#### national spatial data infrastructure training program

# Geographic Metadata North American Profile Development for ISO 19115 Geographic Metadata

An overview of US and Canadian efforts to adapt and implement the International Standardization Organization geospatial metadata standard for use by the North American geographic community





### Learning Objectives

#### After completing this lesson the participant can:

- Outline the relationship between the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC)
- Discuss the general content and application of the ISO 19115 Geographic Metadata Standard
- Explain what is meant by an ISO 19115 'Community Profile'
- Summarize the participants, methods and processes used to develop the North American Profile of ISO 19115



#### What is the ISO?

## The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is a:

- network of national standards institutes of 157 countries
  - American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is the US member of ISO
- non-governmental organization
- public/private partnership
- consensus-building body tasked with meeting the standardization requirements of business and society

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#### What is the ISO?

#### **ISO Technical Committees:**

- perform the work of standards development
- are staffed by volunteers from public and private sectors
- are assigned to specific thematic areas

TC 8: Ships and marine technology

TC 38: Textiles

TC 92: Fire safety

TC 147: Water Quality

TC 211: Geographic information / Geomatics

TC 234: Fisheries and Aquaculture



#### Goal of ISO TC 211

#### Establish a family of international standards that:

- support understanding and use of geographic information
- increase the availability, access, integration and sharing of geographic information
- enable interoperability of geospatial enabled computer systems
- ease the establishment of Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDIs) on local, regional and global levels



#### **ANSI's INCITS-L1**

US International Committee for Information Technology Standards L1 Technical Committee – GIS

- charged with adopting or adapting information technology standards and developing digital geographic data standards that are relevant to Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- accredited by, and operates under rules approved by, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)



#### **FGDC**

US Federal Geographic Data Committee

- develops federal geospatial data standards for implementing the NSDI in consultation and cooperation with State, local, and tribal governments, the private sector and academic community, and, to the extent feasible, the international community
- also a member of INCIT-L1 and contributes to international standards development



#### CGSB-CoG

Canadian General Standards Board – Committee on Geomatics

- ► TC211 delegate of the Standards Council of Canada (SCC)
- Standards Council of Canada (SCC) tasked to establish national standards and to act as the Canadian voice on international standards bodies such as ISO and ITU

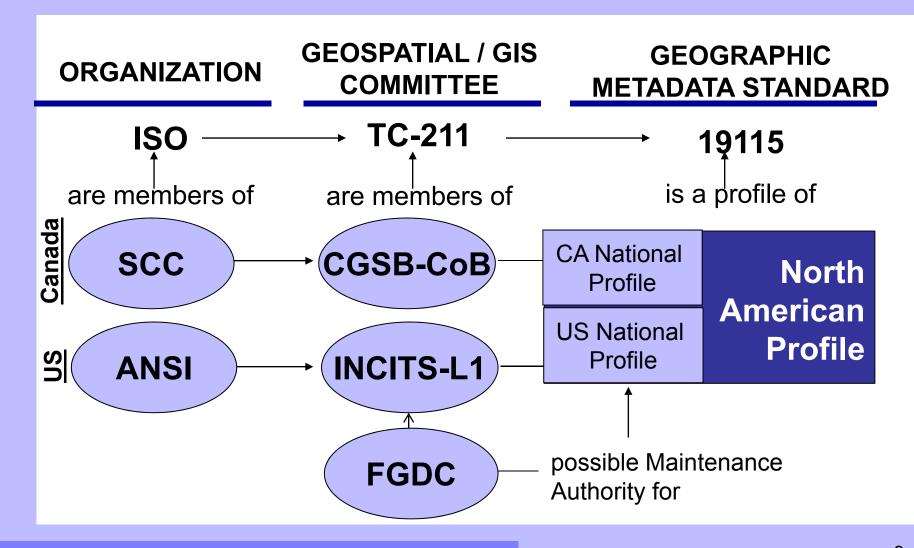


#### **Mexico and the Caribbean**

- Mexico has developed a Draft National Profile of ISO 19115
  - INCITS L1 and the NAP editing team reviewed the profile. The Mexico
- Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) is leading the work for a Latin America Metadata Profile, LAMP, for Latin America
- The Caribbean is working on a Profile
- South American Countries in the Andes region are developing a metadata profile.



