



Lean Project Status Template

Ministry	CITZ	
Branch	Information Access Operations	
Project Name	Review of the Centralized FOI Process	
Project Lead	Kathleen Ward	

Using the language of the customer, how would you define the problem?

Citizen demand for access to information services has steadily increased for the past five years, and this trend is expected to continue. In fiscal 2012/13, government is likely to receive close to 10,000 FOI requests and the highest number to date for general FOI requests. Information Access Operations (IAO) provides centralized FOI and Records Management services to government. The Branch serves both citizens (FOI applicants) and internal customers (government ministries).

The current FOI process is administratively burdensome on both FOI analysts and client ministries. The result for FOI applicants is that they often wait too long to receive responses to FOI requests and the response may not adequately address their concern. As well, government is complex, and it is often difficult for FOI applicants to appropriately identify the correct government ministry that holds the records they are seeking.

In the current process, internal customers (government ministries), spend significant time administering and responding to FOI requests - time that is that not spent fulfilling their core mandates. Some of the administrative tasks, such as collecting records and approving the release of FOI responses involve several transfers, delays and approvals. This slows down the process and creates unnecessary work for ministry staff.

Describe the progress you've made so far? Tell the story using both qualitative and quantitative information.

As you defined, measured and analyzed the problem	Through the Define, Measure, and Analyze phases of the Lean project,
 – what did you find (e.g., what wastes did you 	several different types of waste were identified in the FOI process. Largely,
uncover)?	these focused on the excessive administrative steps that have built up in
	the system over time. In total, 16 areas for improvement were identified
	including:
	✓ Fee estimate
	✓ Intake
	✓ QA review of records
	✓ Quality of incoming request
	✓ Records gathering
	✓ Tracking
	✓ Consultation internal
	✓ Analyst control/delegation
	✓ IM/IT
	✓ Sign-off
	✓ Harm assessment
	✓ Physical file creation
	✓ File assignments
	✓ Formal correspondence
	✓ Reporting
	✓ Publication review





What steps have you taken, or been able to avoid, to improve the situation in terms of time, cost or quality of service?

- What are your high level results so far and what results do you expect?
- How were you able to reallocate resources to other projects or work?

We have been able to reduce our overall steps in the FOI process from 275 activities (steps, transfers, delays and controls) to 198 steps – an improvement of 28%.

Some sub-process improvements include:

- Consultation process 40% reduction in activities
- Open Information publication process a decrease of 14 steps or a 43% improvement for 3 different areas of the process

Quick Wins (by end of calendar year) include:

- No physical file created at Intake
- Call for records handled through centralized team mailbox
- Formal letter converted to email templates

Medium Term Gains (by end of fiscal) include:

- Increased quality of requests through online form, education and more clarification at Intake
- Internal consultation by original analyst
- Reduction in number of Quality Assurance reviews

All of the goals set out in our original Lean submission have been fulfilled. In addition to meeting the goals of our Lean submission, the 25 projects that were initiated out of the Kaizen will either be complete or in the Control phase by March 31, 2013. Staff resources have not been reallocated to other areas, but the improvements enable staff to handle their increasing workloads more effectively and efficiently. The project has also translated into new targetted technology investments that will further support improved business processes.

When do you expect the project to be in the Control phase

This project is in the Control phase now with an expected completion date of March 31, 2013.

Additional Information:

Anecdotes, unexpected outcomes, observations and learnings	Trust the process, trust the people, and don't make assumptions about what is possible or not. At the beginning of our journey we thought there were some things 'off the table'; but by the end we learned that we <i>could</i> bring those things up with our Sponsor and she would support us. The support of our Sponsor was critical to our success.
Client feedback and experiences	Several ministry clients were amazed at how complex our business process was and how many steps were required for each FOI request; our Ministry of Finance client noted that one action item alone has saved her 3 hours per week!
Has this project led you to look at other processes that are related	IAO is continually looking at how to improve processes. More importantly perhaps is that other ministries also want improvement and are initiating projects and consulting/collaborating with the FOI team.
	We are undertaking more Lean projects in other areas of our division (BC Mail) and employees who have been trained in the Green Belt program are leading and supporting these initiatives.
Are you seeing staff practice Lean thinking	Yes, because we already have a strong foundational culture of continuous





