



FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017
PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA



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PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA

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FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

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Introduction Letter

The Ottawa Local Organizing Committee is very excited to have the opportunity to present our bid to the OSGeo Conference Committee to select Ottawa as the host of the 2017 FOSS4G conference.

Ottawa has had a strong relationship to the establishment of the open source geospatial movement from its early beginnings with it's last chance to shine on the world stage in 2004 when it hosted the combined 2nd annual MapServer User Meeting and 1st Open Source GIS conference. This was one of the first attempts at building a community across technologies, and was one of the pillars that today's FOSS4G was built on.

In addition to our experience in putting on an event like this previously, our bid has many unique attributes that make Ottawa a great choice for 2017. Some quick highlights:

- Local organizing committee rooted in the first city-level OSGeo Chapter
- Commitment to provide an enticing event for all current and potential stakeholders of open source geospatial technologies
- Affordable destination with exchange rate benefits due to the low Canadian Dollar
- Conservative estimate of a strong financial return for OSGeo, with significant upside opportunity
- Engagement of Professional Organizer (Eclipse) that specializes in open source technology conferences
- Fantastic downtown location in the spectacular new Shaw Centre
- Join in the many summer celebrations of Canada's 150th Birthday right in our capital city of Ottawa

We look forward to seeing you all here in Ottawa, Canada for FOSS4G 2017!

Sincerely,



Dave McIlhagga
Chair of Ottawa Bid for FOSS4G 2017

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Welcome to Ottawa!

People have come to Canada from around the world to live in freedom and build our country into one of the most diverse on the planet. Today, Canadians gather in Ottawa to celebrate their diversity, their shared heritage, and their humanity. Ottawa is a cosmopolitan G7 capital that's home to Canada's federal government, national associations, international embassies, and national and international media.

It's a city where you'll hear English and French and countless other languages spoken in the streets, a centre of higher learning with a populace that is among the most educated in North America, and a leading hub for research and innovation. It's the Capital of a country where freedom of thought and expression is guaranteed, a place whose quality of life is ranked second on the continent, and among the highest in the world.

It is likewise among the most safe and secure world capitals and a city accustomed to and adept at hosting global gatherings of all kinds. And it is an urban destination that wows visitors with art and culture, music and festivals, landmark sites and outdoor adventure.

QUICK FACTS

Population:	1.1 million
Official Languages:	English and French
Average temperature in August:	20°C
Currency:	Canadian Dollar
Number of people within a 2 hour flight of the Capital:	200 million





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Why Ottawa?

The Ottawa open source geospatial community is ready to welcome you to Canada's national capital in a very special year as we celebrate our country's 150th birthday! With a central location at the heart of our beautiful city, why not celebrate the success in adoption of open source geospatial technologies as one of many special events that will be taking place in Ottawa during the summer of 2017.

Following are some of the many unique attributes that will make Ottawa shine as your host in 2017.

Strong Roots

Local Chapter

Ottawa is home to one of the first OSGeo local chapters, and one of the only city-level chapters worldwide. In fact we've been around longer than OSGeo! It was established when we recognized that with a growing local community – we needed a more formal way to bring people together in person. The strong ties between industry, government, academia, and the non-profit sector that were so critical to forging a strong local community remain in place today as the heart of the local chapter that is committed to being involved in FOSS4G 2017. As we have seen in all FOSS4G events, a strong local community is a direct indicator of conference success – and the presence of a strong local chapter with a long track record should provide reassurance this will be in place in 2017.



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Open Source Contributions

Open source is successful when contributions are many, and FOSS4G is no different. The Ottawa community has a long record of open source contributions that have had a lasting effect on the open source geospatial movement. A few samples include:

- Local community hosted OSGIS 2004, one of the first open source geospatial conferences that spanned multiple technology communities. The event attracted over 200 attendees, and was done almost completely on local volunteer time. The event was run in the off-year of FOSS4G which at that time was primarily a GRASS user meeting. Local members from Ottawa played instrumental roles in bringing the two events together into the single international FOSS4G we know today.
- Industry leadership in Ottawa has provided many contributions to open source geospatial technologies including through early contributions by DM Solutions Group, MapGears, PCI Geomatics, Atlantis Scientific, and today's emerging companies including Ecere Corporation, ASG Mapping and SmartPointGeo.
- 4 of the original 46 Charter members of the OSGeo foundation from 2006 were based in Ottawa and played important roles in establishing the Foundation.
- Many Federal government departments were early adopters of open source technology, in particular MapServer which continues to be in active use today. The Local Universities have also made important contributions such as the open source Nunaliit Atlas Framework developed by the Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre at Carleton University.
- The Eclipse Foundation, home of LocationTech has its global headquarters here in Ottawa.

This is only a sampling - but an indication of the breadth of contributions Ottawa has in the past and continues to make to the open source geospatial movement. OSGeo can count on it's strong base of proponents based here to be committed to further contributions on growing this community should we have the opportunity to host this event in our city.



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Event Experience

The Ottawa local organizing committee has the unique distinction of having experienced putting on an international open source geospatial conference previously. We believe that the experience of learning what worked well, and what could have been done better positions us well for a much shorter ramp up time to put on FOSS4G in 2017. The committee is very familiar with OSGeo's expectations for what a successful event should look like, and what it will take to pull it off.

Recognizing the amount of work putting on an event like this entails, The Local Organizing Committee has elected to engage the services of the Eclipse Foundation as Professional Conference Organizer through LocationTech due to the unique synergies only possible through their participation. More on this is discussed in the "Organizer" section below.

To point out a couple of specific individuals with relevant background experience:

- Our chair, Dave McIlhagga, was also the chair for the 2004 event, and learned the ins and outs of conference management, raising sponsorship revenue, promotion to attendees, and the many other jobs that are needed to put on a great show. Although many of these activities will be handled by our Professional Conference Organizer, this experience will be invaluable for managing the group's collective ability to execute, and communications with OSGeo to ensure a strong effort for this event.
- Karine Jean has been an event coordinator since 2010 for the Centre de Géomatique du Québec. She has been the chair of VisionGéomatique in 2012 and 2014, which were done in collaboration with OSGeo-Québec, OSGeo-Ottawa and LocationTech. Her regular experience with conference organization specific to the geospatial industry will be particularly beneficial to this effort.

The banner features a blue-tinted photograph of the Ottawa skyline, including the Parliament Hill buildings and a large church with a tall spire. The foreground shows a snowy, rocky landscape. The text 'FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017' is in a large, bold, white sans-serif font, and 'PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA' is in a smaller, bold, white sans-serif font below it.

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Attendee reach

Local Attendance

An event in Ottawa has numerous advantages for drawing strong local participation. This includes;

- *Federal Government Employees and Contractors:* As the Seat of the Federal Government, an Ottawa event can expect to draw from the large number of geospatial specialists employed by the federal government and local contractors. The presence of one of the biggest international geospatial events in Ottawa will likely draw many of these attendees who would not normally attend. This will be a unique opportunity to grow awareness of open source geospatial technologies in the federal government, and to hear of successful existing implementations.
- *Industry:* Over 50 companies have been identified in the Ottawa-Gatineau region that have strong use of geospatial technologies within their organizations. It is expected that many of these organizations will attend the event.
- *Post-Secondary Institutions:* Specialty GIS programs are running in all three of Ottawa's post-secondary institutions - Ottawa University, Carleton University and Algonquin College. Open source technologies play a significant role within these programs, and active relationships are in place with all institutions, which will drive both strong student and professor attendance.

