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For previous issues see:
<http://tdr.tug-libraries.on.ca/NEWS/mainnews.htm#dl>

New Postal Boundary Files and Colour Orthoimages Now Available

by Richard Pinnell, University of Waterloo

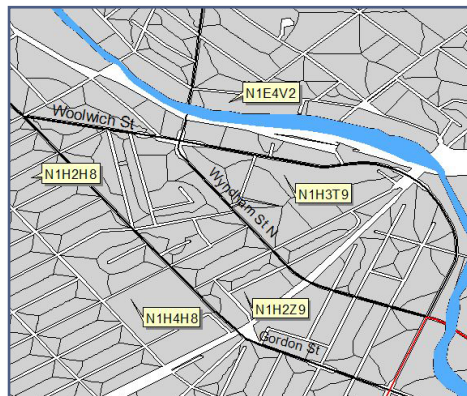
The TUG Libraries have recently acquired two major geospatial data products available for use by the TUG academic community. For access to these electronic resources, please contact the staff who provide geodata services at your home institution (Wilfrid Laurier: Pam Schaus, Geography & Environmental Studies, pschaus@wlu.ca; University of Guelph, Data Resource Centre staff, drc@listserv.uoguelph.ca; University of Waterloo, Map Library staff, LibraryUMDref@library.uwaterloo.ca).

DMTI Spatial's Platinum Postal Suite

Made available to the TUG academic community because of membership in the DMTI Spatial Geoconsortium, DMTI Spatial's Platinum Postal Suite is comprised of the following three postal products: the recently released CanMap Local Delivery Unit (LDU) Boundaries, as well as the CanMap Multiple Enhanced Postal Code and the CanMap Forward Sortation Area Boundaries products.

The new LDU Boundaries product is a polygon file representing the geographic location for every 6-digit postal code in Canada.

Local Delivery Unit (6-Digit) Postal Code Boundaries, Downtown Guelph



Data courtesy DMTI Spatial Inc, 2007

Significant attributes for each LDU boundary include unique ID, 6-digit postal code (held as a character string), positional precision code,

number of records associated with each postal code, multiple postal codes indicator, and centroid latitude/longitude in decimal degrees. The LDU boundaries were created using the most "precised" points (e.g., rooftop and municipal data) and interpolated address points where precised points were not available. DMTI Spatial has stated that it will continue to improve positional accuracy.

Researchers can use these LDU boundaries to perform market or locational analysis and mapping down to the neighbourhood level.

South Western Ontario Orthophotography Project

Land Information Ontario and most of the municipalities in southwestern Ontario collaborated to purchase digital orthophotography, captured in spring 2006, for approximately 42,000 sq km to the south and west of the GTA. This full-colour imagery, acquired through the South Western Ontario Orthophotography Project (SWOOP), has 30cm resolution and includes Wellington County, Region of Waterloo, and those upper tier municipalities toward Essex and Bruce Counties.

2006 SWOOP Orthoimage (30cm pixels) Golf Course, Cambridge, Ontario



Image courtesy First Base Solutions and Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, 2006

Project deliverables are chiefly: a) 1 km by 1 km GeoTIFF images and MrSID compressed

News:

University of Waterloo hires Geospatial Data Services Librarian

Eva Dodsworth began her duties as the Geospatial Data Services Librarian on March 1, 2007. Eva has been with the University of Waterloo Library since 1995 and in 2002 was promoted to a Library Assistant position in the Map Library. During this period, she continued working toward and then completed her Masters of Library and Information Science degree at the University of Western Ontario. She is currently taking GIS courses at Mohawk College and will be earning her Certificate in GIS later this year. In her new role as Geospatial Librarian, Eva's primary responsibility will be to provide leadership and expertise in developing, delivering, and assessing geospatial data services and programs offered by the Library to members of the academic community at the University. In her spare time, Eva is a freelance researcher, focusing her studies and analysis on land and property history changes. She is also a hobby potter and conducts both children and adult pottery classes from her home in St. Clements, Ontario.