	improvement and engaging our staff. We knew that the introduction of a formal 'Lean Process' or as something 'new' would provoke some scepticism and anxiety with staff. We developed change management strategies focusing on support and communication – the Kaizen team also acted as 'ambassadors' which really helped.
Can you provide a quote about the experience?	"We have been engaged in continuous improvement at IAO for the past 2 years and have made substantial improvements to our business processes. I really didn't think that we would find many more substantial improvements through Lean, but, the rigour and structure of Lean provided us with a new set of tools and allowed us to further improve our business processes by 28%" – Brad Williams
Comments /recommendations for future	Learn more about the Kaizen workshop process and implement good change management practices from the start.

Completed by:

Please attach any pictures from the process or graphics that are informative.

Return by March 8, 2013 to katrina@northstarcreativegroup.com





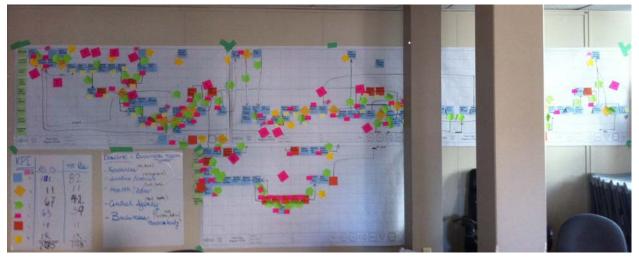


Figure 2 - FOI Current State Process



Figure 3 - FOI Express - Future State Value Process





Lean Project Status Template

Ministry	CITZ (a joint project with Ministry of Social Development)	
Branch	Service BC	
Project Name	pject Name Telephone Service Delivery Strategy	
Project Lead	roject Lead Catherine Wollner	

Using the language of the customer, how would you define the problem?

Research in the area of Citizen-Centred Service Delivery has shown that citizens are generally unhappy with the telephone service provided by the Province. Among the challenges are:

- Long wait times to access resources;
- Multiple phone numbers to access service and options vary region to region;
- Multiple telephony systems with varied operating processes resulting in a disparity in service; and
- Inconsistency with operational processes/practices creating service delivery inequality.

The Ministry of Social Development (MSD) handles the largest volume of calls of any ministry in the public service with over 1 million per year (over 100,000 per month). MSD call centre operations are in five service regions across the province. MSD clients are typically low income or disadvantaged citizens who may be relying on per minute cell phone calling cards to contact the ministry and therefore any delay in processing or waiting time consumes their client's already scarce resources. Client's attempts to contact the ministry are further complicated because of variations in contact numbers from region to region.

Describe the progress you've made so far? Tell the story using both qualitative and quantitative information.

As you defined, measured and analyzed the problem
 what did you find (e.g., what wastes did you
uncover)?

The objective of the Lean project was to validate the Target Operating Model (TOM) developed by CITZ for telephone service delivery, and to develop a plan for implementation.

Approximately two and a half years prior to undertaking this Lean improvement project with MSD, significant steps toward improvement had already begun that included reducing the number of low usage 800 lines (106 lines) and directing callers to the Service BC Contact Centre; developing guidelines for accessing toll-free lines; re-designing the Blue Pages of the telephone directories using keywords that align with the online services directory and citizens' vocabulary regarding government programs and services; establishing a 24/7 service program working group to explore opportunities to leverage resources, including the Strategic Infrastructure Fund within the Telecommunications Services Master Agreement; and developing a Target Operating Model as a basis for ongoing telephone service delivery projects with ministries.

To support early change management activities in anticipation of greater improvements, CITZ and MSD hosted a Telephone Service Delivery Workshop and also collaborated with the Public Service Agency to establish a cross-government Community of Practice for Telephone Service Delivery. When CITZ sought a ministry partner willing to implement a proof of concept for the Target Operating Model, MSD was a natural fit.

