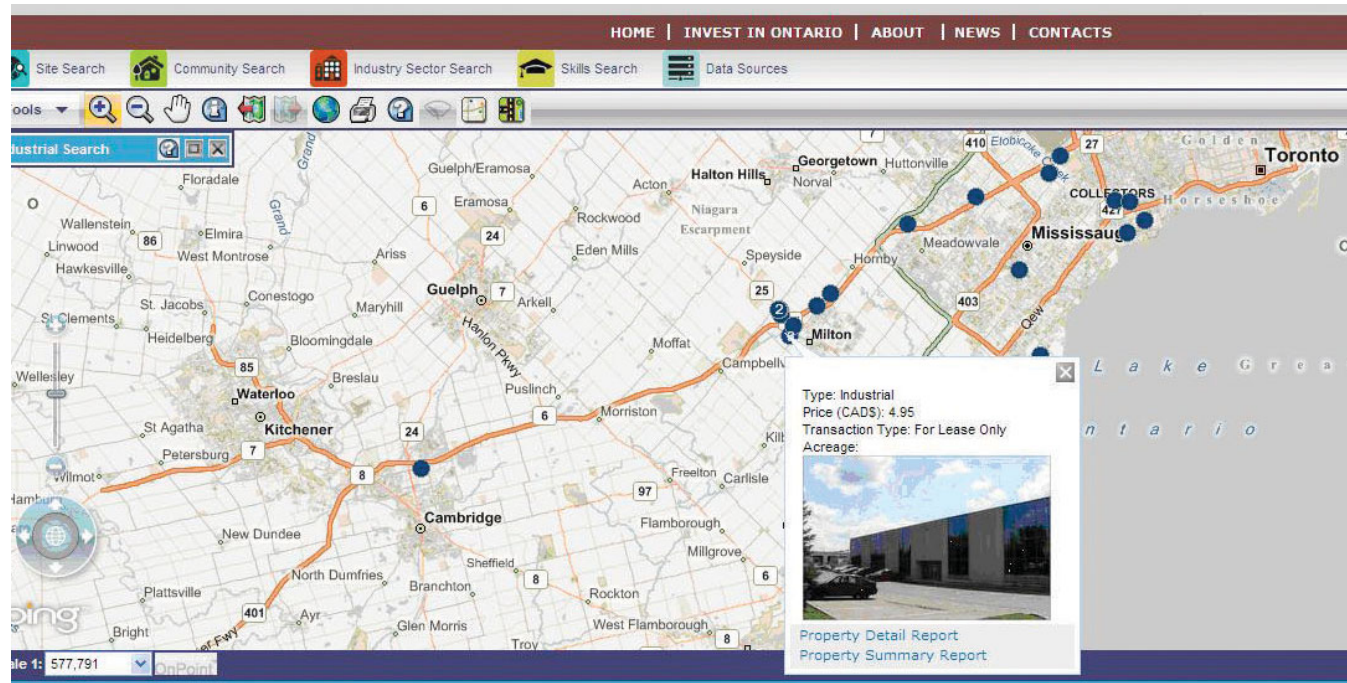
Report Example

the centralization of data resources and the innovative and effective marketing of Ontario as an attractive investment destination. A key component of the MEDT tool was the creation of data partnerships between MEDT and local governments,

provincial ministries, federal partners and third party suppliers. For example, MEDT was able to make use of the expertise available through the Ministry of Natural Resources' Land Information Ontario (LIO) program with respect to data access and standards. This was

key as leveraging internal data, including data available in the LIO Warehouse, was an important objective of the project. Through their network of contacts LIO was able to support MEDT by facilitating relationships across the OPS.

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Search Results Display

The range of data partners involved in the development of the *Select Ontario* tool demonstrates the commitment to MEDT's vision of enabling cooperation and data sharing between all levels of government. Specifically, these partnerships help to empower communities by making them visible and known to international investors. The tool exemplifies "good government" by addressing citizens' economic needs and providing a technology that will integrate large amounts data and promote information about their communities', economic and other potentials.

