

# YorkInfo Partnership: It's all about collaboration!



Exploring GIS Potential for Northwestern Ontario

A Panel Discussion with Successful Partnerships/Collaborations

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# Topics...

**Background**

**Challenges and Benefits**

**The Road Ahead**

# Where is York Region?



Area: 1,756 km<sup>2</sup>

## Demographics

- Over 1.1 million people
- 6<sup>th</sup> largest municipality in Canada
- 20,000-plus new residents annually
- 45% are foreign born
- “Big City” and rural challenges

## Economy

- Approx. \$50 billion economy–  
Approximately 45,300 businesses
- Almost 550,000 jobs
- **Biggest Employment Sectors:**  
Manufacturing | Wholesale Trade |  
Business Services | Construction and  
Transportation | Communications  
Technology

# YorkInfo Partners: Working together since 1996

9 Municipalities | 2 School Boards | 2 Conservation Authorities | York Region



Data Collaboration | Technology Sharing | Capacity Building

## Challenge

Data needed to drive decisions for quality program and service delivery

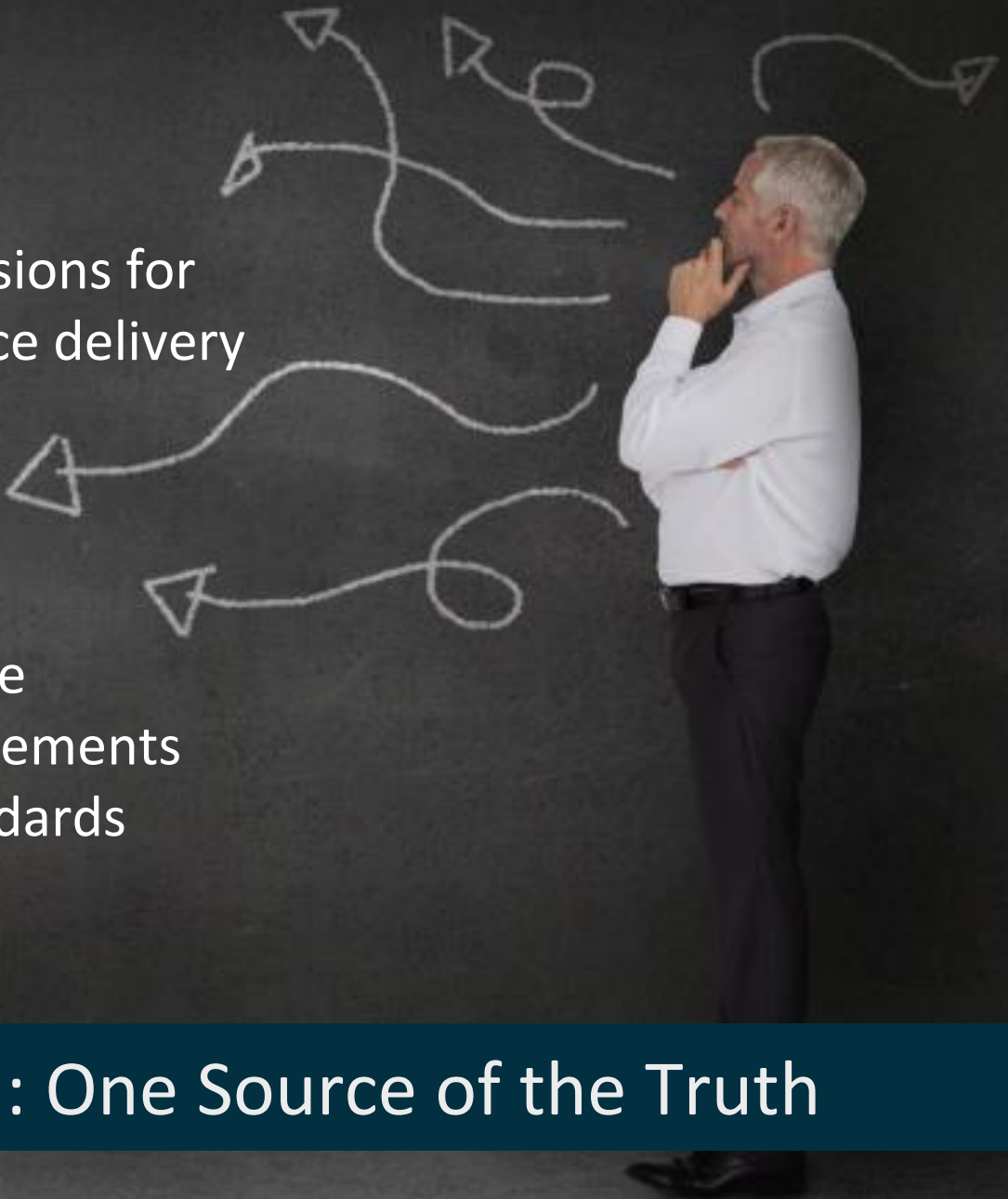
## Solution

Liberate the data

Collect from trusted source

Establish policies and agreements

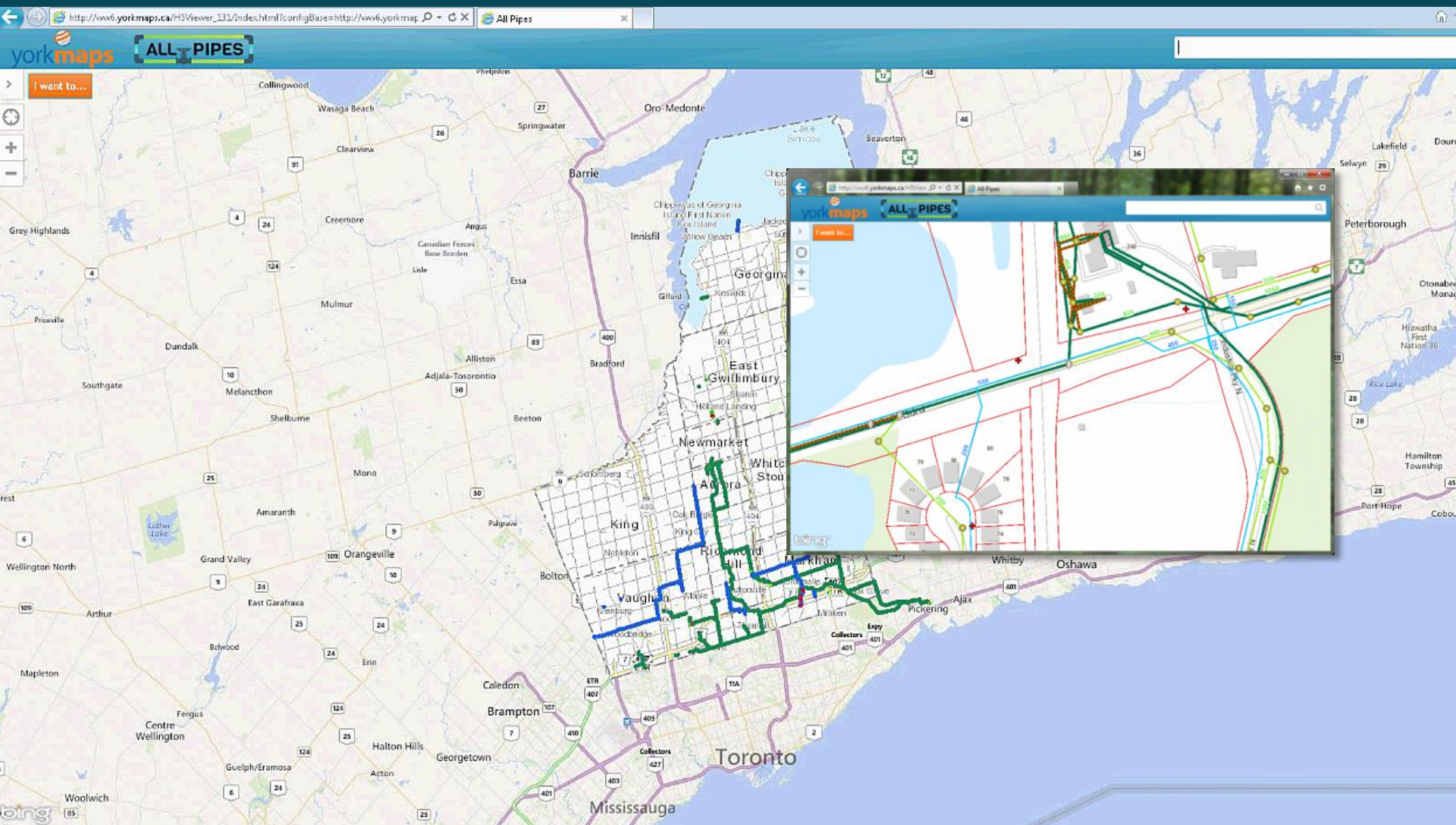
Create common data standards



Data Collaboration: One Source of the Truth