ICPSR Summer School

Each year, the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) offers a summer school program to assist in

[continued >](#)

New Postal Boundary Files and Colour Orthoimages Now Available (Continued)

by Richard Pinnell, University of Waterloo

images (tiled); and b) compressed MrSID mosaics. These georeferenced images are in UTM coordinates, NAD83 datum. GeoTIFF tiled images have file sizes on the order of 32 MB each, while the compressed MrSID equivalents are approximately 1.5 MB each. There are approximately 1,500 tiles (1 km by 1 km tiles) required for complete coverage of the Region of Waterloo.

These images are being gradually acquired as they are processed and become available from Land Information Ontario through its Ontario Geospatial Data Exchange program. The first images disseminated were those covering the Region of Waterloo. Currently, we also have access to images for several upper tier municipalities including Wellington, Huron, Perth, Oxford, Brant, Norfolk, and Haldimand counties.

The Canadian Community Health Survey

by Sandra Keys, University of Waterloo

The Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS), a cross-sectional survey which collects information related to health status, health determinants, and health care utilization, began in 2000/2001 and operates on a two-year collection cycle. The first year (.1) is a large sample, general population health survey which provides estimates at the health region level, while the second year (.2) uses a smaller sample and reports on specific health topics at the provincial level.

People 12 years and over living in private dwellings constitute the population universe. Specifically excluded from the sample are those living on Indian Reserves and Crown Lands, institutionalized residents, full-time members of the Canadian forces, residents of certain remote regions, and, in some cases, the three territories.

Currently, we are in the third cycle of the CCHS. Cycle 3.1 (2005), for which the Public Use Microdata File (PUMF) was made available in August 2006, consists of the main survey file as well as 3 sub-sample files:

- sub-sample 1: Health Utility Index (HUI), Fruit and Vegetable Consumption and Labour Force;
- sub-sample 2: Measured Height and Weight; and
- sub-sample 3: Access to Health Care Services, Waiting Times and Patient Satisfaction (replacing the Health Services Access Survey).

Questions asked included those related to alcohol use, blood pressure check, dental visits, flu shots, smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke, food choices and food security, sun safety, and the Canadian Problem Gambling Index. For an

overview, please see The Daily article (<http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/060613/d060613a.htm>).

The two health topics covered in the .2 cycles have been Mental Health and Well-being (2002) and Nutrition General Health Component (2004). The next .2 cycle of the CCHS will focus on Healthy Aging.

The CCHS is a popular survey and is often reported on in the press after its release which helps to raise awareness about health issues. Federal and provincial departments of health and other government agencies use the data to plan, implement, and assess their programs and health service efficiency. Researchers in non-profit organizations and academia also use the data to conduct further research. A quick search of several major journal indexes yielded some 250 articles, of which 198 were from peer-reviewed journals. The survey has also yielded a good number of Statistics Canada reports and studies, including Access to Health Care Services, Second Hand Smoke Exposure, Use of Alternative Health Care, Use of Hospital Emergency Rooms, Medically Unexplained Physical Symptoms, and Community Belonging and Self-perceived Health. Many researchers have also conducted RDC research projects using the CCHS (<http://www.statcan.ca/english/rdc/rdcprojectscchs.htm>). In addition to the PUMF, a variety of free summary tables are available on the Statistics Canada website and still more detailed statistics are available through CANSIM.

ICPSR Summer School (Continued)

the development of quantitative and analytical skills. Application deadlines vary according to the workshops chosen. Financial assistance is generally available through our membership in the CANICPSR Federation, with the amount depending on the number of member applicants. For more information on the program and workshops offered, please see the website (<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/sumprog/>). To be informed of financial assistance opportunities, please contact your local data representative.

Statistics Canada Prizes

Statistics Canada has a variety of programs and prizes available for students and faculty using Statistics Canada data, including The Tom Symons Research Fellowship Program, the University Liaison Program, Prize for Students in Geography/Native Studies and Geography/ Environmental Studies, Prize for Students in Statistical Survey Methods, Prize for Curriculum Studies, and sabbaticals. For more information on these and other opportunities, please see:

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/edu/researchers.htm>

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/edu/symons.htm>

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/liaison/index.htm>

Numeracy and Quantitative Reasoning at the University of Guelph

by A. Michelle Edwards, PhD, University of Guelph

Numeracy has been identified as a long standing learning objective for the University of Guelph from 1987 through to 2006. But what exactly is numeracy? What do we mean when we talk about numeracy or quantitative reasoning or statistical literacy?

