Electronic Resources to the Desktop: An Operating Concept

Creating an information policy instrument for the Government of Canada

An Operating Concept for a Shared Services Approach to Delivering Commercial Electronic Resources to the Desktops within the Government of Canada

2006

Peter Brandon Ross Gordon

Executive Summary

Context

- We obtained MGI Policy Implementation Fund (Intake 2) resources to develop an operating and governance model for a shared services approach to delivering commercial electronic resources (e-Resources) to the desktop within GoC
- The key objective of the project and the operating concept described in this document – is to place the delivery of commercial electronic resources which contribute to better policy-making, operations and services to Canadians on a more equitable, cost-effective and productive basis within the GoC

Ultimate objective

- The ultimate objective is the development of a practical blueprint for an essential information policy vehicle for the Government of Canada: a tool that makes access to essential policy and operational information more equitable
- Using such a vehicle, uneven financial endowment among federal government institutions will no longer create have and have-not divides when it comes to access to essential information needed to develop good policy and to provide excellent services to Canadians.

Executive Summary: Vision

The Shared GoC e-Resources to the Desktop initiative provides federal libraries and their clients with a range of specialized shared services for electronic desktop resources.

Its value lies in making access to these resources more equitable, cost-effective and productive for federal employees serving Canadians, while contributing to the government's information policy goals and objectives.

Executive Summary: Operating Model

Shared e-Resources to the Desktop

Electronic Desktop Resources (e-Resources)

Commercial electronic information products for which:

•there is a critical mass of usage and users across many GoC institutions; and •their access and usage needs can reasonably be accommodated through a common GoC-wide license

Shared Centre of Expertise Services

Shared Licensing Services
(Specialized shared services in respect of RFP
preparation and evaluation, award/licensing, and license
management for "critical mass" electronic desktop
products for use by GoC employees)

Shared License Administration Services
(Specialized shared administration services aiming to achieve a streamlined and efficient one-invoice service for licensed electronic desktop products)

Shared Delivery/Support Services

Shared Delivery Services
(Can range from the use of a common interface to a common delivery platform, for instance, through the use of Publiservice as a delivery infrastructure to GoC users)

Shared User Support Services
(Can range from selective shared Help Desks to a single
Help Desk for all licensed products. Vendors would
continue to provide product-specific support)

Federal Libraries

GoC Employees

Executive Summary: Funding Model

- Model 1 (Buying club approach):
 - No central funding
 - The objective is to get the best price
 - Libraries pay for their desktop e-resources and take advantage of greater discounts because of larger aggregated purchasing power
- Model 2 (Central Funding):
 - Libraries do not pay anything
 - Central government funding (e.g., from TBS, PWGSC, LAC) covers the purchasing of <u>all</u> shared desktop e-resources
 - This is similar to the Electronic Media Monitoring approach currently in place in respect of use of electronic media information by federal departments

Recommended Model

Model 3 (Shared Funding):

- There is some central funding
- Libraries contribute to match central funding
- Prices reflect greater discounts because of larger aggregated purchasing power

Operating Concept: Commercial Desktop Resources Targeted

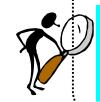
through license arrangements with electron desktop resources used by GoC institution can be viewed through three or our purposes, commercial electronic lenses: oublishers

Best suited for GoC-wide arrangements

There is a critical mass of usage and users across many GoC institutions, and their access and usage needs can reasonably be accommodated through a common license. An untapped user base is also likely to be reached with a GoC-wide license, with beneficial results for Canadians (Shared GoC Desktop e-Resources)

Critical mass of actual and potential users across GoC and common licensing conditions

Best suited for Specialized Consortia/Clusters arrangements



Usage is quite significant, but confined to specialized pockets of users (S&T, Health, International affairs, etc.)

Usage is confined to specialized groups, most already organized in functioning consortia or clusters

Best suited for one-of arrangements

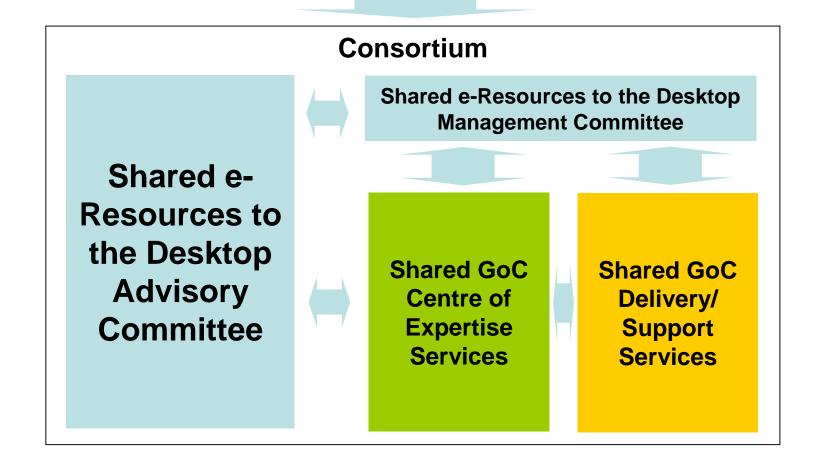


Usage is generally sparse (e.g., exotica)