Research during this early development period utilized data sources such as ten years of national research in the area of Citizen-Centred Service Delivery (Citizens First 1-6, Taking Care of Business 1-3, Answering the Call, Clients Speak, Public Sector Service Value Chain).





How the Target Operating Model was validated:

Sometimes there is a big stretch between theory and practice, but this Lean improvement activity provided an excellent vehicle to test the validity of the TOM theoretical model against actual call centre practice at MSD. In essence, if MSD could visualize its improved operations through the TOM, we could validate that the model is indeed viable for all call centre operations across government. Furthermore, the prevailing wisdom was that, if MSD (the biggest call centre in the public service) could implement this model, then *any* call centre could.

From the beginning of the Lean improvement process MSD used the TOM as a reference point. For example, the model indicates three 'tiers of services' with four delivery channels; MSD mapped the tiered approach to define and analyze their current call types and levels of complexity, with a particular focus on Type 1 (low complexity) and Type 2 (medium complexity). The call type analysis was then supported by data collection from MSD's call centre software whenever possible, but was also supported by staff involved in the process and managers who also had first-hand knowledge of the process, or 'gemba' (natural team).

Many of the wastes identified could be eliminated through standardization – i.e. scripts for greetings, authentication processes, entering service request or by reducing variation of how agents handled calls or entered notes to the system – all of which waste time and cause frustration for both clients and staff. Training and coaching for agents also figured prominently.

In total 61 opportunities were identified, and from this group 37 high impact opportunities were prioritized for implementation. The improvements fell broadly into the 'processes and people' areas of the TOM at which point the model was validated by the team. By undertaking their identified improvements MSD would be able to implement the TOM in their regional operations environment..

What steps have you taken, or been able to avoid, to improve the situation in terms of time, cost or quality of service?

- What are your high level results so far and what results do you expect?
- How were you able to reallocate resources to other projects or work?

(Please see attached Executive Report out for more detailed information)

The process improvements identified by MSD at the Kaizen are currently being put into place. The results expected are more effective handling of citizen calls by providing consistency in information gathering and processing. The resources are not being reallocated, rather it is anticipated that more calls will be processed.

(Please see attached Executive Report out for more detailed information)
The implementation activities at CITZ will begin post March 31, 2013

When do you expect the project to be in the Control phase

Additional Information:

Anecdotes, unexpected outcomes, observations and learnings

The validation of the model through the Kaizen was a valued learning for all of the participants as was the acknowledgement by MSD staff that general information calls





This was an excellent enpertunity to work collaboratively with another ministry (our

This was an excellent opportunity to work collaboratively with another ministry (our client) and to learn more about their business challenges.

The Kaizen Team Lessons Learned:

could be handled corporately.

- 1. That Lean is not just a toolset; rather a way of thinking
- 2. Key Lean tools and principles provide a structured way to actually do continuous improvement
- 3. How to involve and empower staff to execute continuous improvement
- 4. Importance of engaging staff no surprises
- 5. The Contact Centre business is "actually really complex"
- 6. The true complexity of what appear to be simple processes
- 7. Park pre-conceived notions
- 8. Be open to and use the data for decision making
- 9. Provided a real, practical grounding for the TOM it makes sense
- 10. How truly varied the current state processes really are
- 11. Importance of standard processes
- 12. Learned how to actually "work smarter and not harder" by focusing and looking in the right areas
- 13. Leaving this week with real tools, that can be put into action
- 14. Value from working with colleagues for an extend period of time
- 15. Continue the success of the bus pass Kaizen event
- 16. It's about the process not the people