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Currently MEDT is looking ahead towards the second phase of the Site Selection Tool. Key areas will include: strengthening partnerships with Ontario Communities in order to improve information completeness and accuracy, measuring user feedback and adapting the tool accordingly, identifying enhancements (functionality

and data sources) to the tool and continuing learning and knowledge sharing with partners and stakeholders to inform policy and decision making.

MEDT is also developing a suite of web-based training modules that will assist users in easy exploration of the tool and its rich features.

Ontario is Open for Business!

Try out *Select Ontario* at:

www.ontario.ca/siteselection

www.ontario.ca/selectionemplacements

Feedback can be provided to siteselection@ontario.ca.

Imagery Report

By Mike Robertson

2010 promises to be another exciting year for imagery acquisitions. A number of projects are either underway or nearing completion. Both public and private sector organizations have been actively participating by funding projects and the demand for more imagery has increased dramatically.

We are looking forward to finalizing a provincial imagery strategy this year. The strategy will provide a road map for imagery acquisitions in the future to help us define where and when we will acquire imagery in Ontario. More information on the strategy will be released in the coming months so stay tuned.

The acquisition phase of the Digital Raster Acquisition Project – East (DRAPE) project is now complete for all areas. The company that was originally contracted to acquire, process and deliver the products was reorganized, causing some delays. LIO has been working with the new company (Aero-Photo Inc.) to ensure that all of the imagery products will be delivered to the partners by the end of April.

Acquisition for the 2010 South Western Ontario Orthophotography Project (SWOOP2010) is now underway. MapCon Mapping Inc. out of British Columbia has been contracted for the project. The SWOOP2010 project will acquire 20 cm resolution imagery across over 45,000 sq km in southern Ontario, accurate to 50 cm.

Project updates, including flight progress, will be available on the SWOOP2010 partner website www.swoop2010.ca.

We are looking forward to finalizing a provincial imagery strategy this year.

The Forest Resource Inventory (FRI) acquisition of 550,000 sq km will be completed this summer. Data processing takes approximately one year from acquisition to final delivery. For more information on these and other imagery projects, please contact Mike Robertson at mike.robertson@ontario.ca.



Technical Bulletins:

Revised Forest Cover Data Model

http://publicdocs.mnr.gov.on.ca/View.asp?Document_ID=17070&Attachment_ID=35860

Client Names Accessible in Aggregate Site Authorized Data Class

http://publicdocs.mnr.gov.on.ca/View.asp?Document_ID=17301&Attachment_ID=37059

Change to Crown Land Data Class

http://publicdocs.mnr.gov.on.ca/View.asp?Document_ID=17303&Attachment_ID=37061

New Values Added to Forest Disease Damage Data Class

http://publicdocs.mnr.gov.on.ca/View.asp?Document_ID=17302&Attachment_ID=37060

MNR Owned Dams Data Class Replaced

http://publicdocs.mnr.gov.on.ca/View.asp?Document_ID=17344&Attachment_ID=37258

Change to Tower Data Class

http://publicdocs.mnr.gov.on.ca/View.asp?Document_ID=15741&Attachment_ID=33055

Crown Land Use Policy Atlas Data Class Changes

http://publicdocs.mnr.gov.on.ca/View.asp?Document_ID=17230&Attachment_ID=36833

Changes to Secured Conservation Land Data Class

http://publicdocs.mnr.gov.on.ca/View.asp?Document_ID=17231&Attachment_ID=36834

Welcome New Data Exchange Members

Forest Ecosystem Science Co-operative Inc.

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust

Township of Woolwich

Township of Georgian Bay

Corporation of the City of Brockville

Head-of-the-Lake Land Trust

Eastern Ontario Trail Blazers 4X4 Club Inc

Algonquins of Pikwakanagan

Algoma University

Thames Valley District School Board

Metis Nation of Ontario

Corporation of the Town of Espanola

Town of Cochrane

Hamilton Naturalists Club

Batchewana First Nation

Free LIO Training in Peterborough

If you would like to attend one of our FREE training sessions in Peterborough on Land Information Data Subscription (LIDS), Standard NRVIS Interchange Format (SNIF) and Ontario Land Information Directory (OLID), please email **LIO@ontario.ca** to register.

How to Contact LIO:

To contact us, please call **705-755-1878** or email **lio@ontario.ca**.