No critical mass of users across GoC or difficult to accommodate needs through common licensing conditions

Executive Summary: Governance Model

Federal Libraries Steering Committee + Clusters + Senior PWGSC Representation



Executive Summary: Moving Forward

Phased approach

- Phase I Outcome: Establishment of the shared centre of expertise
- Phase II Outcome: Consolidation of the shared centre of expertise and establishment of the shared delivery and support capability

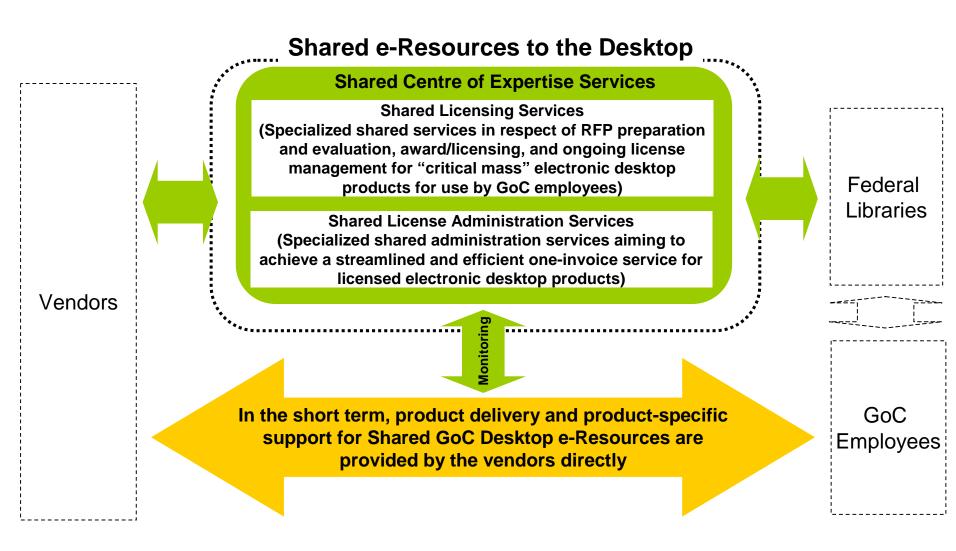
Strategy

- Business-case-guided approach (i.e., follow the trail that leads to the highest payoffs in the shortest time-frames and at the lowest risk)
- Focus on electronic resources with the highest impacts in terms of:
 - Economic, policy and operating benefits for GoC institutions
 - GoC-wide policy, coherence and operating benefits
 - Information policy benefits for the information policy centres (LAC, TBS, PWGSC)
- Partnership between information policy centres (LAC, TBS, PWGSC) and federal libraries and their consortia and clusters
- Risk-aware, sustainability-seeking, incremental approach