Intent to Collaborate with Canadian Institute of Geomatics (CIG)

Initial positive discussions have been completed with the Canadian Institute of Geomatics to promote attendance at FOSS4G. The CIG is Canada's largest organization representing geomatics practitioners in Canada.

The objective of both organizations is to have a CIG event coincide with FOSS4G, however it was premature to finalize agreement by the bid submissions deadline. Should this be successful, it will draw a significant additional audience of 150-200 attendees who would not normally participate with FOSS4G.

The banner features a blue-tinted cityscape of Ottawa, including the Parliament Hill buildings, set against a background of white, fluffy clouds. The text 'FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017' is prominently displayed in a large, white, sans-serif font, with 'PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA' in a smaller font below it.

FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

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Balanced Program

The Ottawa LOC is committed to ensuring this event is truly representative of all stakeholders involved with open source geospatial technologies. Some particular areas of focus for this event are highlighted below:

Business Networking

FOSS4G has traditionally had a strong technical focus for its events, and though this will certainly continue, it has been challenging to draw business leaders and provide a forum for business engagement to take place.

In order to address this, the LOC has committed to include a “Business Connect” session which is a form of speed dating for business leaders. This will be held concurrently with the final workshop period prior to start of the conference. This unique approach gives 40 business leaders the opportunity to quickly meet and forge relationships with their peers in the industry, providing an opportunity to foster business engagement around open source geospatial technologies. This will be followed by a Business Social for participants to continue their discussions and grow these relationships.

This we believe will go a long way to welcoming business leaders to the event, as they are an important driver of open source technology development and adoption.

In addition, the push for more business involvement will assist with sponsorship efforts, as the event will be seen as more business friendly to prospective sponsors.

Strong Academic Program

The participation of both of Ottawa’s Universities will assist to develop a strong academic program through direct participation, and leveraging relationships with other Canadian and International institutions.

Canadian Institute of Geomatics Engagement

One of the benefits of collaborating with the Canadian Institute of Geomatics is the opportunity to bring presentations from practitioners who have not traditionally participated in the FOSS4G conference. We believe this will provide an opportunity for more diversity in the program.



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Ottawa – Canada’s Most Innovative City

Ottawa is Canada’s smartest city, an established global technology centre and a leading city in the creative economy. It boasts the country’s most intelligent meeting facility and a strong entrepreneurial culture.

Those factors and many more make Ottawa, Canada’s Capital, the ideal meeting destination for associations, organizations and corporations involved in driving innovation and creativity.

Ottawa is a city where FOSS4G delegates will feel right at home. Beyond a first look at our beautiful capital are some of the world’s best and most innovative companies in such key industries as wireless, cleantech, life sciences, aerospace, security and defence, and film, television and digital media offering a wealth of expertise from which to draw upon to build convention programs and attendance. In fact, Ottawa was ranked 1st out of 61 cities globally by the Martin Prosperity Institute for the diversity and creativity of its economy, driven by its high score in talent.

Entrepreneurship is part of the fabric of the city. With a vibrant community of start-ups, the total amount of venture capital invested in Ottawa technology companies over the last decade amounted to over \$4.3 billion CAD. And a spectacular new Innovation Centre—a start-up incubator— is slated to open in 2017.

It was in Ottawa that Roger Tomlinson, “the father of GIS”, developed the first GIS system in the 1960s.

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Ottawa – Celebrating Canada’s 150th Anniversary in 2017



Be here for Canada’s big year!

In **2017**, Canada celebrates its **150th** Anniversary as a nation—and Ottawa will be the place to celebrate, with a year-round lineup of major event, festivities and gatherings marking this special year.

A new permanent **Arctic Gallery** at the **Canadian Museum of Nature** is to open in 2017 in celebration of Canada’s 150th anniversary.

For the 100th anniversary of the **Bytown Museum**, a special exhibit, *The BYTOWN MUSEUM: A Century of Community* will mark this milestone and Canada’s 150th anniversary, featuring eclectic, unique and beautiful works and images from the Museum’s primary collections, as well as a selection of exceptional artifacts that helped shape the history of Ottawa and Canada.

A new permanent exhibit, the *Canada History Hall* at the **Canadian Museum of History** will replace the Canada Hall and the Face to Face exhibit at the former Canadian Museum of Civilization.

The **Bank of Canada Museum** (formerly the Currency Museum of the Bank of Canada) will reopen in a totally renovated building on Sparks Street in 2017.

The **Global Centre for Pluralism** will open on Sussex Drive, creating a global destination for dialogue about the foundations and benefits of pluralism.

The **Canada Science and Technology Museum** will reopen after \$80.5 million is invested to repair and upgrade its building.



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Community

There are several strong communities represented in Ottawa that are actively engaged with the Ottawa LOC and expected to provide support for this event. These are reflected in the Letters of Support the LOC has received to date and included in this bid.



OSGeo Ottawa Local Chapter



The idea of hosting FOSS4G 2017 in Ottawa was originally brought up at the monthly [OSGeo Ottawa Local Chapter](#)'s meeting, held regularly at the Fox & Feather pub for many years since its inception in 2006. Among our Local Organizing Committee, Jérôme and Javed are both co-chairs of the Ottawa chapter, and Regie and Saeid are current regular attendants of our monthly meetups. The OSGeo Ottawa Chapter exists to provide support for local users of Open Source Geospatial

software, and to promote the goals and projects of the Open Source Geospatial Foundation. The Chapter is focused on the National Capital Region around Ottawa with face to face meetings providing networking, support and educational opportunities to the local members. The Ottawa chapter is involved in many events promoting open-source GIS software in the region, including hosting events for GIS day, and reaching out to the government, industry and education sectors.

Canadian Institute of Geomatics

The Canadian Institute of Geomatics has a strong history and representation within the Remote Sensing / Photogrammetry, Cartography and Surveying Sectors in Canada. The CIG has strong representation in Ottawa, and is very supportive of assisting with this event, and encouraging members to attend.

Industry

Over 50 companies in the Ottawa Gatineau region have been identified as active users or developers of geospatial technology. Among these, a majority have at least some experience with open source geospatial technologies. Already this community is well represented on the LOC, and through letters of support. It is expected that many of these companies will have involvement with the conference as attendees, speakers, exhibitors and sponsors.



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Ottawa and Carleton University Geospatial Programs

Ottawa and Carleton universities each have dedicated research groups specializing in geospatial technology and uses.

Carleton University's Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre has been a long time proponent, and developer of open source geospatial technologies, including its innovative Nunaliit Atlas Framework.

The University of Ottawa's Laboratory for Applied Geomatics and GIS Science program has been a centre for geospatial research and development for over a decade, and includes use of open source geospatial technologies within these activities.

Both universities through their professors and students are actively involved with the organization of the conference.

Eclipse Foundation and LocationTech Headquarters

Ottawa is the home of the Eclipse Foundation and LocationTech, with many practitioners and staff working and living in the city. This community is actively engaged in this proposal and is expected to play a strong role in all aspects of the conference.

