

## Q5. What could be done to make the GNL best-of-class when it comes to data-sharing?

- Build capacity in gathering and analyzing that data to know what to do with it and put it in the format that it can be used in the best possible way
- Centralize government data rather than all departments dealing with their own
- Definitions of what the data represents and doesn't
- Compliance to confidentiality is important
- Garbage in and garbage out--ensure that the integrity of the data being used is in place with quality control
- We need to know our limits about what we can provide and what we can't.
- Make the data valuable.
- Educate front line staff on how to collect and input data
- Understand and share where the data came from (the source)
- May be a need for legislation to provide oversight--review the NL stats act
- Should there be a specific person who is in charge in each department to post such new things
- Can anyone do it? Is it coordinated?
- ATIPP puts on own website, others put it on their own website and alerts OPE of what they put up
- Open data put all on one page
- Parameters added to what data can be shared
- If the data is useful to the general public
- Explanation of what the numbers might mean
- Make it accessible to the general public's understanding
- Make it in an accessible format that people can open
- Has to protect the privacy of those who the information was gathered from; not available to narrow down who said what, keeping their anonymity
- Be mindful of the requirements to protect personal information
- Have facts at the end, not interpretation but facts about the data that will make it more easily understood.
- Have to consider how much time and money it takes to implement such open policy, would it be a new department, how much more people power?
- How do you decide what is meaningful to share; need to have dialogue with people to understand that (Combination of pillars!)
- Does the public really want such information and is it worth it compared to the costs to do this?
- Are people doing anything with it? Are we just liberating data for no reason, is there a net outcome?
- Unless there is a demand, should it be released?
- Make sure data is of high quality

- Make available in various accessible formats
- If personal information in data is an obstacle, create specific fields that called it so the it can be easily removed (ie remove column C of excel spreadsheet)
- Provide enough resource for collection, verification of data
- Educate front line staff on how to properly collect and input data.
- Have basic guidelines
- Definitions around data sets and processes
- Compliance to confidentiality
- Garbage In – Garbage Out
- This would need to be structured properly perhaps through a centralized agency
- Needs to be a holistic approach
- Something like a cansim or stats can approach
- Assess what it is that people really want and need
- Find ways to link data sets from various departments to allow cross comparison
- More is not always best
- What are our priority needs?
- What are the community's needs?
- Resources
- Space on the server
- Support from OCIO
- The data should be of use
- We need to organize the information internally, then we can present it to the public
- We need that ground work done that the information will be organized
- A lot of internal data isn't even organized
- It sounds like OCIO's mandate will have to expand more
- Or we need one gatekeeper for all the data in each department, so that it is decentralized from OCIO
- Some data is already readily available, we do have the systems in place to do that
- Transcribing things into a common format takes time and resources; it's not a robotic function.
- Needs to be easily accessible
- Excel is not a database
- Put up in various file types that people will understand or can use
- There should be an easy way to find the information that people are looking for
- Not everyone understands data programs, so option to enter a bit of what you're looking for (maybe fields to enter) and thus the information you want to show up on the screen
- It's very intensive up front, but once a system is established, then we can easily share things
- Make raw data available as well
- Formats would have to be the same across government

- Until we can get a system that works, we should just upload everything that we have, even if it's raw data of complicated programs. Then we can work from there. It's a start.
- The volumes of data make it impractical to share everything
- Do you share everything all the time, or do you share it weekly, or monthly, etc.
- You have to find a place to start and a time to start
- It needs to be maintained, up to date, links can't be broken
- A dedicated staff needs to be who run the data engine and database so that's it's kept up
- Make sure there is a disclaimer with the data saying how it's been collected, etc, so people know what they are sharing with it.
- Who might your data benefit in the public? Educational/students/profs
- Make more NL Stats Agency statistics available online
- Post government research reports
- Identify subject experts in government
- I would like to see Economics and Statistics branch, Department of Finance resourced to take the "data" pillar and work with all other departments to create quality systems, methods, and capacity.
- Qualitative data – tell a story, what makes sense, balance cost with what works for people
- Ensuring that data is accurate, precise, and reliable is a MAJOR challenge for government before releasing data to the public.
- Maintenance of proper metadata on the data is essential to the correct interpretation of the data at hand.
- Databases that are out of date (or going out of date) are a threat to the integrity of the data, and simultaneously limit the breadth of operations that can be carried out on the data. Treating databases seriously is important.
- Managing expectations (both internally and externally) about what data represents (and what can subsequently be done with it), as well as how quickly data can be made available is another important aspect of this issue.
- Take an approach of setting down with government to determine what we need. Sit with executive level to determine what top 5 data sets they'd like to have. Could do a similar approach with public. Who's going to need the data and what are they going to use it for. What format do they need. Priorities need to be picked. Challenge will be taking away the identifiers that often accompany this information.
- A best solution to collect information at the data point so it can be useful.
- Find the technology to do it safely.
- Accurate, online data
- Good "data keepers"
- Advanced systems/processes for collection
- Identify what needs to be put into access – sharable mode

- Then identify who puts it together! So that the public can access it!
- Technology – upgrade
- Training in accumulating data and why we do and purpose to use
- Identify the data that is available and make it available
- Accessibility needs to be user friendly
- Need to be consistent in how all information is made available/accessed by the public – across all departments
- Needs to be searchable – need to be able to “Google it”
- One common data management system for “all”
- Need to figure out what people need to know
- Need a set of protocols for employees so they know what data is to be made available and where it needs to go
- Still need to ensure privacy of citizens
- OCIO has to change mentality regarding big data
- No support mechanism in place for dealing with big data
- OCIO has to be more efficient
- Scan all documents and have them available internally
- Regulatory piece
- difference between information and data