Client feedback and experiences

"Since the Telephony Kaizen, I have collected citizen feedback on Lean projects such as (1) Reducing Variability: Prioritization of Multiple Requests, and (2) Standardized Greetings and Closing scripts. Both approaching provincial implementation, these projects have been verified through the feedback and experiences of our citizens ensuring higher and consistent service quality. Expanding my daily feedback in the Fraser Region by targeting citizens that received services from Lean project pilots, I was able to collect two weeks of feedback and experiences to determine the course of these projects. For the 1st project, citizens expressed their satisfaction in Ministry's timely action on their essential needs and showed appreciation for the Ministry's understanding and consideration of what citizens consider as essential. Citizens also expressed that Ministry's service response times are both consistent and accountable. One citizen shared their satisfaction stating "What you're told is what you get and many times they surprise me" in regards to our timely response to his moving request. As for the 2nd project, citizens shared that our standardized greeting was professional and showed respect to those that are receiving the service. They also expressed that knowing who they are speaking to makes the interaction more "friendly" and personable, which places them on equal footing rather than feeling little when requesting for services. One citizen stated "Government are liars with authority where I'm from... it is unbelievable that the Ministry's good service stays the same... not a lie... treating me like a person".

Quote from Norman Chan, Fraser Region Contact Center Lead, who participated on the Kaizen

Has this project led you to look at other processes that are related

As a result of this Lean project CITZ has initiated planning for a Lean project at another call centre area within our ministry: BC Registries.





Are you seeing staff practice Lean thinking?	"Staff at the Provincial Services Contact Centre (MSD) continue to be enthusiastic about the Lean initiatives. The majority of our staff are participating in smaller working groups to develop new Lean standard operating procedures for the many programs we manage. Staff have been quick to volunteer to assist with collecting baseline data for a variety of Lean contact centre initiatives in the past month. A Lean suggestions tool has been created to generate ideas for continuous improvement. We are currently collating a wealth of feedback provided by our EAWs for a centralized resource access site that is our next Lean Telephony project. The idea of being able to access client resource information, office service information and business processes from a single site visual tool has been well received by the entire team." Quote from Paddy Logan, Supervisor of the Provincial Services Contact Center – who did not participate but is now observing the impacts in her team "post Kaizen".
Can you provide a quote about the experience?	"Experiencing the enthusiasm of the MSD team as they identified opportunities for improvement was incredible - their service passion was evident." Catherine Wollner, Lean Project Lead, Service BC
Comments /recommendations for future	

Completed by:

Please attach any pictures from the process or graphics that are informative.

Return by March 8, 2013 to katrina@northstarcreativegroup.comPictures from the Kaizen event:





S22





S22

Project Charter - A4 Form



Initiator: Ministry of Labour, Citizens' Services and Open Government (Chad Hoskins)

Project: Review of the FOI Process

Sponsor: Kathleen Ward Champion: Brad Williams

Date: July 31st, 2012 Version: 1

Prepared by: Caroline Gagnon, Brad Williams, Chad Hoskins, Kris Ghag

Problem	Description
Sponsor Problems	Customer Problems
 The demand for access to information services has increased for the past five years, and is expected to continue to increase in the future. The amount of work required to respond to FOI requests has also increased due to the proliferation of electronic records. We depend on our client, or third party to respond to requests for consultations. There is a need to maintain current service levels without additional resources. Open information, proactive and routine release have increased the workload associated with processing FOI requests. 	 Internal Customer – Ministries Ministries currently spend significant time responding to FOI requests and while doing that, they are not fulfilling their core mandates. Need to identify and standardize good practices, where circumstances permit In addition to their own FOI requests, ministries are often consulted on records for other FOI requests. Collecting records is time consuming and difficult to track and records management practices do not always assist with records collection. Need to determine appropriate level(s) for delegation of approvals External Customer – Applicant/Requestor They wait too long for the response Responsive records may not adequately answer questions or concerns. Difficult to identify which ministries hold records/information of value to the applicant.
Employee/Contributor Problems	Additional Observations
 The amount of files per analyst is increased. The administration required to coordinate, track and report on requests has increased. 	
There is a dependence on ministry partners to meet legislated timelines. The FOI process is dependent on staff knowledge. IAO	
 The For process is dependent on stan knowledge. Tho has experienced high staff turnover and it is challenging to train new staff quickly. The technology tools have not kept pace with the changing nature of the work. 	