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Getting to Ottawa

By Air

Within 2 hours travel of 200 million North Americans, Ottawa offers over 125 non-stop flights daily to more than 30 destinations in Canada, the United States and Europe. Ottawa International Airport is a state-of-the-art facility that consistently ranks amongst the highest in the world for customer service. Ottawa Tourism has a close working relationship with the Airport Authority.

By Rail

Passenger service to the Ottawa region is provided by Via Rail. The main train station is located in the southeast section of the city. Taxi and bus service is readily available, and limousine service may be booked.



By Bus / Car

Ottawa is easily accessible by car from the East Coast of Canada and the United States. It is an approximate 4.5 hours drive from Toronto and 8 hours drive from New York City. Ottawa is linked to Toronto by the 401 & 416 and to Montréal by the 417. The 401 is accessible from the state of New York by the I-81, and the 417 from the state of Vermont by the I-87.



DESTINATION	WEEKLY FREQUENCY – Non-stop service
Boston	13
Charlotte-Douglas	7
Chicago	35
Detroit	19
New York City	38
Philadelphia	19
Washington	41
Frankfurt	7
London-Gatwick	1
London-Heathrow	7



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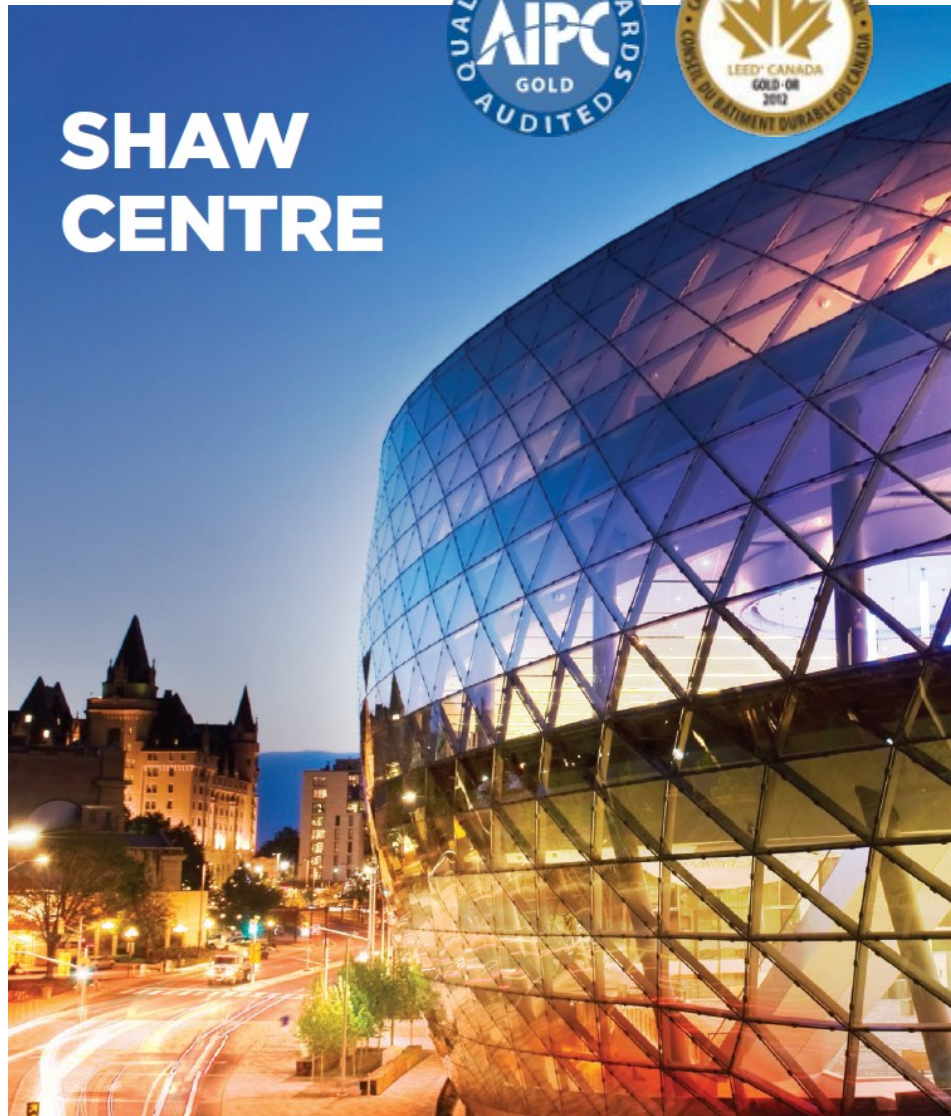


Venue

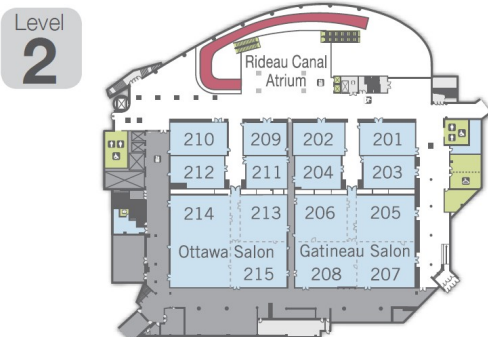
The Shaw Centre
(Previously Ottawa Convention Centre)

Recently named one of the top 3 convention centres in the world in AIPC's World's Best Convention Centre rankings, the Shaw Centre is LEED Gold certified and one of only 21 centres in the world with the AIPC Gold certification for service excellence. This space-age facility boasts almost 200,000 square feet of flexible meeting space, pre-function space affording stunning views, and unique crEATe Kitchen culinary experiences. All in the heart of Ottawa—a 20-minute commute from the airport and within a short walk of 6000 downtown hotel rooms.

Its sweeping glass façade affords panoramic views of the Rideau Canal, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Parliament Hill and numerous other national landmarks. Inside, multilevel concourses wrap around a stunning wall over 100 ft./31 m. high, painstakingly assembled from century-old lumber reclaimed from the Ottawa River.



The Shaw Centre is fully accessible with state-of-the-art technology infrastructure and environmentally sustainable features and practices recognized industry-wide. Best-in-class meeting support services include digital media services, event production and staging, media and press conference services and simultaneous interpretation equipment and services.



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Getting around in Ottawa

Ottawa has a lot to offer in terms of the experience outside of the conference. The city is very compact, features numerous bike paths (along with a bike share program), features many public parking lots and convenient public transport.

There are many accommodations, restaurants, museums and attractions all within walking distance of the Shaw Centre.



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Things to do in Ottawa



Parliament Hill

The seat of Canada's federal government and the setting for national celebrations the year round, Parliament Hill is the most visited Ottawa attraction. Each morning during summer months, the front lawn of Parliament Hill is the setting of the daily Changing of the Guard ceremony; each evening the public is invited to gather again to witness the awe-inspiring Sound and Light show—spectacular lighting effects and stunning giant images projected on the Parliament Buildings set to words and music. Both events are free. Truly a must-see!

National Cultural Attractions

Ottawa cultural attractions, museums and galleries invite visitors to experience the best of Canada all in one place. Whether it's the stunning National Gallery of Canada, with world class art on display, or the dramatic Canadian War Museum, these are the experiences that bring Canadian culture to life for any visitor.



