Policy GOV-002-034 Open Data

Report Purpose
To provide Council with a proposed Open Data policy.

Recommendation
THAT Policy GOV-002-034 Open Data be approved.

Council History
December 10, 2013 - THAT Council approve the 2014 Consolidated Operating Budget for Municipal, Utility, Library and Pioneer Housing Foundation Operations

February 25, 2014 – THAT Council approve the allocation of $100,000 from the Future Municipal Operating Reserve 1.3755 to fund the 2014 portion of the Open Data Fund resource requirement.

December 2, 2014 - THAT Council direct Administration to remove the Open Data Project from the deferral list and continue with ongoing funding and resourcing into 2015.

December 9, 2014 – THAT Council approve the 2015 Consolidated Operating Budget for Municipal, Utility, Library and Pioneer Housing Foundation Operations.

Strategic Plan Priority Areas
The Open Data Portal supports a number of Council Strategic Goals, including:
Economy: Internal efficiencies, innovation in service delivery, and complimentary economic benefits of local entrepreneurship.
Governance: Supports the accessibility, accountability and transparency of reporting to the public.
Social: Sharing the data that supports decision making encourages citizen engagement and improves outcomes.
Culture: Openness of reporting creates a culture of sharing and trust; both within the organization and the community at large.
Environment: Reuse of public information can reduce the environmental impact of other data collection alternatives.

Other Impacts
Policy: n/a
Legislative/Legal: Section 5 of the Municipal Government Act provides that a municipality has the duties that the municipality imposes on itself as a matter of policy.
Interdepartmental: This is a cross-department initiative involving all County departments.

Summary
An Open Data policy will support the Strathcona County Business Data Solutions program and our obligation to be open and transparent. Our Open Data policy is based solidly on Open Data principles that are respected and adopted by jurisdictions globally. Adopting the proposed Open Data policy would reinforce our commitment to the Business Data Solutions program and put us on equal footing with the rest of the Open Data community.

Enclosure
   1   Policy GOV-002-034 Open Data
   2   Open Data Policy Presentation