Description of Mandate

The process needs to be streamlined and improved in order to be able to respond to increasing demand of requests within the legislated timelines with the same resources.

This project is the central part of the overall FOI initiative. Four other projects will take place, starting with the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation, in order to establish a global model that will be implemented across Government.

Project Charter - A4 Form



Process Involved			
Process	business process improvements. Particular	The FOI process from the time of request receipt to request closure will be reviewed to assess potential business process improvements. Particular emphasis will be placed on IAO internal business processes such as file review, third-party consultations, and Open Information publications.	
Start	Request for FOI	End	Complete response to the applicants
Included			Excluded
		(will be addressed • Records management)	rnal processes to provide records to IAO essed in 4 other projects) agement practices in Ministries will not dressed (Another project is on-going)

Project Objectives

- To have the most efficient and effective process for responding to freedom of information requests, in order to better serve citizens.
- 2. Identify ways to improve internal IAO business processes associated with file review, third-party consultations and Open Information publications.
- To reduce the amount of time the ministries are spending processing each FOI requests by implementing business process streamlining as part of government's Corporate Lean Initiative, including the completion of the 4 other ministry FOI projects.

Opportunities	Constraints
 Employee Empowerment, due to LCTZ commitment to lean initiative Potential application of advanced lean concepts such as theory of constraints, Work Cell and Takt time Leading the change for Lean in a knowledge based work environment 	 Timeframe is 30 days, by law. Many ministries involved, each with their own operating model. The demand for FOI services is hard to predict and uncontrollable.

	Project Team		
•	Kathleen Ward Brad Williams Chad Hoskins Kris Ghag Subject Matter Expert (SME) as required		
	Fujits	u Team	
•	Caroline Gagnon, Project Lead Jeff Mackey, Strategic Consultant		

Project Charter – A4 Form



Potential Gains							
Tangible gains	Intangible gains						
Increased capacity Improved use of resources Note: Data is not available right now , but will be looked at in the As Is mapping	Stress reduction Better job satisfaction (*Measures to validate*) Pride in the job Healthy corporate culture Better communication Improve team work Employee's personal development in leadership or project management Organization's reputation Customer satisfaction						

Intervention Plan												
	Activities	Date of Intervention		From week 1 to 14						State		
1	Definition of project/mandate	Week of July 30										
2	Kick-off meeting	August 23 rd										
3	Data collection	September										
4	Diagnosis & Strategic session	Last week Sept										
5	Training session (White Belt)	Sept (date coordinate by PSA)										
6	Improvement workshop 1 (5 days)	Beginning of October										
7	Implementation	October and More										
8	Control and closure	November										

	Performance Measures								
	Measure / Indicator	Units	Current state	Future state					
1	Number of steps required to complete the file review process.								
2	Number of steps within the Open Information publication process.								
3	Number of steps required to complete third-party consultations.								
4									
5									
6									

Follow-up						
Signatures Signatures Signatures						
Sponsor		Champion				



Kaizen Workshop - Final Presentation

Freedom of Information Process

Ministry of Citizens' Services and Open Government

October 5th, 2012

Welcome



S22

SIPOC



SIPOC

Process Description						
Process name: Foi Centralized Process (IAO)						
Process starts with:	Process ends with:					
Request		Complete re	spons to the requestor			
Suppliers	Pro	ocess Clients / Customers				
All sectors and jurisdiction Citizens OIPC Requestors Internet, Other Ministries SME Agencies Private sector Legal counsel	1- Intakes 2 - Gathering 3 - Reviewing		Requestors (Client) Other Ministries Government Citizens			
Inputs	4 - Sign off 5 - Release		Outputs			
Legislation Requests Records General Information Policies and procedures Personal authorization			Requested Records Reporting Open information Meetina Goverment Mandate Model			
OIPC Rulings			Downstream measurements			
Upstream measurements						
Included		Excluded				