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ByWard Market

An historic farmers' market and shopping district by day, a favourite gathering place of restaurants and clubs by night—the ByWard Market just east of Parliament Hill is one Ottawa neighbourhood you won't want to miss.

Rideau Canal (UNESCO)

A historic waterway filled with boaters spring through fall and the world's largest naturally frozen skating rink in winter—the Rideau Canal winds through the heart of Ottawa before connecting with the Ottawa River through dramatic stepped locks right next to Parliament Hill.



Culinary Scene

The culinary scene in Ottawa has come alive in recent years, with a thriving community of Ottawa chefs and Ottawa restaurants making names for themselves both at home and abroad. Ottawa restaurants are wonderfully diverse. As one of Ontario's designated culinary tourism destinations, the city, its restaurants and its local food producers are all working together to bring locally-grown and prepared foods to tables across the region through an initiative called Savour Ottawa.

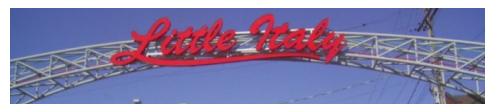
Performing Arts

The Capital's premier performing arts venue, the National Arts Centre, presents a full lineup of music, dance and theatre, plus popular touring acts and shows.



Little Italy / Chinatown / Shopping

Unique Ottawa neighborhoods offer distinctive shopping, dining and nightlife experiences across the Capital. From Little Italy's charming bars and restaurants, to the glorious new archway over Chinatown, there is plenty to experience in Ottawa's varied neighborhoods.



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City Tours

Ottawa is filled with Capital sights and attractions—and just about as many ways to explore and see them. Experience a tour on both land and water with the Lady Dive amphibious bus, or take in a walking tour across Ottawa’s picturesque ByWard Market courtyards.



Outdoor Adventure

Ottawa is a natural for sports fans and outdoor recreation enthusiasts. Try whitewater rafting and kayaking on the Ottawa River, some of the continent’s finest. Then top it off with some bungee jumping. Ottawa is also a cycling enthusiast’s dream destination, with over 180 kilometers of recreational pathways linking natural areas, parks, gardens and national sites.



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Organizer



We have chosen to partner with the LocationTech working group at the Eclipse Foundation (a not-for-profit open source foundation) to organize our conference. They were selected by the FOSS4G NA community-based committee to be the organizers of FOSS4G North America 2015 and 2016 and have demonstrated a strong organization capacity to operate conferences of this size. We have selected them for our 2017 bid to benefit from their experience and deep connections to the open source ecosystem, and to maintain the momentum flowing from previous North American conferences and events.

Important to us, this conference will not burn out our community volunteers. The Eclipse Foundation provides a complete solution including financing, a dedicated and experienced professional conference team, marketing and media relations, business development and sponsor relations, web development, graphics design, operations, and more. They are as committed to FOSS4G 2017 being a great conference as we are. We are confident their help will ensure this is the best conference it can be.

In choosing the Eclipse Foundation to organize the conference with us, we also get Andrea Ross as conference producer. For nearly a decade, she has actively supported OSGeo, LocationTech, and other open software and data communities that participate at FOSS4G conferences. She has been an OSGeo charter member [since 2008](#). Her FOSS4G experience spans seven FOSS4G global events and many regional ones. She was also conference chair for FOSS4G NA 2015 and is producer for FOSS4G NA 2016. Her help and FOSS4G experience are an important bonus.

Just as in 2004 when the first MapServer User Meeting was broadened to include the Open Source GIS community, a primary goal of 2017 is to ensure we have inclusion from all open source geospatial communities, including OSGeo, LocationTech, and other affiliated projects.

In addition to the practical organizational benefits of working with LocationTech, the ability to grow awareness of the event in non-OSGeo communities is expected to draw more participation by other open source geospatial projects, making FOSS4G truly representative of the international open source geospatial community.

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OSGeo Specific Needs

Annual General Meeting

Time has been included for the Annual General Meeting in the conference schedule.

OSGeo Board of Directors Meeting

Facilities will be provided prior to or after the conference for the Board of Directors to meet for their annual face to face meeting concurrent with this event. Logistics will be worked out should this bid be selected.

OSGeo Code of Conduct

A code of conduct will be developed for the conference that respects the established Code of Conduct standards expected by OSGeo. The LOC will work closely with the OSGeo Code of Conduct committee to ensure this is to their satisfaction.

OSGeo Visibility

Just as was done for FOSS4G NA 2015, OSGeo will be provided with a free booth in prominent location and 2 free full access passes. Also like 2015 & 2016, a representative from OSGeo will be invited to speak as part of the opening and closing plenaries. OSGeo's logo will be featured prominently on the website above the regular sponsors.





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Budget

Many elements of this proposal, including potential dates, conference pattern of Monday to Friday, all events being held at one location, etc., are all in the proposal stage, and will be finalized should the committee decide to select our bid. Having some flexibility with key factors such as these will enable us to better manage costs and to ensure we can maximize the value for all conference participants.

Financial information here is based on our current, best estimates. Actual costs are not fixed until contracts are fully negotiated and signed, and, subsequent to this, final rates for registration fees, sponsorship fees, etc. will be confirmed. Please note that estimates such as those included in our bid are most accurate when there are multiple years of financial data for previous events in very similar locations and with a similar attendee base, and this information was not available when preparing our bid.

Note that the amounts shown in the summary budget for financial contribution to OSGeo are based on assumptions regarding both revenues and costs, including, but not limited to, target revenue per attendee, target sponsorship for the event, food and beverage to be served and the associated costs, etc. Changes to any of these assumptions will result in corresponding changes to the target contribution amounts shown.



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Registration Pricing

(all prices in USD)

All Access passes

(includes all sessions, workshops & Gala Dinner)

Early	\$800
Regular	\$950

Non-corporate passes

(for people not being reimbursed by their organization, includes all sessions, workshops & Gala Dinner)

All Access	\$600
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Student

(includes all sessions, workshops & Gala Dinner)

All Access	\$350
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Sessions only

(includes all sessions & Gala Dinner, but no workshops)

Early	\$600
Regular	\$750

Workshops only

(includes all workshops, but does not include sessions or Gala Dinner)

Early	\$350
Regular	\$500

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Sponsorship Pricing

(all prices in USD)

	Platinum	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Theme Day
All Access Passes	8	4	2	1	1
Exhibits Only Passes	8	4	2	1	0
Reserved Speaking Slots	2	1	0	0	0
Discount on Add-ons	75%	50%	25%	0%	0%
Logo & Description on the conference website	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Booth in Exhibit area	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Banner & Handouts in Theme Day room					✓
Price	\$30,000	\$15,000	\$8,000	\$4,000	\$3,000

We also plan to offer supporter a sponsorship level. Historically it has been \$1,500 and included a full access pass. We are considering a \$500 supporter sponsorship that does not include a pass so that sponsors that might be remote can still participate.

