



Metadata in the Government of Ontario

Canadian Metadata Forum 2005
Convergence and Extensibility in the
Metadata Domain

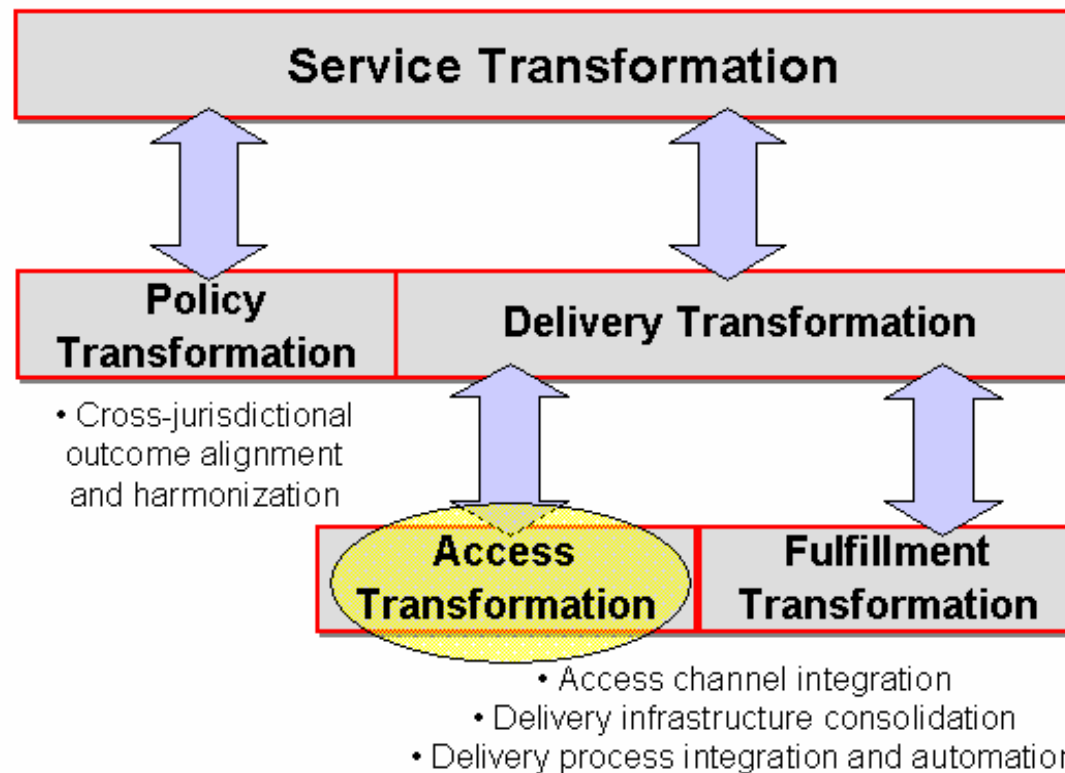
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Purpose of Presentation

- Positioning metadata in the Service Transformation agenda
- Overview of metadata activities in the Government of Ontario
- Opportunities for cross-jurisdictional collaboration
- Challenges to collaboration