## ISO, TC211, ANSI and FGDC





#### ISO 1900 Series of Standards

#### ISO 19000 Series:

#### **Geographic Information / Geomatics**

- a series of standards which addresses geographic information including
  - ► ISO 19110
    Geographic Information Feature Cataloging
  - ► ISO 19115 Geographic Information - Metadata.
  - ► ISO 19136 Geographic Information - Geographic Markup Language
  - ► ISO 19139 Geographic Information Metadata XML Schema Implementation



### Why ISO 19115?

#### ISO 19115 Implementation Goals

Establish an international, multilingual framework to:

- provide appropriate information to characterize geographic data properly
- facilitate the organization and management of geographic information
- enable users to efficiently apply geographic data by knowing the data basic characteristics
- enable users to locate, access, evaluate, deliver, and integrate geographic data



#### Provides a schema for describing:

- geospatial web services
- individual dataset descriptions
- data catalogs
- clearinghouse activities

#### Applies to multiple levels of geographic information:

- datasets
- dataset series
- individual data features
- individual feature properties (attributes)



## Provides information about the geographic data or service :

- identification
- extent
- quality
- spatial schema
- temporal schema
- spatial reference
- distribution



Defines a core set of metadata required to serve the full range of applications:

- data discovery
- fitness for use
- data access
- data transfer
- application of data



#### **Establishes:**

- terminology
- definitions
- conditionality
  - mandatory
  - conditional
  - optional
- a method for extending the metadata record to address specialized or custom needs



## Why ISO 19115?

## Compared to the Content Standard for Digital Geographic Metadata (CSDGM) ISO 19115:

- can be applied to a wider range of geographic products
- provides a greater number of open domains and optional elements to support greater flexibility in describing geographic products
- utilizes a more complex structure to better address the many facets of geographic products



#### Is organized into:

#### **ISO 19115**

- classes
- subclasses
- attributes

domains



#### **CSDGM**

- sections
- compound elements
- elements
- domains

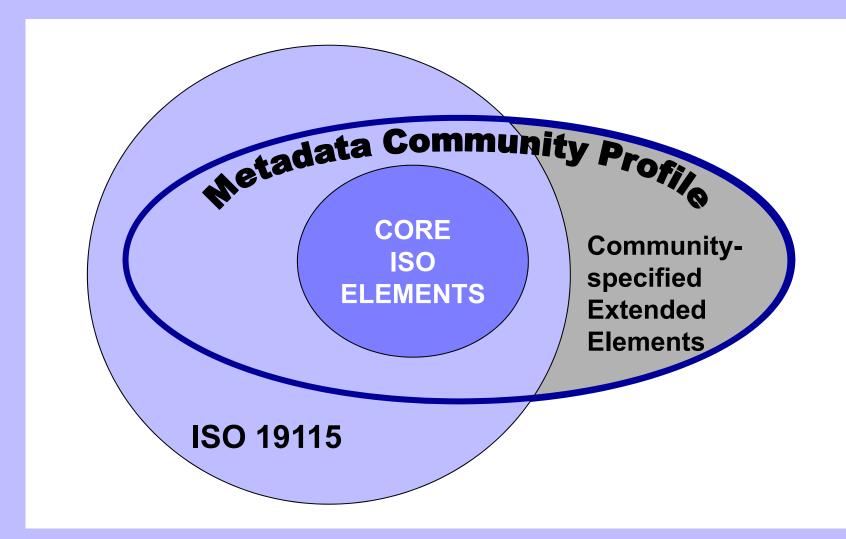


#### What is an ISO 19115 Profile?

#### A custom implementation of ISO 19115 that:

- adopts the 22 ISO 'core' metadata for geographic datasets
- removes ISO optional components that do not apply to the community
- increases the obligation of ISO 'optional' elements of strong significance to the community
- creates new metadata entities, sections or elements to improve characterization of community geospatial data or services
- adds to or amends the domain of an existing ISO element to include community specific descriptors