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Summary Budget

		750 Attendees	900 Attendees
Income			
	Attendees	\$444,648	\$550,328
	Sponsorship	\$175,000	\$175,000
	Total	\$619,648	\$725,328
Expenses			
	Operations	\$90,000	\$90,000
	Conference Center	\$53,308	\$53,308
	Food & Beverage	\$170,655	\$204,786
	A/V & Internet	\$91,000	\$91,000
	Giveaways	\$7,500	\$9,000
	Registration	\$11,675	\$13,162
	Printing & Graphics	\$7,000	\$8,000
	Recording	\$35,000	\$35,000
	Scholarships & speaker support	\$25,000	\$50,000
	Promotion	\$5,000	\$10,000
	Staff travel	\$7,000	\$7,000
	Total	\$503,138	\$571,255
Gross margin including 7% contingency		\$81,291	\$114,085
OSGeo contribution		\$75,000	\$104,000
Final gross margin		\$6,291	\$10,085

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Schedule

The conference will run from Monday, August 21 to Friday, August 25, with a Code Sprint on Saturday, August 26.

We anticipate a schedule similar to the following:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Registration Kiosk Opens					Code Sprint hosted at the University of Ottawa
Workshops	Workshops	Opening Plenary	Announcements	Announcements	
		Keynote 1	Keynote 2	Keynote 3	
		Break			
		Sessions	Sessions	Sessions	
Lunch					
Workshops	Workshops	Sessions	Sessions	Sessions + AGM's	
		Break			
		Sessions	Sessions	Closing Plenary and Sol Katz	
Informal Social Events	Ice Breaker	BoFs	Gala Dinner		

The banner features a dark blue, semi-transparent overlay over a cityscape. The cityscape includes a prominent clock tower and other buildings. The text 'FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017' is in a large, bold, white sans-serif font, and 'PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA' is in a smaller, bold, white sans-serif font below it.

FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA

Program

Accepting proposals, voting, and selection

We will be using a web-based system for accepting, managing, and selecting proposed talks and workshops. The system is tightly integrated into the conference web site. This is the same system used for FOSS4G NA 2015 and 2016. It is also the system used for the EclipseCon conference series as well as others. The system allows program committee members to vote and discuss proposals. It also allows for public community voting, and feedback by attendees who attended the sessions.

The program will be selected by a community-based program committee at arm's length from sponsorship and other similar influences. Their task is to select the best program possible. Public community voting will be factored, but it will be balanced carefully to reduce the chance of gaming the system to get a talk accepted.

In general, we anticipate that very few speakers will have more than one or two talks selected in order to provide a reasonably balanced program. We will consider exceptions to this policy very carefully.

Anticipated Tracks and Topics

The program committee will establish themes, tracks, and topics as we get closer to the event. We anticipate that tracks like those listed below are likely, based on the history of the conference.

- Using FOSS4G
- Developing FOSS4G
- FOSS4G on Mobile
- Government use of FOSS4G
- Big Data
- Open Data
- Data Science and Visualization
- Internet of Things
- Community
- Education and Research
- Other cool things (a catch-all for the rest)

A banner image showing a cityscape with a large cathedral in the center, overlaid with a blue and white wave pattern at the bottom. The text 'FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017' is in large white letters, and 'PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA' is in smaller white letters below it.

FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

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Academic Track

We anticipate integrating the academic and research content alongside other program content so that people enjoying it can mingle with others, and experience being an integral part of the community.

Ice Breaker

Ottawa has many local facilities very close to the Shaw Centre that can be used for the Ice Breaker prior to the start of the conference. Our objective will be to settle on a fun, and casual atmosphere for attendees to meet and mingle before the start of the event.

Gala Dinner

A gala dinner will be hosted on site in the Shaw Centre with an extraordinary view of Downtown Ottawa from the domed glass windows of this beautiful new building in the heart of Ottawa. The dinner will be complimentary for everyone attending the main conference (whether with an All Access, Non-Corporate, Student or Sessions Only pass).

Code Sprint

Our plan is to host a one-day code sprint at the end of FOSS4G 2017 for those who wish to stick around and hack code. The University of Ottawa and Carleton University have both offered space for at least 100 with power & Internet access. The University of Ottawa space makes more sense given the close proximity to the Convention Center.

The banner features a blue-tinted cityscape of Ottawa, including the Parliament Hill, with a layer of snow in the foreground. The text 'FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017' is in a large, bold, white sans-serif font, and 'PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA' is in a smaller, bold, white sans-serif font below it.

FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

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Conference Committee

Dave McIlhagga (our conference chair) is the CEO and founder of DM Solutions Group (now operating as MapSherpa) and was the chair of the Ottawa 2004 MapServer User Meeting and Open Source GIS conference, one of the first conferences to specifically draw from the full open source geospatial community. He also founded the Ottawa MapServer User Group which later evolved to becoming a local OSGeo Chapter. Dave is a founding member of OSGeo, past board member, and continues to be active on the OSGeo Conference Committee. Dave has a long history of working to build the open source community, driving awareness of open source technology in non-traditional open source environments, and advancing the development of many open source projects through DM Solutions Group's business activities.

Jérôme Jacovella-St-Louis (our program chair) is a current co-chair of the OSGeo Ottawa Local Chapter, and founder and CTO of Ecere Corporation, providing a free open source toolkit for cross-platform software development featuring a 2D & 3D graphics engine, widget toolkit, an IDE and a compiler for the eC programming language. Ecere also offers GNOSIS, a real-time 3D geospatial visualization SDK along with related consulting services.

Javed Syed is co-chair of OSGeo Ottawa since 2013. He has been instrumental in promoting OSGeo Ottawa at Software Freedom Day, Carleton University Geographic Information Day (GIS) Day, Ottawa University GIS Day, and Vision GEOMATIQUE 2012. Javed holds a BSc (Sask) and MH (Emerson). After graduating from University of Saskatchewan in Geology, Javed's focus has been in application of TDW FOSS Geo-Stack for Mineral Prospecting, including Oil and Gas exploration. TDW FOSS Geo-Stack is a Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) stackable package that has been successfully applied to Mineral exploration by Junior Resource Companies. Javed's goal for 2017 is to showcase Ottawa as the centre for FOSS collaboration in the areas of GIS, Coding and Entrepreneurship by hosting FOSS4G 2017 Ottawa.

Karine Jean is a GIS Analyst and an Event coordinator since 2010 for the Centre de Géomatique du Québec. She was also the chair of VisionGEOMATIQUE 2012 (Saguenay, Québec) and 2014 (Gatineau, Québec). Those 2 editions was organised in collaboration with OSGeo-Québec (2012, 2014), OSGeo-Ottawa (2014) and LocationTech (2014). In 2015, she was involved in the general track committee for the FOSS4G-Europe in Como.



FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

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Scott Mitchell is an Associate Professor and the Geomatics Program Supervisor at the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at Carleton University. He teaches several courses in geomatics, including one concentrating on the contributions and utility of open source GIS tools and open data. His research looks at links between spatial pattern and environmental processes, especially in agricultural ecosystems. He uses FOSS4G tools heavily in both research and teaching, and has long been a fan of this conference, OSGEO, and all the fantastic people involved in open source geospatial tools.

