

ATLAS OF CANADA AND ATLAS OF SASKATCHEWAN: EXAMPLES OF NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL ATLASES

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Canada is entering a second century of atlas making tradition. The National Atlas of Canada published its 1st Edition in 1906, while Provincial and Regional atlases started to appear in the 1960s. The 20th century closed with the publication of the 2nd Edition of the Atlas of Saskatchewan and launching of The National Atlas of Canada, 6th Edition on-line.

The two atlases are representative examples of Canadian cartographic development. Both atlases adopted similar philosophy and applied state of the art digital technology to map design and production. Following the publication of paper products, other media including CD-ROMs are explored. At the same time, implementation of electronic versions with Internet access to atlas databases and interactive mapping capabilities is in progress.

The process of making atlases accessible over the Internet offers opportunities for partnerships between Provincial and National Atlases, as well as for participation in building the Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure. CGDI is a high-profile federal-provincial-territorial government, private and academic sector initiative to develop the geographic information lane of the Information Highway. CGDI strives to provide Canadians on-demand access to geospatial information, technologies and services through an inter-connected network of data, services and technology suppliers.

This presentation will highlight recent developments concerning the Atlas of Saskatchewan and the Atlas of Canada. Examples will be provided to illustrate approaches to the content development, cartographic challenges associated with regional and national map scales, and different media formats. The presentation will also include current and future plans for mutual and CGDI partnerships between the two atlases.

Conference topic addressed: **National and Regional Atlases**