



Developing A Nonprofit Data Strategy for Alberta

Alberta Open Data Summit

October 14, 2016

Agenda

- Welcome and Background Information
- Introductions and Opening Remarks from Panelists
- Moderated Discussion
- Questions and Answers
- Wrap Up

Panel

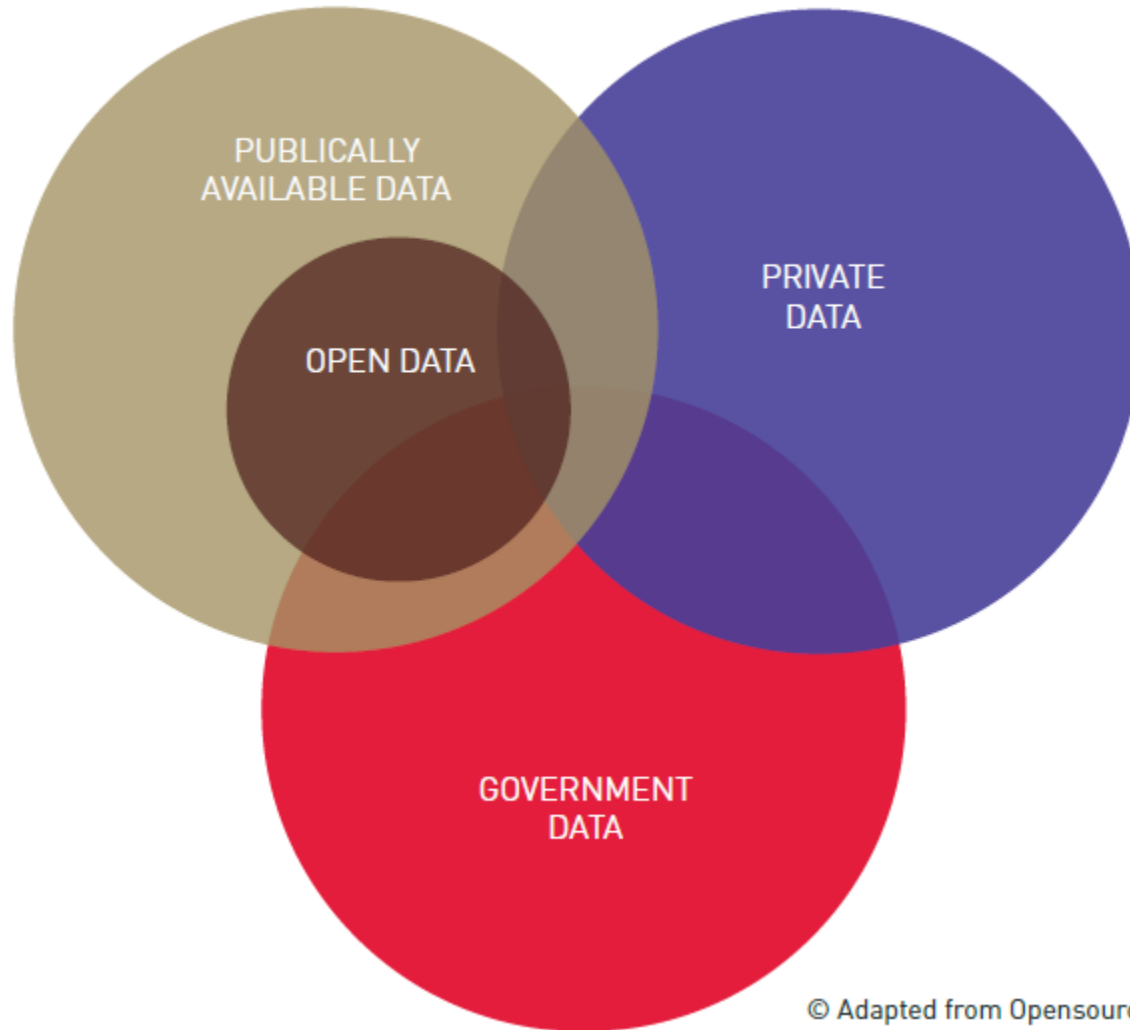
Moderator:

- **Geoff Zakaib** – Director, Data for Good

Panel:

- **Russ Dahms** – Executive Director, Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations
- **George Alvarez** – Director, Information Sharing Strategy Office, Alberta Human Services
- **Xinjie Cui** – Chief Analytics Officer, Alberta Centre for Child Family and Community Research (PolicyWise for Children and Families)
- **Mark Diner** – Chief Advisor and Executive Director, Open Government for the Government of Alberta
- **Larry Svenson** – Executive Director and Provincial Health Analytics Officer, Analytics and Performance Reporting Branch, Alberta Health
- **Richard Williams** – Manager, Environmental Scanning and Performance Measurement, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Government of Alberta

Types of Data



Private, Shared and Open Data

PRIVATE, SHARED AND OPEN DATA

Private data refers to data that is currently held in the private domain. Data that is not publically available or shared. Private data is the default for most datasets developed by non-profits or businesses if they do not choose to open their data.