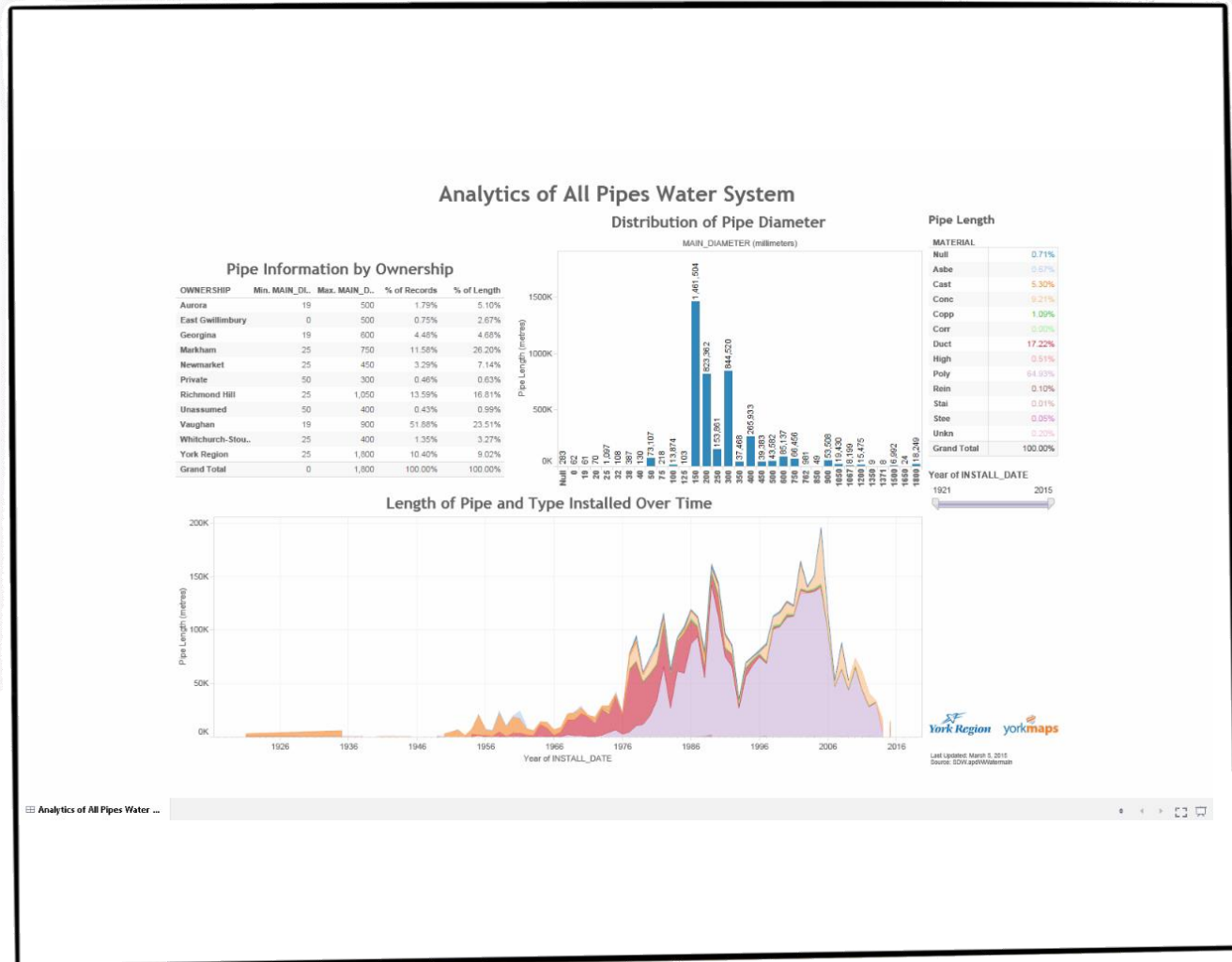


# Case Study



“All Pipes” - Shared Responsibility

# Case Study



“All Pipes” - Dashboard Data at a Glance



# Case Study



“All Pipes” - Data where and when it's Needed



## Challenge

Trusted data must be current and accessible

## Solution

24/7 self-service

Common web mapping platforms  
and technology solutions



Technology Sharing: Enabling Access to Data

roads

Search

Cart 1

Results: 35

Search:roads X

Sort Relevance



### Roads, York

**Subject:** A representation of York Region's road network centreline featuring address ranges and street names, along with other attribute information for all elements of the road network.

Remove



### Street Lights

**Subject:** The data is a geographical representation of all street lighting the Region owns and/or maintains. This data covers all of York Region. The data was created by the Traffic

Add to Cart



### Traffic Signals

**Subject:** This data offers a geographic representation of the Traffic Signal locations in York Region. The traffic signal information is maintained in database format by the

Add to Cart



### Walkways

**Subject:** This data depicts the location of the paved walkways that act as a connection between roads with York Region. It was designed to be merged with the Single Line Road Network (SLRN)

