

DRAFT Minutes of a Meeting of the
Cadastral Mapping Specifications Advisory Committee
Held March 20th, 2003 in Red Deer
At the Aquila Employee Development Centre

Attendees:

John Alai, Martin Newby Consulting
Claude Chamberland, ATCO Gas
Jim Chorel, AltaLIS
Pat Drinnan, Utilicorp
Jamie Dugdale, Town of Cochrane
Wolfgang Janke, SDW
Leah Lilley, AltaLIS
Bill Martin, AltaLIS
Mike Michaud, Sustainable Resource Development
Bob Martin, MD of Willow Creek
Craig McBride, ALSA
Barry Necyk, Natural Resources Canada
Wayne Newby, AltaLIS
Stephen Pelech, City of Edmonton
Ellen Styner, Martin Newby Consulting
Bill Tkachuk, ISL
Tony Woods, City of Red Deer

1. Introductions

New attendees for this meeting included Jamie Dugdale of the Town of Cochrane and Ellen Styner from Martin Newby Consulting.

Bill Elliott's update on SPIN II had to be postponed due to Bill not being able to make today's meeting.

2. Minutes From September 24th Meeting

No changes were suggested for the draft minutes from the meeting held on September 24, 2002. These minutes will therefore be considered final.

3. SDW Update

With the impending licence for Base Features and resulting requirement for significant topo updating, SDW will be looking to possibly add a new director or two from the topo stakeholder community.

SDW has gone on record as having concerns with GeoConnections making federal topographic data available at no cost. Although the federal topo data is less accurate than the SDW data, the federal data could still be viewed by some as an alternative to

purchasing topo data from SDW. Future updates to provincial topo data are reliant on topo revenue.

The province of Manitoba has announced that they are making their data available for free. Ontario, B.C. and Nova Scotia have funding requests in to GeoConnections that may lead to some of their data also being made available at no cost to users.

Sustainable Resource Development has a pilot project underway to evaluate the feasibility of digitizing Crown Land Dispositions.

4. Titles Mapping Project Update

The data for the first 60 areas is now available. In total 90% of all titles are complete. The project is expected to be complete before Christmas, which is well ahead of the originally scheduled completion date of March 31, 2004.

A titles mapping viewer has been built and is being provided with the initial delivery of titles data to municipalities. The viewer allows the municipalities to start using the data immediately. The viewer is not being provided on subsequent deliveries.

A municipal titles database is available to municipalities who have a titles mapping subscription. The first delivery is at no cost, but an additional fee applies to subsequent updates.

Municipalities are encouraged to check the title before reporting apparent discrepancies in the titles mapping data. There have been several instances where the municipalities' own data did not match the current title.

The next titles mapping information session will be held on March 27th in St. Albert. Another session will be held in June in Grande Prairie.

5. Active Issues From Previous Meeting

- a. Notifying users of Titles Mapping Updates – Due to the large volumes involved, AltaLIS will not be able to supply municipalities with all the LINC number changes that have occurred between municipal updates. The townships that have changes in them will be identified.
- b. Common Standard for MISAM and PARCEL – A common layer structure will become the standard for all cadastral data orders after July 1, 2003. A total of 864 cadastral clients were asked if they had any difficulty with changing the level structure and only one response came back with a concern.
- c. Shifting Base and Synchronization of User Data – Pat Drinnan and Wayne Newby will get together within the next month to discuss this issue. Wayne Newby will contact Bill Tkachuk to set up a similar meeting.
- d. Standards Used By Calgary, Edmonton, Federal Government and AltaLIS – Both Calgary and Edmonton reported to the Digital Submissions Committee that they

would be using the provincial standard digital submissions plan files provided by LTO for cadastral updating.

- e. Roadway Name Changes – Utilities wishing to have roadway name changes made in the base are reminded to request the municipality to send the list of changes to the AltaLIS order desk.
 - f. Federal Land Polygons – Banff and Jasper data was not made available by the federal government. As a result there is no title mapping being done for either Banff or Jasper. Polygons for Indian reserve boundaries was obtained from the federal government and this data will be part of the geo-admin data set.
 - g. Base Features Data – Agreement has been reached on all major issues. A draft licence agreement is in the hands of the GOA. EAG members will be notified when and agreement is finalized.
 - h. Multiple polygons per title – In some cases, title parcels can contain more than one quarter section in rural areas and more than one lot in urban areas. The municipal taxation may be based on the component quarter sections or lots instead of the entire parcel. On a go forward basis, all complete quarter sections will be shown as distinct polygons containing the appropriate LINC number. In urban areas however, the individual lots will not be shown as separate polygons in the titles mapping product since taxation is based more on land use than individual lots. If municipalities want to get the individual lot information, it can still be readily obtained from the cadastral data.
 - i. Exclusion of cadastral linework from multi-parcel titles – So far any municipalities that have ordered titles data also get the cadastral data. As indicated in point 5. h. above, the linework can be obtained from the cadastral data.
 - j. Utility right of way data – A recommendation was made to repeat the boundaries of utility right of ways that coincide with block and lot boundaries. This would assist users in building GIS products. AltaLIS will look into the feasibility of this suggestion.
6. New Issues:
- a. Overlapping Linework Between Parcel and MISAM – Any common linework is stored in the MISAM files. Users of rural data normally order the adjacent MISAM files. As a result the current practice will continue.
 - b. Title Mapping Polygon Size – See point 5. h. above.
 - c. Support For Various Projections – AltaLIS will be maintaining the Titles Mapping data in a 10TM projection. Connectivity cannot be guaranteed for other projections. Notice to this effect will be posted on the AltaLIS website.

- d. Real Time Updates of Cadastral and Titles Data – The cadastral backlog increased during the titles mapping initiative, but the backlog is expected to be eliminated by the end of April. With the July 1st implementation of a common layer structure for rural and urban cadastral data, AltaLIS will be striving to maintain the data in near real time. 24 hour updates may be possible. A processing fee would still apply to additional orders.
 - e. Hydrography Linework Within Road Allowances – Polygons are created in the titles mapping product in instances where a road allowance is split by hydrography. AltaLIS is looking at the feasibility of representing all road allowances as polygons.
 - f. Registered Plan Number Text – Showing plan numbers in all plan fragments would help users trying to build a GIS data set or application. However, placing plan number text in all plan fragments would create difficulties for those using the cadastral data as a CAD product. The original creation of cadastral data was as a CAD product. The concept of moving toward more of a GIS ready product will require more evaluation and user input.
7. User Dissatisfactions With SDW Data – The following items were raised:
 - Bearings and distances don't show up on the cadastral mapping
 - ATS linework files require a lot of user cleaning
 - The cost of the ATS linework product seems high
 - Suggestion that another product consisting of ATS shape files could be introduced
 - Suggestion that the ATS linework in surveyed territory should be differentiated from the ATS linework in un-surveyed territory
 8. Committee Structure - Having the EAG meetings a couple of times a year seems to be sufficient at this time. SDW will look into the possibility of hosting a user forum where other cadastral users can be invited and given the chance to give their input. The suggestion was made to host two separate forums, one in Edmonton and one in Calgary. In this way we may be able to attract more users.
 9. Topo User Forum and EAG – Before completing a topo update plan, the GOA, AltaLIS and the GOA will meet with stakeholders to get their input. An ongoing external advisory group for topo is planned.
 10. Next Meeting – The next meeting of the Cadastral EAG will be scheduled for some time in late September or early October. Details will be sent out once a date is finalized.

Thanks to all committee members who participated in the meeting and thanks to Aquila for once again hosting the meeting!