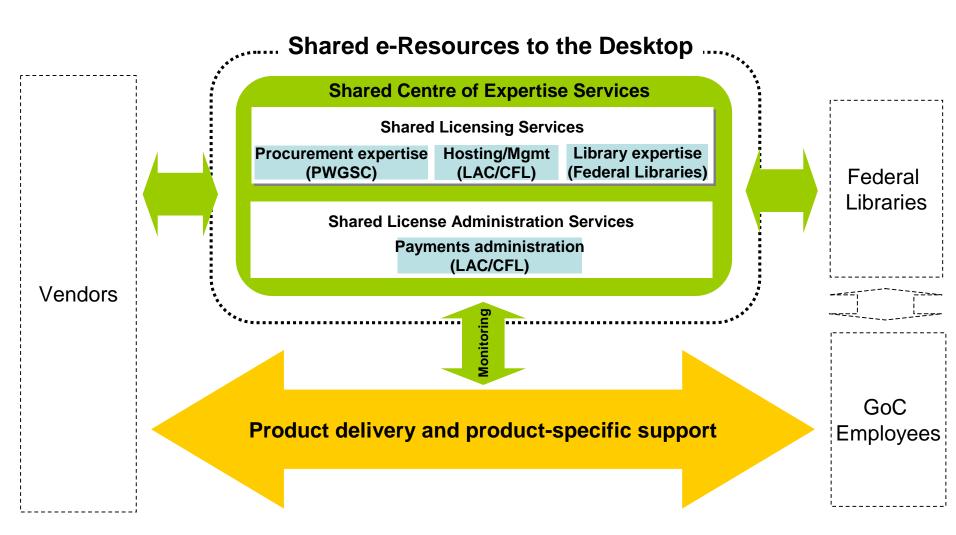
Next steps

- Carry out an inventory to identify a provisional set of candidates for Shared GoC Desktop e-Resources
- Flesh out the Business Case
- Engage key stakeholders through a core group
- Refine and Finalize this Operating Concept

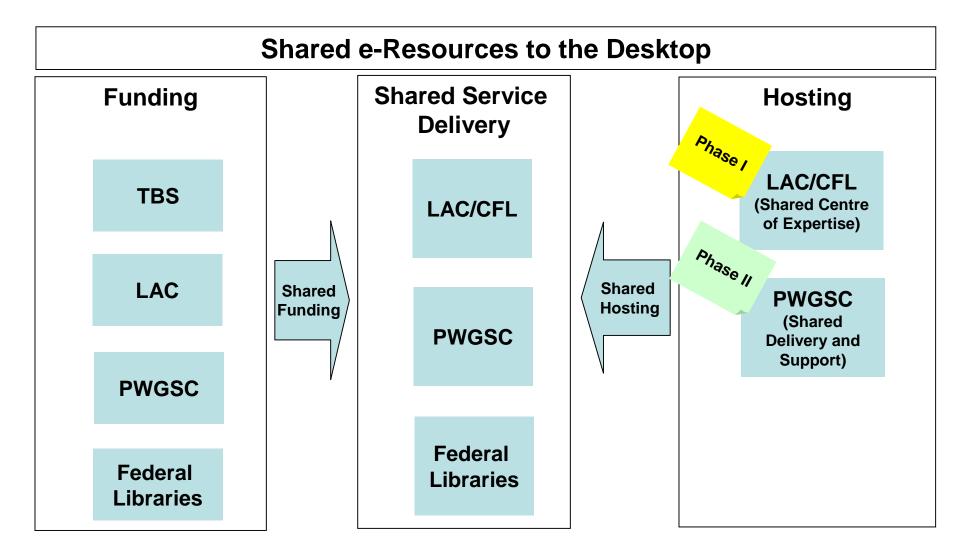
Operating Concept: Short Term Operating Model



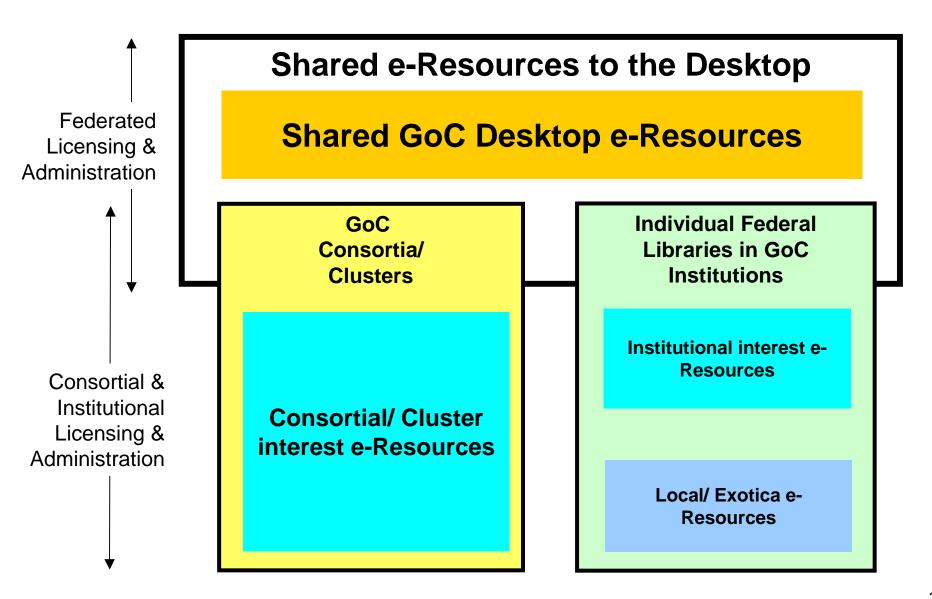
Operating Concept: Key Elements of Short Term Model