Add to Cart



Download

## Challenge

Not enough resources to meet demand  
for maps and analytics

Technology advances make it difficult  
to keep up with

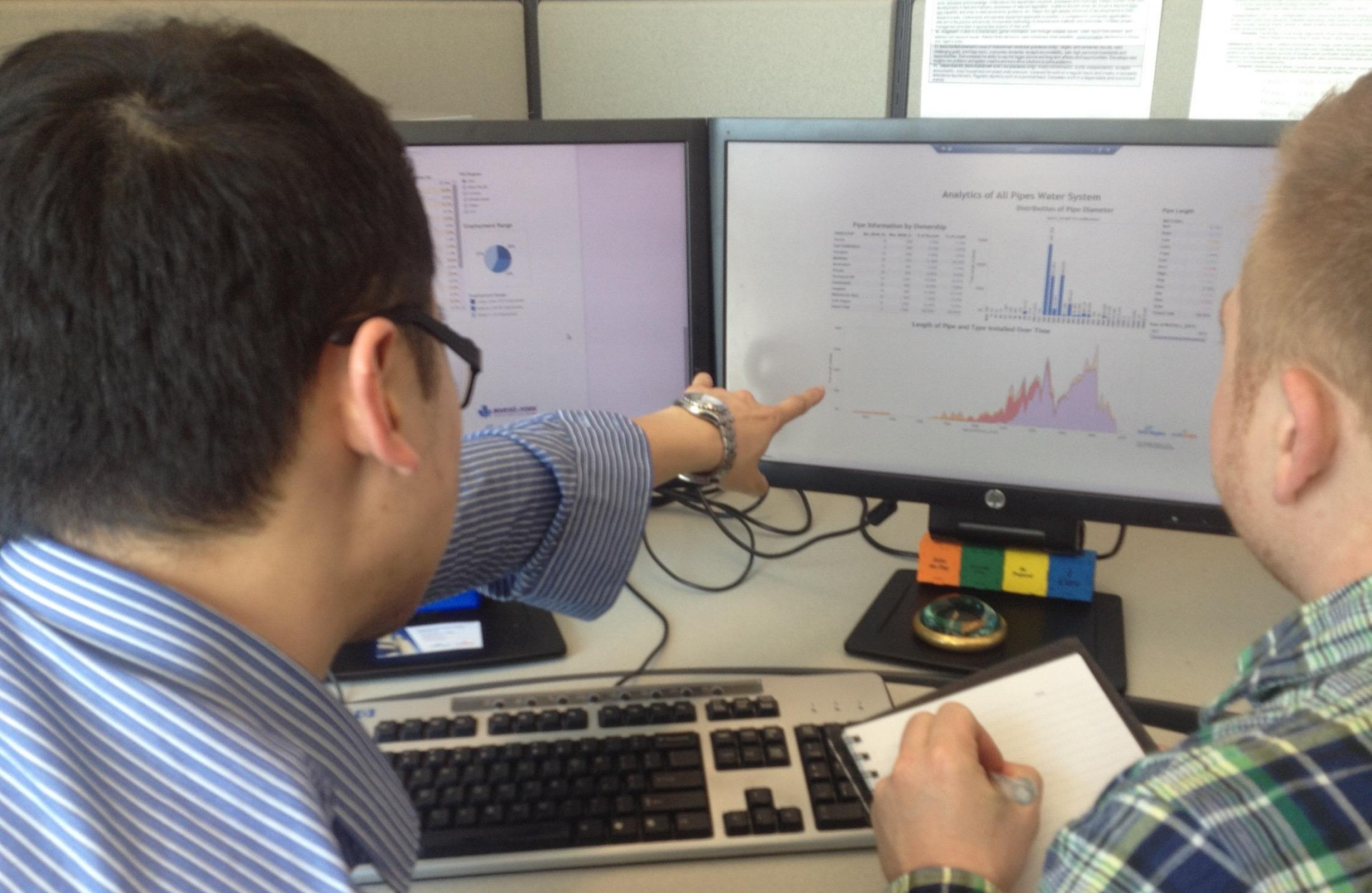
## Solution

GIS Training for business users  
Knowledge sharing amongst GIS  
professionals



Capacity Building: Enabling the Whole Organization





Capacity Building: Enabling Everyone!

ww6.yorkmaps.ca

York Region Community Services

Search...

Layers

- ☐ Community Resources
- ☒ Sports and Recreation
- ☐ Walking and Cycling
- ☒ Transit
- ☒ Parcels
  - ☒ Address Point
  - ☒ Parcel
- ☐ Imagery Roads
- ☒ Bing Maps

I want to...

