



INTEGRATED
CADASTRAL
INFORMATION
SOCIETY

MEMBER PROFILE



REGIONAL DISTRICT
of Fraser-Fort George

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George is located in the center of British Columbia near where the Nechako River joins the Fraser River. With the city of Prince George as the hub, the area is abundant with beautiful lakes and the rolling hills of the Nechako Plateau. The RDFFG is made up of four municipalities including the City of Prince George, seven electoral areas and has a population of about 100,000 residents.

The Information Technology Services group for the regional district is led by Steven Botham. Steve's department manages all IT systems within the regional district including GIS, 911 Fire Dispatch and Networking. Carol McKee, GIS Coordinator and her team of two, manage the GIS requirements for the district.

Back in 1998, the Regional District started working on building their GIS. The challenge was that their data was incomplete. Around this time there were several initiatives with different groups in the province who were trying to facilitate collaborative sharing and integration of spatial data. RDFFG started working with the group that eventually became ICIS as a pilot project so that they could complete their cadastral

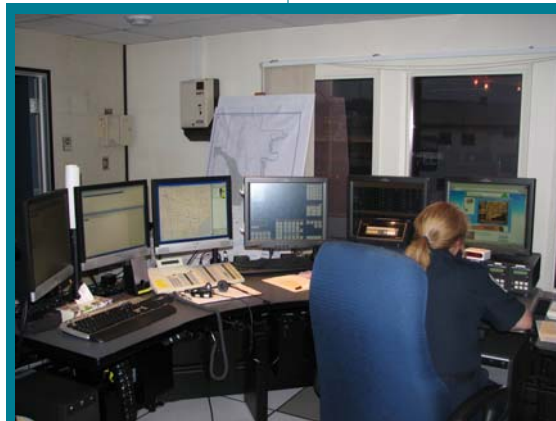
fabric. With the Regional District's existing dataset in hand, this group was able to compile the remainder of the data and to provide it to the GIS group at RDFFG. As ICIS became a reality in 2001, the data was then made available to its other members.

ICIS was incorporated as a non-profit society in 2001 with RDFFG as a founding partner. This organization is a partnership of British Columbia's major utilities, provincial government

ministries, crown corporations and local governments. ICIS was established specifically for the purpose of developing, maintaining and sharing a province-wide cadastral fabric and other related datasets for the use of the Society's members.

As an ICIS Founding Member, access to an accurate cadastral fabric has been invaluable to the Regional District. When Carol

McKee's group was assigned the task of identifying parcels that were suitable for industrial development, the ICIS data was a critical resource. Not only did they need to know where the available parcels were located, they needed to be able to assess and rank their suitability based on where infrastructure existed. The ICIS data con-



Dispatchers at the Fire Operations
Communication Center using computer-aided
dispatch system.



tained all of the information, accurately displaying data from the major utilities like; Shaw, BC Hydro, Terasen, Telus and Spectra. “The result of this project was that a series of maps now exist that display the best areas for industrial development,” says Carol McKee, GIS Coordinator. “This data are used by our planning department to assist in attracting industry to the area.”

Steve and his group also support 911 fire dispatch service. In this case, they partner with other regional districts to provide the service. Dispatchers require access to accurate and up-to-date mapping data. “Being able to access this data through ICIS means that we don’t have to manage data sharing agreements with all of the regional districts that we serve,” states Steven Botham.

RDDFG also makes use of agricultural land reserve data. Originally, this data didn’t align and



the maps were inaccurate. The RDDFG data was made available through ICIS to The Agricultural Land Commission who used the data to make the necessary corrections. The corrected maps were then updated to ICIS.

The Regional District has easy access to this data through their membership with ICIS. “This is a significant time-saver for us,” says Carol McKee. “What used to be a long process is now virtually, one click.”

Steve Botham and Carol McKee agree that the key benefit of the ICIS

relationship is improved productivity.

“ICIS is our one-stop shop for this kind of data. We don’t have to manage multiple data sharing agreements any longer, datasets are now aligned so, there is not as much effort required to ‘fix’ data and now when we receive requests for cadastral information, we can refer the request to ICIS,” says McKee.

“ICIS has provided us with a way to quickly and easily share data across administrative boundaries, resulting in reduced workload and overhead. As a central portal, it greatly simplifies and expedites the handling of requests for data for both the requestor and receiver.”

Steven Botham
Manager,
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www.icsociety.ca

www.rddfg.bc.ca

