

BC Assessment Fabric Re-engineering Initiative

What's happening?

After extensive development and testing, BCA's GIS Team is excited to announce the implementation of a new Assessment Fabric (AF) update process which is now in use. The AF is a digital, provincial assessment parcel map.

What does it mean for BC Assessment?

Now that the GIS Team has been trained using the new AF update process and has put it into practice, we have seen a **170% increase in efficiency**. That means that we are able to update more than twice as quickly with the new process.

ICIS has supported this process by providing easier access to three cadastre datasets – ICIS, Local Government, and ICF. ICIS has standardized the schema of each of these datasets, enabling the BCA GIS team to more easily consume this information for their processes. BCA looks forward to working further with ICIS on future cadastre services.

What does it mean for ICIS?

Jurisdictions with an effective date of August 2011 or newer will have been created using the new process. The jurisdictions updated using the new process will have a one-to-one property to polygon ratio. In other words, there will be stacked polygons where multiple folios once existed on one parcel – such as stratified properties or mobile home parks.

In the future, we will be converting the whole Assessment Fabric to one-to-one, folio to polygon respectively. When this happens we will also be changing the unique key of the Assessment Fabric features and ICIS will no longer need a cross reference table.

What does it mean for ICIS Members?

Updating the Assessment Fabric is dependent on having updated cadastre. Without recently updated parcel data from ICIS, newly created folios are represented in the Assessment Fabric as diamonds. Diamonds are used as geospatial placeholders for a property. With recently updated cadastre, diamonds can be replaced with assessment parcels.

BC Assessment's GIS team greatly appreciates having recently updated data, but also having good quality data. Cadastre data containing PID, ROLL#, ADDRESS or PLAN are much easier to link to the assessment roll than those without.

As the GIS Team at BC Assessment strives for an annual update cycle, we hope that regional districts and municipalities can provide ICIS with recent and good quality data. The Assessment Fabric assists our appraisers in making better decisions about property assessments, hence improving the tax base for each city, municipality and regional district.