

February 13, 2017

Dear Employment Ontario Service Provider,

I am writing to update you on the Open Data initiatives that the Employment and Training Division (ETD) is undertaking.

On February 14, 2017, ETD is launching two Open Data projects to the public:

- Employment Ontario (EO) Geo Hub
- Re-release of the 2016 Local Board datasets.

Open Data Inventory

On November 17, 2016, the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD's) Open Data inventory was made available to the public on the government-wide [Data Catalogue](#). This inventory lists all of the data held by MAESD and includes data on all ETD programs and administration.

Employment Ontario Geo Hub

The [Employment Ontario Geo Hub](#) is a public-facing website that will go live on February 14, 2017 providing access, analysis and visualization of ETD Open Datasets. It is a website where users can collaboratively interact with our data, and will provide interactive data maps and information on ETD's Open Data events such as hack-a-thons.

A "hack-a-thon" is an event over multiple days where data users and programmers come together to work with datasets, develop applications, and address questions pertaining to the data.

The information on the EO Geo Hub will be updated regularly with new and/or enhanced datasets and visualizations. ETD welcomes your feedback and is looking forward to your input on how to improve this website and its usability. Feedback can be provided at: EO.Analytics@ontario.ca.

Re-Release of Datasets

Coinciding with the launch of the EO Geo Hub, ETD is re-releasing four Local Board datasets as part of the Open Data initiatives.

These four datasets provide client demographics, training, and outcomes for the following four EO programs:

- Apprenticeship
- Employment Services (ES)
- Literacy and Basic Skills (LBS)
- Second Career (SC)

This data is provided for each of the 18 Local Board and eight Local Employment Planning Councils (LEPCs) areas across Ontario. These datasets are based on the EO Data Reports released to the Local Boards and LEPCs in [July 2016](#). These datasets will also be published on the EO Geo Hub and on the government-wide [Data Catalogue](#).

In the coming months, additional datasets will be prepared for public release on the EO Geo Hub website, including the Employment Service Financial Allocations and Expenditures for 2015-16 by Service Delivery Site. Service Providers will be consulted and given an opportunity to examine these additional datasets prior to public release. Details on the review process will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead.

Through the Open Data initiatives, we are enhancing accountability, encouraging civic engagement and driving innovation in the province. Having this data publicly available will also enhance business planning and increase interest in the programs and services we provide.

As we move forward, I know that I can count on your support for these important initiatives.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

David Fulford
Assistant Deputy Minister
Employment and Training Division