

**Speaking Points for Sarah Paquet
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Canada**

**CANDEV Data Challenge
Closing Ceremony Remarks**

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University of Ottawa
Learning Crossroads Building
100 Louis-Pasteur**

Introduction

- Glad to be here as Deputy Minister Champion for Ottawa University.
- Champion role is to support research collaboration but also recruitment.
- Appreciate the organization of the event by Ottawa University and Statistics Canada with support of other government partners, including
 - Treasury Board
 - Innovation, Science and Economic Development
 - Fisheries and Oceans
 - Infrastructure
 - RCMP

Why data is important?

- The theme for today's event was unlocking the power of data.
- Why is data so important to us?
- Canadians use data every day for a wide variety of reasons including:
 - Digital collections of archived material;
 - Government open data; and
 - Big data sets for scientific purposes.
- Businesses use data too. Think about the recommendations Netflix gives you on what to watch next based on the data it collects as you make your choices.
- Within the government, deciphering data allows us to do our work smarter, faster and better.
- Data on how Canadians consumes Government services can uncover new insights into how we can evolve our services and more responsive to the needs of Canadians.

- This will allow Canadians to use government services anywhere, anytime with the proper security to gain access to their passport, tax, social services.
- Data can also inform our efforts and help change behaviour in the workplace.
- Using facts to gain employee behavioural insight can have tangible effects in the workplace.
- For example, we just released the most recent Public Service Employee Survey.
- By looking at the results we can see where we can improve employee perceptions and behaviour.
 - Based on feedback, we have taken steps to ensure better communication.
 - Employees have reported steady improvement in communication from senior management.

What is the Government role in being open with our data?

- We must be open by default and give greater access to government data and information to the Canadian public and the business community.
- What is our role in this kind of environment?
- Not to control it, but how can we help manage and direct it.
- Within the Government, we are focusing on:
 - Getting people comfortable with sharing their information
 - Releasing more assets in the Open Government Portal
 - Being open by design

- We are also building privacy and security into the design of the release of data to scan for potential privacy and security issues before it is released.
- We are working on creating automated workflows to facilitate information release.
- One of the benefits of open data is the ability to create applications. You can see some of the apps that have been created on the Open Government Website.
 - The types of apps vary widely from monitors on recalled products, to interactive agricultural climate maps, to wait time at the border.
 - An employee at Shared Services Canada created an iOS app that helps visualize data in the Open Government Portal.
- Government information is in high demand.
 - The Open Government Analytics Dataset shows that SSC alone received over 11,000 downloads in the last 12 months.

About the challenge and experiences gained at the event

- It has been an amazing 24 hours and you have accomplished so much in such a short time frame.
- You were asked to solve a real life problem for a variety of different government partners.
- You needed to come with an open mind to develop an idea, manipulate the data, work with others and communicate your story.
- These are the kinds of skills you need to work in a fast paced, challenging digital environment.
- Even if you don't have a technical back ground you can succeed.

- What you need are the ability to be:
 - Forward thinking
 - Collaborative
 - Curious
 - Creative

- I hope you have all come away with experiences, skills and contacts that will have a lasting impact on you education and career.

- And I look forward to seeing how our partners use the solutions that you have provided them with.