Lean Approach & Methodology



DMAIIC Methodology

Define	easure	Analyze	nnovate	mplement	Control				
Percentage of overall project progress									
5%	20%	40%	60%	90%	100%				
Approximate effort in each phase									
5%	15%	20%	20%	30%	10%				
Deliverables for each phase									
□ SIPOC □ Qualification sheet □ Communication plan	 □ VOC □ VOE □ Mapping □ VOP/PCE □ Opportunities identification □ KPI baseline □ Success factors validation □ A4 Form □ Communication plan 	 □ Lean training for project team □ Value added analysis of process □ Project directions 	 □ Future state mapping □ Action plan □ Implementation plan □ Implementation strategy □ Change management strategy □ Project presentation 	 Detailed solution development Procedure documentation Training plans and communication plan Physical implementation of solutions Coaching with implementation 	 □ Control plan □ Dashboard with KPI □ Final project report 				
Signatories:	Signatories:	Signatories:	Signatories:	Signatories:	Signatories: © Fujitsu Canada				

Workshop schedule



5 Day Kaizen Workshop Agenda (8h30 to 16h30)

Kick-off

Introduction

Data collection

Opportunity, Parking Lot & Quick Win

As is process



As is process

Briefing

As is Process

Analyze +KPI

Gap Analysis

Mura, Muri & Muda Problem

Area to improve



Problems

Briefing

Ideal process

Lean Principles

Process direction

To be process

Analyze + KPI



To be process

5

Briefing

Best Practice

Solution for waste and problem

Solution for complex problem with PST

Action Plan



Action Plan

Action plan

Implementation strategy

Transition Plan

Control Plan

Communication Plan

Report & Closing

Workshop closeout

Team – FOI Express



❖ 1st Consensus, ..., our name



CTZ-2013-00213

If we had a Magic Wand...



- 90% of contracts can be posted automatically on OI
- Section 12 (Cab Op) approval given back to Ministries
- Better process to recognize easy/difficult files (assignation)
- Improve process for no records, to be sent directly to requestors
- Improve communications between Ministries and IAO (harms)
- Front end process/educate stakeholders the ministries to go to IAO process for FOI/ All request should go directly to IAO (stakeholders educated)
- Ministries to be educated on what they can do/do more
- Assign more power to Intake to evaluate the request and clarify if needed
- The ministries/record management standards
- Post calendar proactively on Ministry websites
- Cut down the administrative duties for analysts
- Assist applicants to make good requests
- Make the fee process better

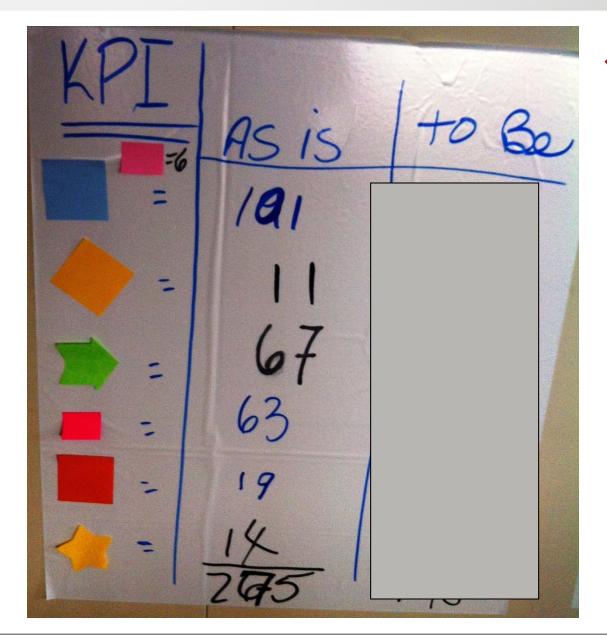
As is process





As is process





♦ As is

- 275 activities
- Only 6 are Value Add
- ◆ PCE = 2,2%



Central Agency Team

- ❖ AO 11 sends call for records at the direction of the 18 (Analyst). AO11 receives records from client and prepares records for review before sending to 18
- Half of our clients do not approve a "No Records" response on the CFR form due to multiple points of contact. For these clients, we proceed with formal SO once all responses have been received
- Utilizes AO11's instead of AO14s. 11's do not do analysis