Tools Maps+

© 2015 Nokia, © AND, © 2015 Microsoft Corporation

York Region Report a Problem Help

f t in g+

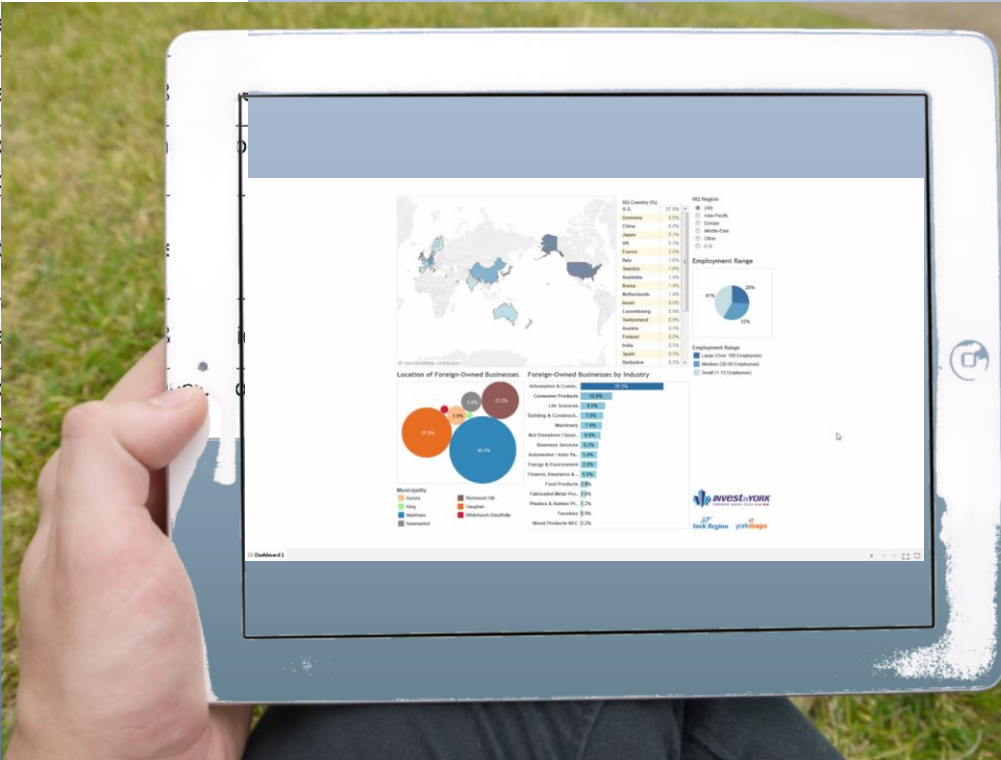
Web Mapping: simple, easy-to-use for business



From this...

	B	D	F	H	I
	Company	Municipality	HQ Country	U.S. State	Cluster - Primary
1					
2	407 ETR	Vaughan	Spain		Not Elsewhere Classified
3	AB Sciex	Vaughan	U.S.	Massachusetts	Life Sciences
4	Abbott Laboratories	Markham	U.S.	Illinois	Life Sciences
5	AC Nielsen Canada	Markham	U.S.	New York	Business Services
6	Accellos	Markham	U.S.	Colorado	Information Technology
7	Acklands Grainger	Richmond Hill	U.S.	Illinois	Not Elsewhere Classified
8	Acosta Sales & Marketing	Vaughan	U.S.	Florida	Business Services
9	Actuate	Richmond Hill	U.S.	California	Information Technology