Michael Sawada is a Full Professor of applied geomatics and director of the Laboratory for Applied Geomatics and GIS Science (LAGGISS) at the University of Ottawa, Department of Geography, Environment and Geomatics. He teaches undergraduate courses ranging from introductory geomatics to numerical spatial analysis courses at the upper levels. He utilizes FOSS4G tools heavily in research and also at the undergraduate level. His research focuses on developing open source mobile tools for geospatial analysis as well as applications in the physical sciences, environment and health geographics. He is also the co-lead investigator of the Ottawa Neighbourhood Study.

Regie Alam is the President of ASG Mapping Ltd., a company offering data collection and analytic services using a variety of platforms including mobile, satellite imagery, and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). Regie is a contributing member of OSGEO-Ottawa and is a proponent of open source geospatial software. Open source related projects include the assembling of complementary and mature open source geospatial software to build an open source geostack. This standalone open-source based geostack is made available on USB sticks and virtual machines to be used by application specialists (foresters, junior mineral prospectors, etc.). He initiated and led the Ottawa Tree Canopy Cover Project which used open source software and crowdsourcing to quantify tree canopy cover within the urban boundary of the City of Ottawa. He is also an executive member of the Ottawa branch of the Canadian Institute of Geomatics (CIG), a national geomatics industry association. Regie's goal for FOSS4G 2017 in Ottawa is to bridge together traditional geomatics industry participants with participants from the open source geospatial world.

Saeid Homayouni is currently a lecturer and senior research associate with the LAGGISS, at the Department of Geography, Environmental studies and Geomatics at the University of Ottawa. He teaches several undergraduate courses on GIS, RS and Geomatics. Saeid holds a PhD degree in remote sensing, a MSc degree in GIS and a BSc in Geomatics. He is interested in, and using the open geospatial data, earth observations and technologies for various environmental applications.

A banner image showing a cityscape of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, with a large Gothic-style cathedral in the center. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text 'FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017' is written in large white letters, and 'PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA' is written in smaller white letters below it.

FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA

Letters of Support

We have received letters of support from a diverse set of organizations, including companies, universities, government agencies, and not-for-profits. The list of organizations providing a letter of support as of the time this proposal was written include:

City of Ottawa - Letter from the Mayor
Carleton University's Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre (GCRC)
MapSherpa
Ecere Corporation
Smart Point Geo
Canadian Institute of Geomatics
Cardinalus
MapGears
ASG Mapping

FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA



Jim Watson
Mayor / Maire

Office of the Mayor
City of Ottawa
110 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1J1
Tel.: (613) 580-2496
Fax: (613) 580-2509
E-mail: Jim.Watson@ottawa.ca

Bureau du maire
Ville d'Ottawa
110, avenue Laurier Ouest
Ottawa (Ontario) K1P 1J1
Tél. : (613) 580-2496
Télééc. : (613) 580-2509
Courriel : Jim.Watson@ottawa.ca

October 1st 2015

FOSS4G 2017 Selection Committee

Dear FOSS4G 2017 Selection Committee Members,

It is my distinct pleasure, on behalf of Members of Ottawa City Council, to express our strong desire for the Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo) to select Canada's capital as the host site for the Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial (FOSS4G) conference in 2017.

Canada celebrates its 150th anniversary in 2017 ! The City of Ottawa is committed to making 2017 a year to remember in Ottawa and invites you to join us for the most extraordinary and memorable Sesquicentennial celebration !

In addition to the many festivals and events taking place in 2017, holding the FOSS4G 2017 conference in Ottawa would give visitors a marvellous opportunity to tour the seat of government and the historic Parliament Hill, in addition to having the chance to view the treasure trove of art at the National Gallery of Canada, along with the fascinating exhibits at the ultra-modern Canadian War Museum, the newly renovated Canadian Museum of Nature, featuring the Queens' Lantern, and the impressive Canadian Museum of History, just across the Ottawa River. Delegates would also want to explore the revitalized Lansdowne Park and new TD Place, home of the Ottawa REDBLACKS CFL team, and Ottawa Fury FC North American Soccer League team.

The bustling ByWard Market heritage district, along with the trendy Elgin Street, Glebe and Westboro quarters, as well as the vibrant Chinatown and Little Italy neighbourhoods, combine to offer a truly panoramic venue in which to stage a major event like the FOSS4G 2017 conference.

I trust that Ottawa's demonstrated enthusiasm to be the host city for the FOSS4G 2017 conference will be given serious consideration, when it comes time to decide upon a location. I look forward, with great anticipation, to the possibility of welcoming the participants and their families to Ottawa.

Thank you for giving Ottawa the opportunity to bid as your host for 2017; it will be a festive year and we hope that your delegates will be a part of it!

Sincerely,

Jim Watson
Mayor
City of Ottawa



FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA



Geomatics and Cartographic
Research Centre
Department of Geography &
Environmental Studies
1125 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa, Canada K1S 5B6
Tel: (613) 520-2600 ext. 8232
Fax: (613) 520-4301
Email: fraser.taylor@carleton.ca

October 19, 2015

Eli Adam
FOSS4G Conference Committee Chair

Dear Mr. Adam:

On behalf of the Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre at Carleton University, I would like to extend our support for Ottawa, Canada as the host venue for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference.

The Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre has been developing an open source geospatial platform call Nunaliit for over a decade. Nunaliit, which means community in Inuktitut, is a major building block for the creation of our innovative cybercartographic atlases (<http://gcr.ccarleton.ca>). A FOSS4G meeting in Ottawa would be an important opportunity to discuss our approach and to reach our more effectively to the open source community. It would also be an important learning opportunity for our students. We are a dedicated open source and open specifications research centre. We are also deeply involved with legal and ethical interoperability which, in my view, is an under-researched topic, as well as with a number of national and international groups such as the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management initiative in which we play a key role as well as with GEOSS, CODATA, OGC and others.

Our Centre is very pleased at the prospect of supporting a FOSS4G Conference in Ottawa. It is a vibrant and dynamic city with a global reputation and entrepreneurial spirit that is well aligned with the open source geospatial community.

Ottawa is an attractive city with excellent conference facilities and accommodation. It is particularly attractive in the fall when the leaves are changing colour. As the capital of Canada the city has a wide range of national museums, art galleries and other cultural attractions. It is a particularly clean and safe environment and the core of the city has a bustling open market with over fifty restaurants which can be walked in half an hour. Parliament Hill and the locks on the Rideau Canal are particularly striking

The Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre is very pleased at the prospect of supporting a FOSS4G Conference in Ottawa. It is a vibrant and dynamic city with a global reputation and



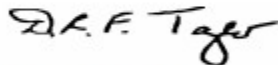
FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

PROPOSAL FOR **OTTAWA**

entrepreneurial spirit that is well aligned with the open source geospatial community.

We hope the Conference Committee agrees that Ottawa is the ideal location for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference. We are one of many organizations looking forward with great anticipation to your decision. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Sincerely,



D. R. F. Taylor
Chancellor's Distinguished Research Professor and
Director, Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre

FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA

to: Eli Adam <eadam@co.lincoln.or.us>
cc Dave McIlhagga <dmcilhagga@mapsherpa.com>

Sunday October 18, 2015

Eli Adam
FOSS4G Conference Committee Chair

Dear Mr. Adam:

On behalf of MapSherpa, I would like to extend our support for Ottawa, Canada as the host venue for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference.