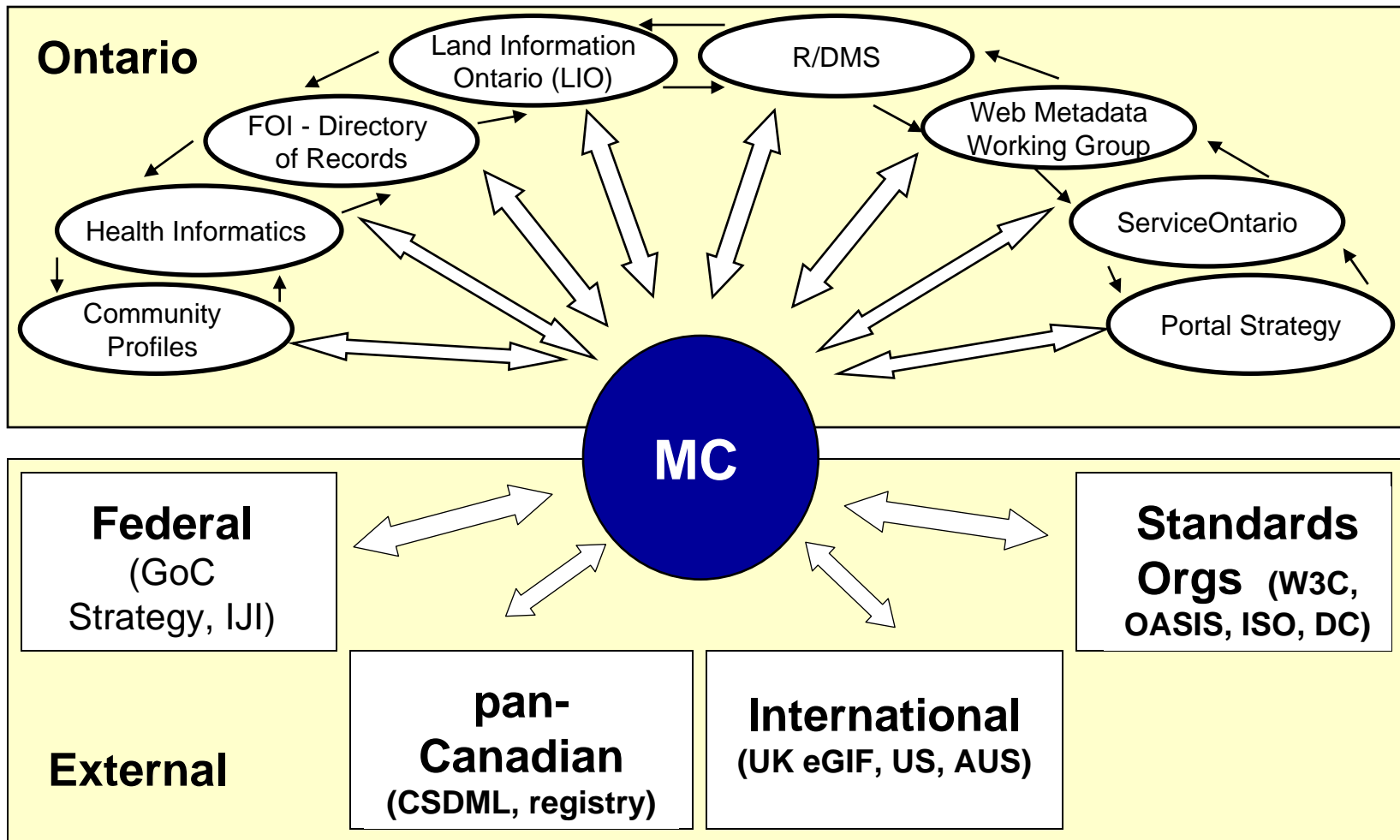
Citizen-centred Service Transformation



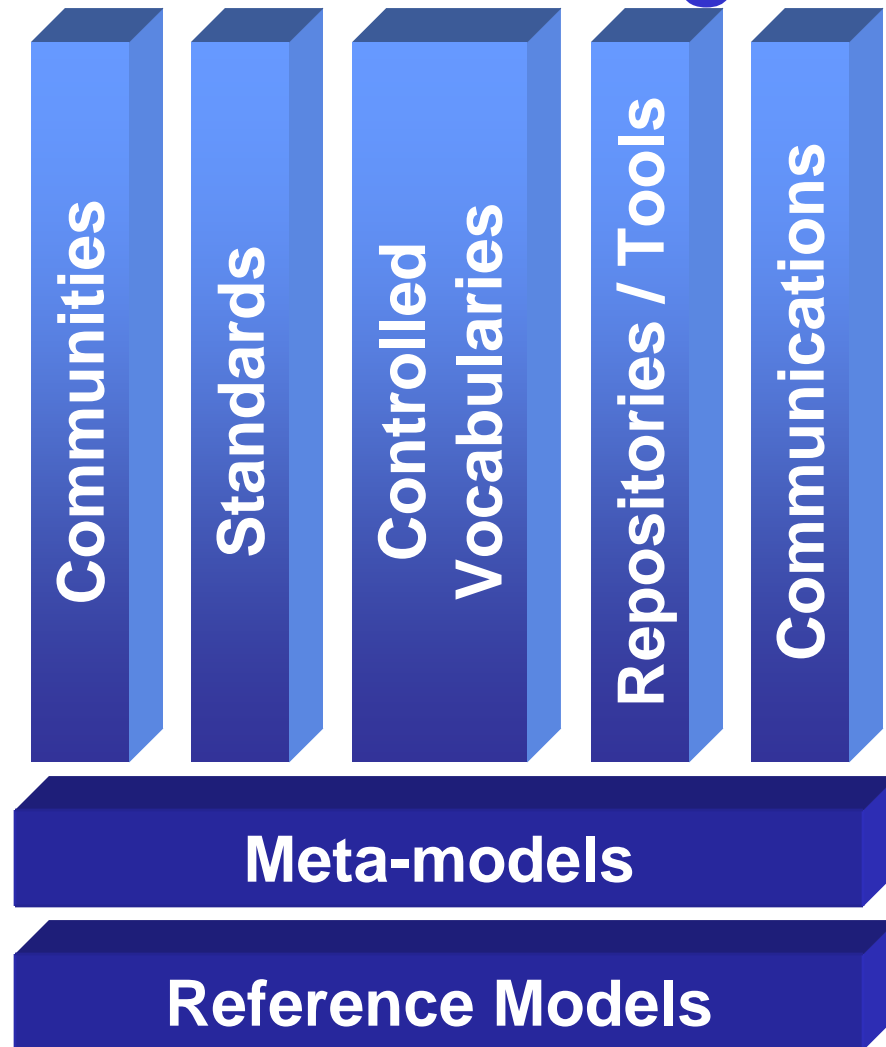
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Metadata Coordination



