

Press Release

Canada's Top 25 GIS Programs Announced – Calgary Ranks First

Today, the Public Sector Digest (PSD) announced the Top 25 most mature GIS programs across Canada's public sector organizations, with the City of Calgary ranking first in the country. PSD launched Canada's first ever Geospatial Maturity Index (GMI), designed to benchmark the maturity of an organization's GIS (geographic information system) program.

The GMI uses 77 survey questions to capture the GIS maturity of survey respondents within three categories: Readiness, Implementation, and Impact. The results of the survey were analyzed and scored according to a predetermined scoring methodology. The survey participants were then ranked, with the Top 25 organizations now published (see rankings below). 146 organizations in total participated in the 2018 GMI survey, with municipalities, school boards, conservational authorities, and police departments among the types of public sector organizations included in the study.

TOP 25 GIS PROGRAMS IN CANADA – GMI 2018

Rank	Organization	Province
1	City of Calgary	AB
2	City of Brampton	ON
3	District of North Vancouver	BC
4	Halifax Regional Municipality	NS
4	City of Leduc	AB
6	Regional Municipality of York	ON
7	Ville de Québec	QC
8	City of Waterloo	ON
8	City of Guelph	ON
10	Town of Oakville	ON
11	County of Newell	AB
12	City of Burnaby	BC
12	District of Kitimat	BC
12	Toronto Police Service	ON
15	King Township	ON
16	Vancouver Police Department	BC
16	Capital Regional District	BC
16	City of Kamloops	BC
19	Region of Peel	ON
20	City of Coquitlam	BC
21	Niagara Region	ON
22	Durham Region	ON
23	Township of Langley	BC
23	City of Owen Sound	ON
23	Municipality of Chatham-Kent	ON

CALGARY: CANADA'S MOST MATURE GIS PROGRAM

The City of Calgary's first-place ranking can be attributed to a number of outstanding GIS practices, illuminated in the findings of the survey. For example, the City has dedicated project managers to guide the direction of all GIS projects, while 67 percent of respondents reported having no project managers in place.

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The City of Calgary has also implemented a GIS Communications Plan aligned with the City's corporate strategic goals. 61 percent of survey respondents noted that a GIS Communications Plan had not yet been implemented in their respective communities.

NATIONAL RESULTS

The average GMI score across all 146 participants was **56 percent**. In an effort to better understand the relationship between organization size and geospatial maturity, the survey identified each organization's size in terms of employee count (full-time equivalent). The average GMI score in each size category was as follows: 39 percent (0-50 staff), 46 percent (51-200 staff), 56 percent (201-500 staff), 64 percent (501-1000 staff), and 68 percent (1000+). Not surprisingly, the average score increases as staff size increases, demonstrating the positive correlation between greater capacity in an organization and its ability to develop GIS program maturity.

Congratulations to the GMI Top Performers in each of the staff size clusters outlined below:

- 0-50 staff: **District of Oak Bay, BC**
- 51-200 staff: **County of Newell, AB**
- 201-500 staff: **Regional District of Nanaimo, BC**
- 501-1000 staff: **District of North Vancouver, BC**
- 1000+ staff: **The City of Calgary, AB**

To access the full GMI study results click here: <https://psdracs.com/geospatial-maturity-index/>

Next, PSD is gathering survey responses from American public sector organizations for results to be published this fall.

QUOTES

"Overall, the level of geospatial maturity displayed by these organizations is astounding. Overcoming barriers that include limited budgets and decentralized teams, our survey respondents described their efforts to enhance government service delivery through cross-departmental collaboration, support decision-making through the provision of intuitive geospatial datasets, and improve corporate communications and engagement through the development of GIS-enhanced dashboards and visualizations." – **Tyler Sutton, Editor-in-Chief, Public Sector Digest**

"We are thrilled to be the top ranked Canadian city for geographic information systems maturity. For decades, we've been committed to collecting, maintaining and using trustworthy GIS and mapping systems – even before big data was a hot topic. In today's world, the location of everything matters and The City of Calgary is well positioned because of the accuracy of our GIS systems and data. The City's GIS data and analytics are critical to running efficient operations and delivering the best services to citizens. Our hope is to keep this momentum going, as GIS is foundational to being a leader in the Internet of Things (IoT), advanced analytics, geomatics and big data." – **Liz Findlay, Manager, Geospatial Business Solutions Corporate Analytics & Information, The City of Calgary**

For more information on the GMI and to request an interview contact:

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