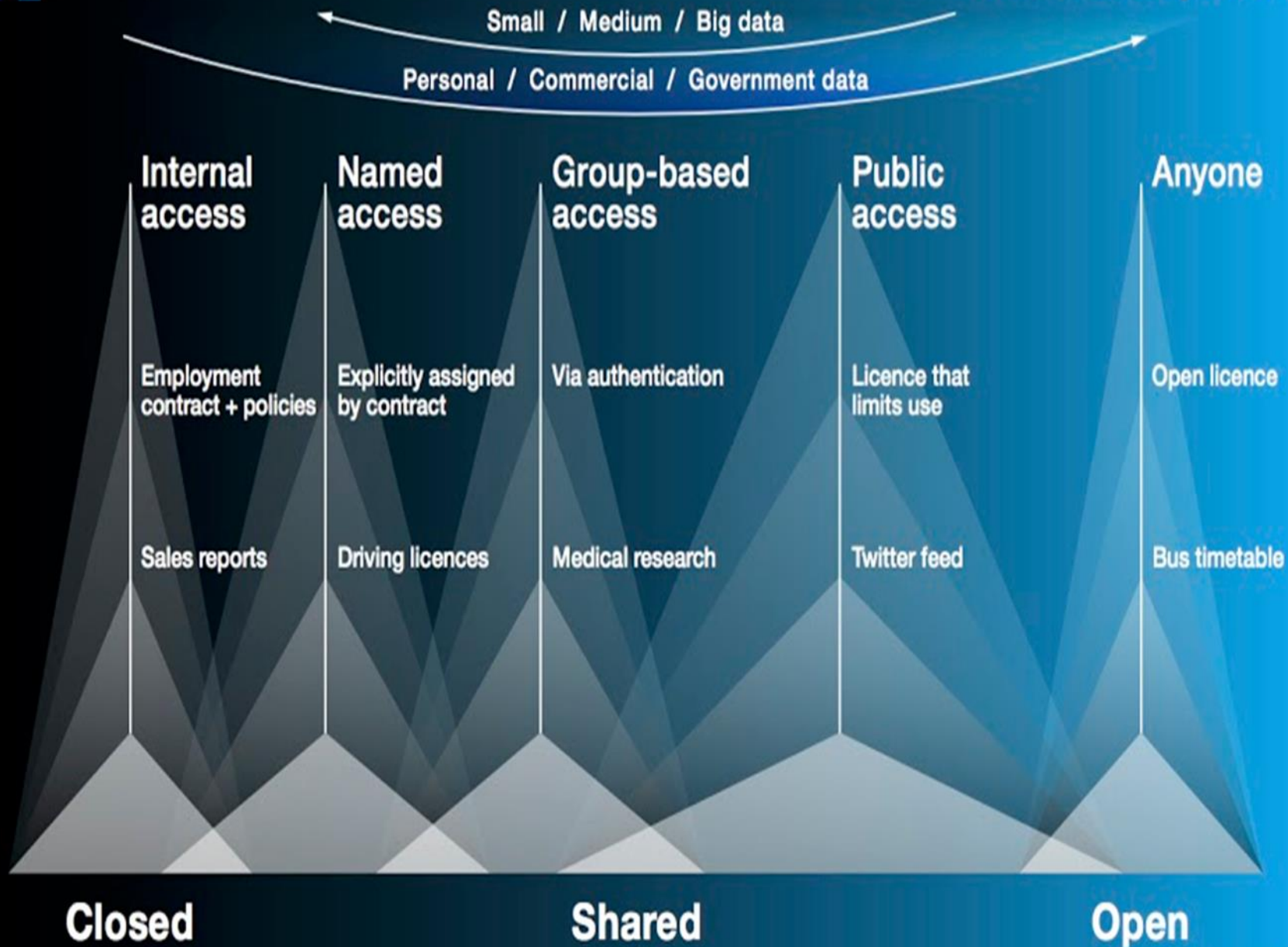
Some datasets, such as anything that includes personally identifiable information, should be kept private. Other datasets can be made open (McCullagh, 2008).

Shared data is data that is shared in a limited way, often to researchers or partners through data sharing agreements. Most open data advocates argue that, in general, data that is shared should instead be anonymized and then opened (Tennison, 2014). However, within the human and social services sector, some argue that there may be a need for access to client-specific, shared data that may not be appropriate for wider distribution.

Open data is data that “can be freely used, modified, and shared by anyone for any purpose” (Open Knowledge Foundation, 2014). The Open Definition also lays out the principles of openness, including requirements that data be:

- » available under an open license
- » available in a convenient and modifiable form
- » machine-readable
- » accessible as a whole, with little or no cost associated with its use.

Unlike private data, open data is a resource that is made available to anyone with the skills and desire to use it.



Data Sharing Levels

- Level 1 – Publicly Available / Aggregated
- Level 2 – De-identified
- Level 3 – Anonymized and Linked
- Level 4 – Personally Identifiable / Individual

Nonprofit Data Strategy

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**Towards a Data Strategy for the Ontario
Nonprofit Sector**

Data Strategy Key Principles and Components

KEY PRINCIPLES

A few core principles must guide the strategy as a whole:

- 1) **Effective use:** Nonprofits should put data to effective use to serve their communities - not just collect it, but proactively *use* it.
- 2) **Responsible use:** Data should be created, collected and accessed responsibly and ethically, with attention to power dynamics that could mar the use of data and with respect to the privacy and safety of those involved.
- 3) **For public benefit** (not for profit): Nonprofits and governments should be committed and able to access data for public benefit use.

Based on data strategies developed in other areas and on early international and Canadian projects, we have identified four essential components of a successful data strategy:

1. Standards
2. Policy
3. Skills & Resources
4. Leadership