MapSherpa, better known within the open source community as DM Solutions Group, has contributed to open source technology since 2000 including some of the earliest contributions to MapServer, GDAL and OGR, among many others. The company has also been very active in developing the open source geospatial community in Ottawa, in Canada, and around the world.

Ottawa is one of the early hubs of open source geospatial technology development, through the direct contributions of several local companies, academia, and individuals as well as adoption by many public, private, non-profit, and academic organizations. We are thrilled to support bringing the most significant open source geospatial technology conference - FOSS4G - to Ottawa, one of the first hosts of a cross-community open source geospatial conference in 2004.

We hope the Conference Committee agrees that Ottawa is the ideal location for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference. We are one of many organizations looking forward with great anticipation to your decision. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Sincerely,



Dave McIlhagga
CEO
MapSherpa

FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

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ecere.ca

347 rue Dr.-J.-Cousineau
Gatineau, Québec
819 663-8539 J8R 1C4

Sunday, October 18, 2015

To:

*Eli Adam
FOSS4G Conference Committee Chair*

Dear Mr. Adam,

On behalf of Ecere Corporation, I would like to extend our support for Ottawa, Canada as the host city for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference.

At Ecere Corporation, our mission is providing high quality innovative software solutions and advance the adoption of open-source software and its philosophy of collaboration. Over the last two decades we have developed and released open-source a cross-platform Software Development Kit, including a 2D & 3D graphics engine, a GUI toolkit, an IDE and a compiler for the eC programming language which we designed.

Following many years of experience working on mapping software for mission-critical systems, we have embarked on a quest to build from the ground up a complete high performance cartographic & 3D geospatial visualization, map processing & client/server software stack, and we hope to also release it to the open-source community, and thus advance the state of the art.

After a great first experience at FOSS4G Seoul 2015, we are looking forward to showcase our technology here at home in Ottawa and connect with partners and the open-source geospatial community in the Ottawa area, in Canada and all over the world.

Ecere Corporation is very pleased at the prospect of supporting a FOSS4G Conference in Ottawa. It is a vibrant and dynamic city with a global reputation and entrepreneurial spirit that is well aligned with the open source geospatial community. The ease of traveling to Ottawa from anywhere on the East Coast and from major European and Asian cities, its gorgeous weather and colorful scenery in the fall, its museums, and its many great restaurants to explore would make it very memorable for all attendees.

We hope the Conference Committee agrees that Ottawa is the ideal location for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference. We are one of many organizations looking forward with great anticipation to your decision. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Sincerely,

Jérôme Jacovella-St-Louis
Founder & CTO
Ecere Corporation



FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA

to: Eli Adam <eadam@co.lincoln.or.us>
cc Dave McIlhagga <dmcilhagga@mapsherpa.com>

October 19, 2015

Eli Adam
FOSS4G Conference Committee Chair

Dear Mr. Adam:

On behalf of SmartPointGeo, I would like to extend our support for Ottawa, Canada as the host venue for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference.

As a young geospatial startup involved in indoor location applications we rely on the diverse group of entrepreneurs, developers and scientists that create open source geospatial as we advance our technology. The opportunity for face-to-face discussions and a forum to learn from a wide variety of perspectives will have an enormous impact on the local community that will pay dividends in enthusiasm and new ideas long after the conference has ended.

SmartPointGeo is very pleased at the prospect of supporting a FOSS4G Conference in Ottawa. It is a vibrant and dynamic city with a global reputation and entrepreneurial spirit that is well aligned with the open source geospatial community.

With excellent national and international rail and air transportation options, Ottawa is an easy destination for the Eastern half of North America and beyond. Ottawa and nearby Montreal airports provide direct flights to Europe. As a national capital, it boasts the connections and amenities of a much larger city while maintaining a friendly, walkable downtown core that blends beautiful natural features with plenty of accommodation, restaurants and cultural attractions. With two universities as well as several federal government departments related to geospatial, there is a large pool of attendees that may not have attended previous FOSS4G conferences.

A decade ago, Ottawa was a key player in the emergence of core open source geospatial software projects like GDAL and Mapserver. Bringing the conference back to the movement's roots would be a fitting celebration of our origins as we explore what comes next.

We hope the Conference Committee agrees that Ottawa is the ideal location for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference. We are one of many organizations looking forward with great anticipation to your decision. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Sincerely,

Zachary James
SmartPointGeo

FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA

to: Eli Adam <eadam@co.lincoln.or.us>
cc Dave McIlhagga <dmcilhagga@mapsherpa.com>

October 19, 2015

Eli Adam
FOSS4G Conference Committee Chair

Dear Mr. Adam:

On behalf of the Canadian Institute of Geomatics, I would like to extend our support for Ottawa, Canada as the host venue for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference. The Canadian Institute of Geomatics (CIG) is the Canadian not-for-profit association that represents the interests of all groups in the geomatics community and is the Canadian member to the International Federation of Surveying (FIG), the International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) and the International Cartographic Association (ICA). The goals of the CIG are:

- to advance the development of geomatics sciences in Canada;
- to enhance public awareness on the role geomatics plays in their daily lives;
- to maintain a publication of record of the history, development and progress of geomatics in Canada;
- to further the professional development of its members;
- to foster cooperation between and promote unity of purpose and action among Canadian geomatics organizations;
- to internationally represent and promote Canadian interests in geomatics;
- to provide a forum for professional networking through information exchanges, communications and publications.

The FOSS4G conference is important to the CIG because it allows the geospatial and geomatics communities to be linked. This makes the conference a great place to share ideas and showcase results of research and technology advances in the geospatial and geomatics communities. Also, the conference allows colleagues from both communities to network and provide joint learning opportunities.

The Canadian Institute of Geomatics is very pleased at the prospect of supporting a FOSS4G Conference in Ottawa. Ottawa is a vibrant and dynamic city with a global reputation and entrepreneurial spirit that is well aligned with the open source geospatial and geomatics communities. Ottawa will be a great city to hold the FOSS4G conference because:

- IT IS CENTRALLY LOCATED TO MAJOR CITIES ON THE EAST COAST INCLUDING GOOD RAIL CONNECTIONS
- IT HAS GOOD FLIGHT CONNECTIONS WITH MAJOR EUROPEAN AND ASIAN CITIES
- IT IS A LARGE METROPOLITAN AREA WITH PLENTY OF ACCOMMODATIONS IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE VENUE
- WITH OTTAWA BEING CANADA'S CAPITAL CITY, FEDERAL AGENCY STAFF ARE A



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- LARGE AND SIGNIFICANT POTENTIAL AUDIENCE GROUP THAT WILL BE LOCAL
- OTTAWA IS A VERY WALKABLE CITY WITH AN EXCELLENT PUBLIC TRANSIT SYSTEM AS WELL AS EXTENSIVE WALKING AND BIKESHARE NETWORK
 - OTTAWA HAS A RICH ARRAY OF CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS INCLUDING MUSEUMS, THEATRE AND HISTORICAL SITES
 - THERE ARE SEVERAL THOUSAND RESTAURANTS AND BARS TO EXPLORE
 - OTTAWA HAS GREAT WEATHER AND IS BEAUTIFUL IN THE FALL

We hope the Conference Committee agrees that Ottawa is the ideal location for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference. We are one of many organizations looking forward with great anticipation to your decision. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Sincerely,

John Donner,
Chair, Canadian Institute of Geomatics,
Ottawa Branch

FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

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Cardinalus Corporate Consulting Inc.
RR# 5 6800 Dwyer Hill Road
Smiths Falls (Ottawa), ON CANADA K1Y 1P4

Tel: +1 (613) 513-5106
Email: dennis@cardinalus.com

19 October 2015

Dear Mr. Adam:

On behalf of Cardinalus Corporate Consulting, I would like to extend our support for Ottawa, Canada as the host venue for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference.