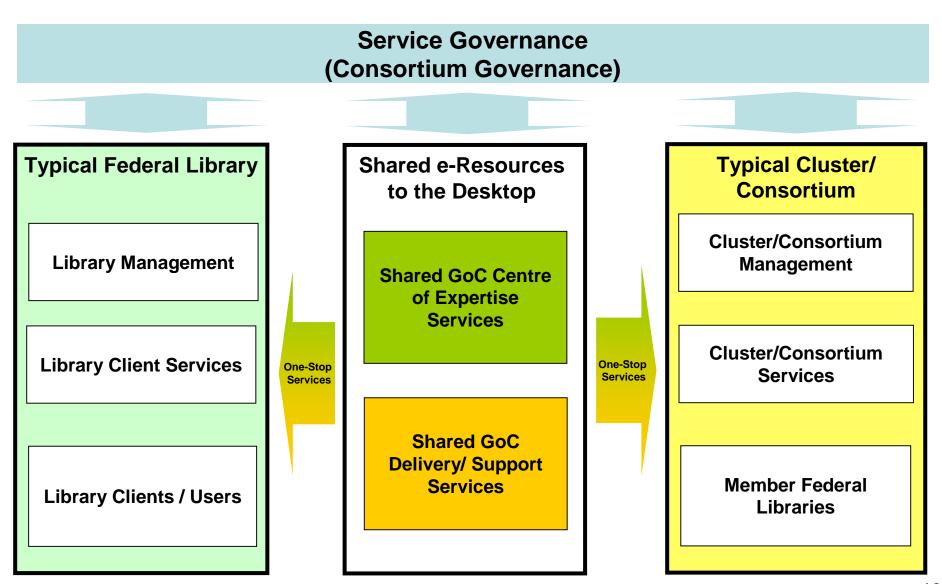
Operating Concept: Key Players and Relationships



Operating Concept: Relationships with Consortia/Clusters and Libraries



Operating Concept: Service Relationships & Service Governance



Moving Forward: Phasing and Strategy Proposed

Phased approach

- Phase I Outcome: Establishment of the shared centre of expertise
- Phase II Outcome: Consolidation of the shared centre of expertise and establishment of the shared delivery and support capability

Strategy

- Business-case-guided approach (i.e., follow the trail that leads to the highest payoffs in the shortest time-frames and at the lowest risk)
- Focus on electronic resources with the highest impacts in terms of:
 - Economic, policy and operating benefits for GoC institutions
 - GoC-wide policy, coherence and operating benefits
 - Information policy benefits for the information policy centres (LAC, TBS, PWGSC)
- Partnership between information policy centres (LAC, TBS, PWGSC)
 and federal libraries and their consortia and clusters
- Risk-aware, sustainability-seeking, incremental approach

•Focused on leveraging GoC-wide demand and supplying one-stop, specialized, value-added desktop e-resources-

Preliminary Draft

For Discussions Only

Wiodei.	related services to federal libraries, consortia, clusters and their clients in the GoC
Key Shared Services Provided:	 Shared Centre of Expertise Shared licensing & license management (cost-effective GoC-wide licenses, leveraging entire GoC buying power, for equitable use by all public servants who benefit from them) Shared payments administration (administrative streamlining and cost efficiencies) Shared Delivery & Support Delivery to the desktop Users support
Funding Model:	Shared funding between policy centres and departments Central funding component (sources: TBS, LAC, PWGSC) Institutional funding component (source: Federal Libraries)

Type of Desktop

Operating

 Electronic desktop resources where there is a critical mass of users and usage across federal government institutions Resources Access and usage needs can reasonably be accommodated through a common license **Targeted:** •An untapped user base is also likely to be reached with a GoC-wide license, with beneficial economic, policy and program results

Key Partnerships:	 Funding: TBS, LAC, PWGSC, Federal Libraries Hosting: LAC/CFL (Centre of Expertise); PWGSC (Delivery & Support) Operations: LAC/CFL, PWGSC, Federal Libraries
Governance Model:	 Make use of existing governance and operating/service structures to the maximum extent possible Adopt Consortium governance, with minor tweaking

- •Inject a "shared services" and "information policy" flavour in the governance processes and outlook surrounding the
- Consortium governance structures **Operational-**Phased approach ization Strategy Phase I tackles the establishment of the Shared Centre of Expertise and Approach: Phase II establishes the Shared Delivery and Support capability Business-Case-guided implementation, focusing on electronic resources and actions with the highest impacts in terms of economics for GoC institutions, GoC-wide policy and operating benefits, and information policy impacts