Resource Team

- No physical file
- Send CFR to multiple PA's and SPoC
- Clerk 11 sends CFRs and processes files (NRR consults)
- Use team inbox to manage file correspondence
- Don't utilize NRR on CFR
- Minimal back and forth with minimal on final SO (sign off)
- Ministries have improved final SO authority
- Ex. Contact signs NRR
- Formal approval slip for consults
- Reassignments of files midstream based on criteria/workload balance (ex. Clerk does NRR, 21 does 1000+ pages)
- Require completed CFR with SO package
- Informal consult process for "in house" files (MOE with FNR)
- Analyst roles includes clerk 11, 14, 18, 21,24
- Analyst fills out S12 info summary (We don't send to Ministry)



Health/Education

- CFR Each analyst performs their own
- CFR/CRTS/TRIM
- No records responses for minor files i.e. calendar
- Can be signed off by Ministry contact not DM
- Review of records sometimes done jointly by phone to identify harms

12

- Same with sec12 assessment with calendars
- ❖ MOH issues resolved on NRR before provided to applicant
- Email to MOH for every FOI release
- Analyst can do their own S12 for calendars



Justice/Social

- Duplication of roles
- Added steps in terms of communicating with media/political party, applicants
- Added steps assisting issues management concerns with ministry clients
- Peer review (Senior analysts) before team lead/manager review
- 3rd party notifications Sec23/24
- Clerk 11 and14 (Jr analyst) gather records through generic e-mail (they do not do files)



Business

- ❖ TL receive TRIM link
- *Action*. "Categories" used color coding for ACTION
- Have Jr Analyst send CFR from generic mailbox
- no analyst assigned
- Fee estimate/clarification between Jr Analyst + TL
- Jr. Analyst tracks due date of records
- Jr. Closes 'No records' responses
- Prepares s/o for clients who request formal s/o
- S12 calendar
- Records received to generic mailbox
- TL assigns to analyst based on volume/complexity
- Analyst advises Ministry they will be contact