Metadata Management



What we have now...

- Web Metadata Standard
 - Dublin Core based standard for web resources
 - Implementation Guide, search engine configured to search DC tags
- Geospatial Metadata Standard
 - Currently in use by Land Information Ontario (LIO)
 - Will be moving to new ISO 19115 North American Profile
- Basic Metadata Requirements Standard
 - GILS based standard, obsolete, not know to be in use in GO
 - ***Will be replaced by Common Metadata Elements Standard (CMES)***
- Information Modeling Handbook
 - Metadata standard for structured data (data, dimensional, object modeling, and XML schemas)

What we are working on....

- GO-Thesaurus
 - Thesaurus for dc.subject, will be extended to dc.audience, dc.type
 - Based on ANSI/NISO Z39.19 (taxonomies, thesauri)
- Canadian Service Description Mark-up Language (CSDML)
 - XML based specification of Standard Canadian Public Service Terms and their Relationships
 - Set of Common Canadian e-Government Data Components (XML)
- Records/Document Management Standards
 - Corporate File Classification, R/DMS Metadata Standard
- Meta-model: Enterprise Architecture Repository
 - ISO 11179 for registering data & metadata elements
 - ANSI/NISO Z39.19 for controlled vocabulary storage
 - Zachman Framework views

What we are working on....

- Common Metadata Elements Standard (CMES) to enable;
 - Federated Search across the Government of Ontario through common metadata elements for **all** information (structured and unstructured, electronic and non-electronic)
 - Consistent approach to developing application profiles that use the common elements and domain specific standards
 - Flexibility and extensibility for diverse business areas
 - Compliance with Information Management legal and policy requirements
 - Compliance with national and international standards
 - Interoperability across ministries, departments, agencies etc.
 - Multi-jurisdictional collaboration

Dublin Core Elements

- Audience
- Contributor
- Coverage
- Creator
- Date
- Description
- Format
- Identifier
- Language
- Publisher
- Relation
- Rights
- Subject
- Title
- Type
- And more...

Gov't of Ontario Elements

- Contact
- Mandate
- Location
- Records Retention
- Version

Common Metadata Elements Standard

Web
Metadata
Standard

Records/
Document
Management
Metadata
Standard

Geospatial
Metadata
Standard

Information
Modeling
Handbook

More Domain
Specific
Standards

Application Profile Guidance

- Adopt relevant external standards such as ISO 11179 for the design of metadata element sets
- Adopt relevant external standards for the construction of controlled vocabularies (ANSI/NISO Z39.19)
- Develop guidance for communities to combine Common Metadata elements and vocabularies with external standards for their own business needs (Application Profile)
- Application Profiles will be developed by communities based on the guidance provided and either include the common elements or have equivalent elements that will be mapped to the common elements

Opportunities for Collaboration

- Establish cross-jurisdictional governance and repository for element sets, vocabularies, application profiles, schemas
- Jointly develop Application Profile template
- Develop joint test bed for metadata tools, share research and best practices, training and education curriculum
- Use the newly formed CCMGI committee as a forum for pan-Canadian standards alignment

Challenges to Collaboration

- The Policy Transformation aspect of Service Transformation in the public sector as a whole is not being addressed
- Only larger jurisdictions have the capacity to participate – pan-Canadian?
- Jurisdictional barriers are real
- Clean up our own house first?

Thank you!

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