

ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY GROUNDWATER DATA – A GEOPORTAL FOR CENTRAL ONTARIO

Over the past fifteen years the Oak Ridges Moraine Groundwater Program (ORMGWP) has assembled a comprehensive groundwater focused database. The assembled data is wide ranging and includes geological, hydrogeological, climatic and surface water related information that has been used by technical staff from the thirteen partnered agencies (municipalities and conservation authorities) to drive improved decision making in central Ontario.

During 2016, a passworded website was launched that allows for easier access to the information housed in the database by less technical (non-hydrogeologists) staff. This has led to discussions regarding as to whether the data should be made more widely accessible to the broader consulting community and the general public. One consideration currently being assessed is that of extending a “membership” service to the consulting community in a two-way data exchange program.

A significant advantage of greater accessibility to the program’s data would be that more eyes would be looking at the program’s data, and with the right mechanisms in place, this could serve to assist staff in improving the overall quality of the data. This presentation will showcase the current web-based data access platform and discuss the future pathways for the program.