We are an Ottawa-based company providing technology commercialization and implementation expertise with a focus on geospatial technologies. Our clientele is primarily within the commercial sector both locally and internationally. Open source technologies are increasingly important in our client interactions. FOSS4G in Ottawa in 2017 would be tremendously valuable to Cardinalus and some of our clients as a forum for learning and networking. We would consider the opportunity to collaborate with a client to demonstrate how we are implementing open source technologies in business.

Cardinalus is very pleased at the prospect of supporting a FOSS4G Conference in Ottawa. It is a vibrant and dynamic city with a global reputation and entrepreneurial spirit that is well aligned with the open source geospatial community. Ottawa is an attractive destination for conferences. It has good accessibility, offers excellent event facilities and has many extra-curricular amenities that will appeal to both FOSS4G attendees and non-participating partners and families. As Canada's capital city, this include both historical and cultural institutions as well as many urban natural features as well as close by destinations.

We hope the Conference Committee agrees that Ottawa is the ideal location for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference. We are one of many organizations looking forward with great anticipation to your decision. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Sincerely,

Dennis Nazarenko
President

FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA



Mapgears Inc
930 rue Jacques-Cartier E
suite D-518
Chicoutimi, QC G7H 7K9

Tel: +1 (418) 696-5056
Toll Free: 1-888-696-5056

Mapgears Québec
2383 chemin Ste-Foy,
suite 202
Québec, QC G1V 1T1

Tel: +1 (418) 476-7139
Toll Free: 1-888-696-5056

Mapgears Ottawa
1792 Courtwood Cres
Ottawa, ON K2C 2B5

Tel: +1 613.454.6000
Toll Free: 1-888-696-5056

Ottawa, October 19, 2015

Mr. Eli Adam
FOSS4G Conference Committee Chair

Dear Mr. Adam:

On behalf of Mapgears Inc, I would like to extend our support for Ottawa, Canada as the host venue for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference.

As you are well aware I am sure, members of Mapgears team have been active in the development of MapServer, GDAL/OGR, OpenLayers and other projects and committees of the Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo) since long before OSGeo was even created. As charter members of OSGeo and active players in the OSGeo community, we are also active participants in the annual FOSS4G conference each year, and Mapgears has also been showing its support as sponsor (when practical) for several editions of the conference.

For us, FOSS4G is the official "gathering of the tribes", an invaluable networking opportunity to meet and maintain contact with the rest of the development and users community. In addition to the social aspects, it is also the place to be to learn about the latest developments of the OSGeo projects and to get a feel of the future trends and advances of the geospatial industry.

The team at Mapgears is very pleased at the prospect of the FOSS4G conference being held in Ottawa. The city was the home of the second MapServer Users Meeting (MUM) in 2004, also known as OSGIS'04. Anyone who attended the 2004 event will tell you how much of a success it was, and how it set a standard for future events in what would eventually become the FOSS4G series in 2006. The event has been a great eye opener for several people from the GIS industry in general, and several individuals who were exposed to Open Source geospatial for the first time in Ottawa in 2004 are still active in OSGeo today.

Ottawa is a vibrant and dynamic city with a global reputation and entrepreneurial spirit that is well aligned with the open source geospatial community. It has all the attributes that one would expect from a world class FOSS4G host city including great flight connections with North American, European and Asian cities; a large metropolitan area with plenty of accommodations of all prices in close proximity; a nice clean and safe walkable downtown area with great food, drinking and meeting places for all tastes; and finally some great parks, bike trails and outdoors space for those who need to get some fresh air.

A FOSS4G hosted in Ottawa will for sure attract a large local audience from the federal government as well as from geomatics and technology companies in the Ottawa Valley. The city is also in a central location that will make it easy for people from the East Coast to attend, not only from Canada but also from the US.

While this letter is not written on behalf of the OSGeo-Quebec local chapter, as a co-founder and an active member of this chapter I am convinced that the OSGeo-Quebec community will join and contribute to the success of FOSS4G 2017 if it is held in Ottawa.

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Finally, I would like to add that OSGeo is very fortunate that some former members of the OSGIS 2004 organizing committee accepted to join the Ottawa 2017 team, including David Mcilhagga who was chair in 2004 and is willing to take on the challenge one more time. Some may wonder why he accepted and if he really forgot how much work organizing a FOSS4G can be, but at least from the OSGeo and organizational standpoint you can be assured that he knows what FOSS4G is about and what he is getting into.

Plus, let's face it, the last time FOSS4G was held in Canada was in Victoria in 2007, so it's about time that we bring it back to Canada ... 10 years later.

We hope the Conference Committee agrees that Ottawa is the ideal location for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference. We are one of many organizations looking forward with great anticipation to your decision. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Sincerely,



Daniel Morissette, President
Mapgears Inc
1792 Courtwood Cres
Ottawa, ON K2C 2B5
Tel: +1 613-454-6000 #201
dmorissette@mapgears.com

FOSS4G GLOBAL 2017

PROPOSAL FOR OTTAWA

ASG Mapping

Enterprise-ready geospatial data

www.asgmapping.com
100 Gloucester St., Suite 323
Ottawa, ON K2P 0A4
regie.alam@asgmapping.com

19 October 2015

Dear Mr. Adam:

On behalf of ASG Mapping Ltd., I would like to extend our support for Ottawa, Canada as the host venue for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference.

ASG Mapping Ltd. is an Ottawa-based company poised to be a player in the next evolution of geomatics and GIS which includes the shift to 3D and the impending digitalization of all data including geospatial. The company does this by using a variety of sensors and platforms including mobile, satellite, and Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) to collect data for a variety of industries (civil engineering, infrastructure, environmental, agriculture). The company also has expertise in the analysis of these data to provide actionable information.

ASG Mapping Ltd. is very pleased at the prospect of having the 2017 FOSS4G conference here in Ottawa for two main reasons. First, we use open source hardware and software for our UAS flight controller. We also use a variety of open source software and tools to process our data. Second, we have worked with a number of local nonprofit and community organizations and they have realized that geo is a necessary framework and tool for them. It will be a tremendous opportunity for these local organizations to be able to directly participate and be exposed to open source software and to the open source community.

We are confident that Ottawa will be a great host to the 2017 FOSS4G conference. The city offers world class conference facilities that can support the projected high number of attendees. It is relatively compact with all accommodations, amenities, and cultural attractions within walking distance or a short drive away. Ottawa is also one of the safest capital cities in the world.

We hope the Conference Committee agrees that Ottawa is the ideal location for the 2017 FOSS4G Conference. We are one of many organizations looking forward with great anticipation to your decision. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Sincerely,



Regie Alam
President