#### What is a Profile 'Community'?

Any group of individuals or organizations that share a common interest such as:

- nationality or other administrative unit
- geography
- professional disciplinary
- data theme
- geospatial application or service



## What are the obligations associated with the creation of a community profile?

- check the ISO 19115 profile registry before creating a new profile to ensure that a suitable profile has not already been created
- adhere to the rules laid out by ISO
- do not change the name, definition, or data type of an existing ISO metadata element
- register their final profile with ISO
- maintain the profile



#### The US National Profile

#### Goal of the US National Profile

Meet the geographic metadata implementation needs of the US through the development of a Profile guidance document

#### Objectives of the US National Profile

- determine the metadata content necessary to fully support the documentation needs of the US geospatial community
- coordinate content and publication with the Canadian National Profile so that a common, North American Profile, is established



#### The North American Profile

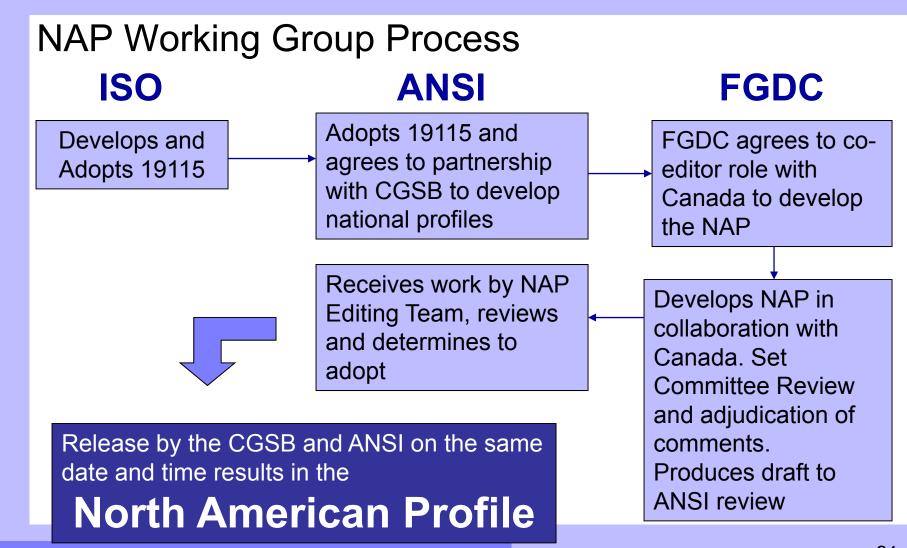
#### Methods and Approach

Canada and the US agreed to the following:

- add no new attributes (elements) to the standard
- increase conditionality for those attributes deemed critical
- modify codelists (fixed domains) to reflect USA/CAN geospatial activities and applications
- create new codelist for free text elements that were relatively standard in the USA and CAN
- modify/simplify UML diagrams
- establish best practices to guide metadata content for specific attributes



#### The North American Profile





### Summary

#### The North American Profile of ISO 19115

- represents a cooperative effort between the US and Canada to establish a common geographic metadata standard that meets the needs of both nations
- supports the same goal and objectives as the ISO 19115 Geographic Metadata Standard
- ▶ is fully compliant with the ISO 19115 Geographic Metadata Standard
- follows ISO rules for the development of a community profile
- closely resembles the CSDGM in content but has a more complex, robust, structure



#### Summary

## This is the conclusion of: ISO North Amercian Profile Development" You should be able to:

- Outline the relationship between the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC)
- Discuss the general content and application of the ISO 19115 Geographic Metadata Standard
- Explain what is meant by an ISO 19115 'Community Profile'
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#### Other Lessons

Geographic Metadata

What is Metadata

Value of Metadata

More metadata lessons coming soon.