To this



Power of Analytics: Make it easy to understand



## Challenge

Resource demand overload

## Solution

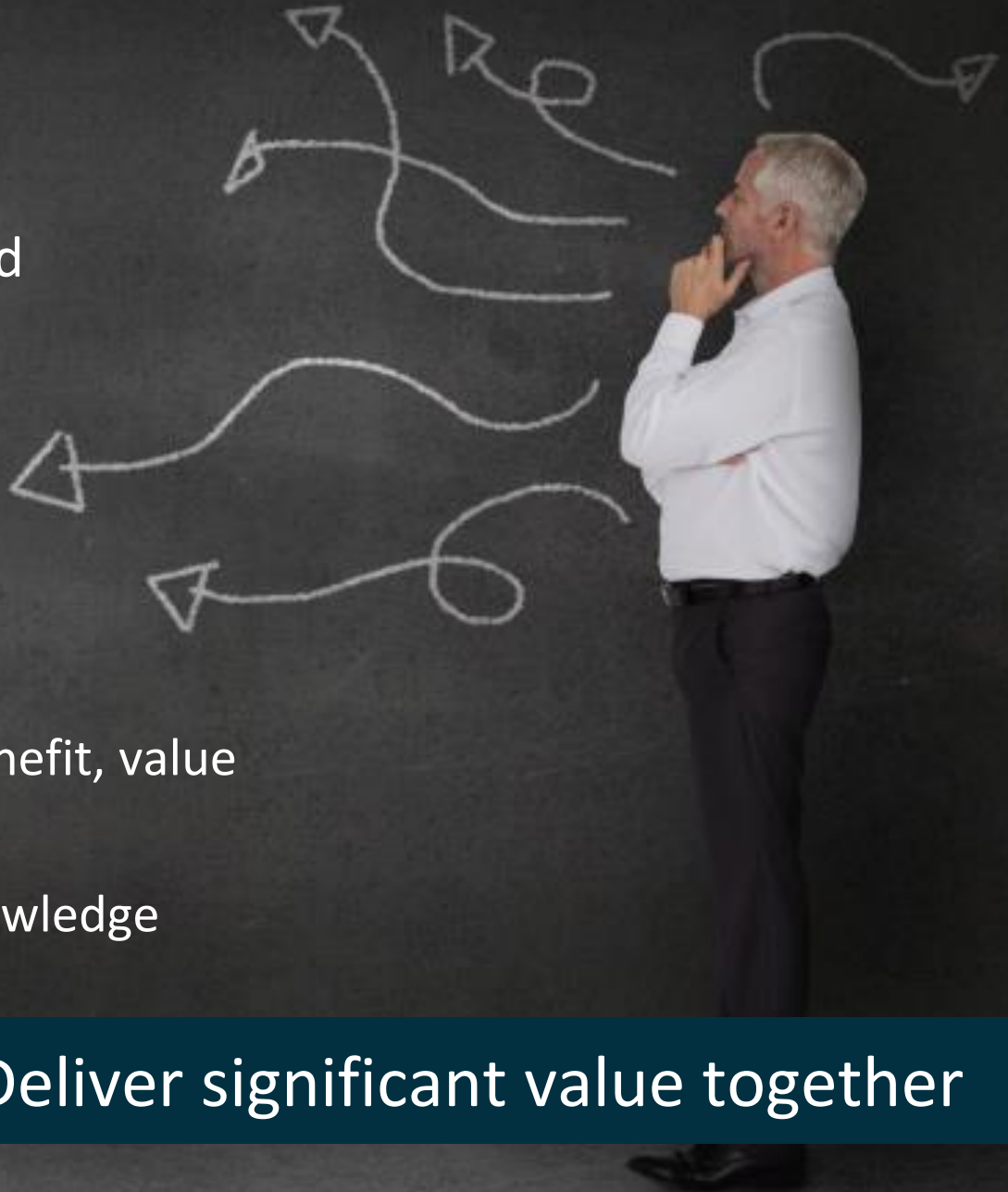
Promote to leadership

Collaborative work planning

Pool resources

Participate where there's benefit, value  
and ability to contribute

Share resource skills and knowledge



**Resource Sharing: Deliver significant value together**

# The Road Ahead: Feed the Beast



“Feed the Beast” the beast has awakened and it’s hungry for data

Focus on more strategic role in data, information and knowledge

Meet expectation to gain insights through analytics

Open Data to collaborate and engage communities, spur economic growth

Business user engagement needed to get data out of silos

More joint acquisitions

Share apps, knowledge and experience to more rapidly implement advancing technology



# In Conclusion

1. Data is strategic corporate asset
2. Make it usable and accessible
3. Use analytics for insight
4. Build and nurture culture of collaboration

“York Region depends on quality data to deliver services to our residents. Thanks to the work and collaboration of the YorkInfo Partnership we can use geospatial information to find solutions to major challenges, improve programs and support businesses.”

Wayne Emmerson  
York Region Chairman and CEO

“This partnership is a true example of collaboration. By combining expertise with like-minded organizations, we ensure there is one source of trusted information while reducing duplication of effort and resources.”

David Barrow  
Mayor, Town of Richmond Hill  
Chair of the Region’s Finance and Administration