In general terms, numeracy can be described as the knowledge and skills needed by an individual to understand and use mathematical ideas, techniques, and applications. Essentially, everyone should have some background knowledge on how to use a fraction, for example, or how to interpret a graph presented in a public press article.

A project funded through the new Learning Enhancement Fund awarded and administered through the University of Guelph's Provost's office, will help to address numeracy and quantitative reasoning skills of students. The goals of the project are to build new opportunities for students to improve their numeracy and quantitative reasoning skills and to help them overcome their insecurities over dealing with numbers. The project is also aimed at enriching programs with high competencies in numeric and quantitative reasoning skills, as well as reaching

out to those programs that are traditionally weak in these areas.

The goals of this project will be accomplished by creating a repository of learning objects accessible to students and faculty alike. The learning objects will deal with different topics ranging from basic algebra (Component I – Basic Math) to reading a graph (Component II – Quantitative Reasoning) to interpreting an Analysis of Variance (Component III – Statistical Procedures). It is the goal of the group spearheading this project that the learning objects will be incorporated into courses and that faculty will share their experiences as well as create and deposit their own learning objects into the repository.

This venture is a collaboration of many partners, including faculty from the Mathematics and Statistics department and staff from Computing and Communications Services, the Data Resource Centre, Learning Commons, Library, and Teaching Support Services.

For more information or if you have questions regarding this project, please contact Dr. Michelle Edwards at 519-824-4120 x54539.

Census Update

by Sandra Keys, University of Waterloo

On Tuesday, March 13, 2007, Statistics Canada put out its first release for the 2006 Census, Population and Dwelling Counts (<http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/070313/d070313a.htm>). In addition to population and private dwelling counts, information is also available for land area, population density, population rank, and percentage change from 2001.

Highlights from this release included:

- There were 31,612,897 people in Canada
- Of these, 12,160,282 live in Ontario
- And of these, 451,235 live in the Kitchener census metropolitan area (CMA)
- Nearly 25 million people, over 80% of the population, live in urban areas
- Alberta experienced the highest growth rate at

- 10.6%, twice the national average of 5.4%
- Calgary and Edmonton, at 13.4% and 10.4%, respectively, experienced growth rates among the highest in Canada, ranking second and fourth
- Kitchener and Guelph are two of the 15 census metropolitan areas that had growth rates above the national average at 8.9% (7th) and 8.2% (8th), respectively
- For the first time, the territories have a population of over 100,000

In addition to the highlight tables which are available for downloading in csv format (<http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/data/highlights/index.cfm>), the report, Portrait of the Canadian Population in 2006, was released and is available in both pdf and html format

TDR New Acquisitions:

Canada Food Stats
Nov 2006

Canadian Tobacco
Monitoring
Survey 2006 – *Cycle 1 file*

Criminal Justice Statistics
2005 – *B2020 files*

Labour Force Survey
– *updated to 2006*

Provincial Economic
Accounts
1961-2006 – *Excel files*

Travel Activities and
Motivation
Survey 2006

Travel Activities and
Motivation
Survey 1999

Tuition and Living
Accommodation Costs
for Full-time Students at
Canadian Degree-granting
Institutions
1993-2006 – *Excel files*

University and College
Academic Staff System,
2004-2005 – *Excel files*

Census Update (Continued)

by Sandra Keys, University of Waterloo

(<http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/analysis/popdwell/index.cfm>). Geographic products released include dissemination area and census tract reference maps, road network and geographic attribute files for Canada and the provinces and territories, boundary files, thematic maps, and GeoSuite for 2006. Also available are the Community Profiles (<http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/data/profiles/community/Index.cfm?Lang=E>).

Release no. 2 is scheduled for Tuesday, July 17, covering the topic, Age and Sex.

For more information, please consult the Census pages on the Statistics Canada website. The Census main page is located at:
<http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census/index.cfm>.



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