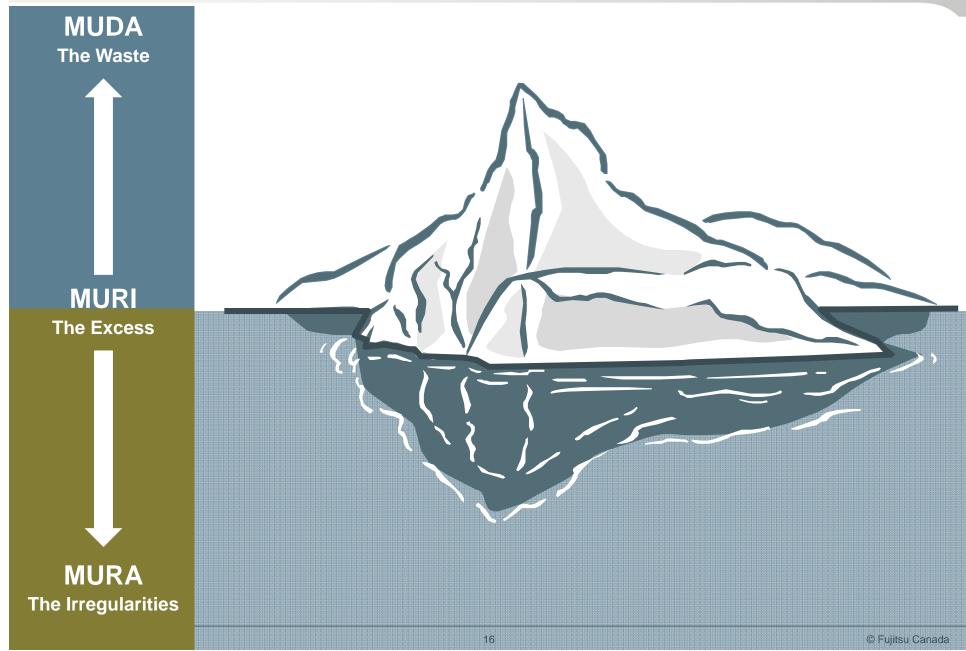


Conclusion

- We are more similar than different
- Many of the differences result from staffing complement
- Some teams are already piloting the TO BE improvement identified

Reducing Waste





Mura (irregularities) - Brainstorming



- Need to clarify request
- Request that requires a fee estimate
- Request includes multiple ministries
- Request directed to Ministry
- Consultation (internal, external, S12)
- Very high volume requests
- Transfer request
- Receiving new records at sign-off
- SIV document for high fees
- Issues management
- Back and for communication on file
- Records received not prepare for review
- Uneven allocation of FTEs
- Exemption criteria changes
- Who completes QA review the

Mura (irregularities) - Brainstorming



- Influx of new employees
- Cabinet shuffles/ min names changes
- Completing personal requests
- OIPC (or not) complaint and review
- Single Min. Contact vs. Multiple contacts
- Delegations
- Client expectations
- Communication and requirements of harms
- FOI knowledge in Ministry (Act, process)
- Enforcement of IAO policy/procedure
- File mgt/strategy
- Ministry engagement & culture
- Files rec'd from Ministry (file format, organization, content, responsiveness, software/tools)
- Ministries record management

Muri (excess) - Brainstorming



- Too many admin steps (data entry, letters)
- Repetitive QA steps
- Too much issues management
- Too many transfers/ emails
- Too many formal processes
- Too many restrictions
- Ministry customization
- Ministry customization
- Procedural inconsistencies between teams

- Too many consults
- Too many requests for same info
- FOI request for routine release
- Too much training
- Keeping too many records (duplications)
- Excessive severing on calendars/ expense
- Applicant customization
- Too many requests

Muda – Overproduction - Brainstorming



- Data entry
- Over trimming (unnecessary docs/emails)
- Physical files
- Too many "loops" for revisions/approval
- Unnecessary formal consultations
- X-Gov process
- FOI routine release
- Processing "sister" files
- Multiple QA reviews
- Duplication of records services
- Filtering duplicate records
- Too broad of a request

CTZ-2013-00213

Muda - Motion - Brainstorming



- Mail pick up
- Hard copy scanning
- Walk over OPP files
- X-govt meetings
- Files stored off site
- Locating physical files
- Discussion with S12 advisor
- Discussion with TL or manager
- In person ad hoc for information (intake)

Muda – Transfer - Brainstorming



- S12 process
- Excessive touch points
- Draft correspondence
- X-Gov process
- Intake request re-directing
- Formal consultations in house or team
- OI exemption review
- QA on correspondence
- No records sign off
- Delay on necessary transfer
- Intake function (double clarification)
- Records call to IAO team

Muda - Waiting - Brainstorming



- Request clarification
- Request misdirected
- Records gathering
- Fee estimating
- Consultations
- Sign-off (ministry)
- QA review/IAO
- OI publication
- Preparing records
- Data entry (TRIM, CRTS)
- Issues management
- X-govt coordination

- Non flexibility (people)
- Complaints + reviews
- Processing physical docs
- Conferring with Ministry
- S12 sign-off preparation
- Large files/scope of request
- Lack of delegation for signoff
- Volume spikes in requests
- Lack of portability of staff
- One program area get slammed with requests

Muda – Inefficient Process - Brainstorming



- **♦** S12
- Entry of data in CRTS
- Over trimming
- Unnecessary formal correspondence
- Disorganized Share Drive
- Format of correspondence (email vs. PDF doc)
- Preparing records for analysis
- Multiple transfers (conversion, no exchange)
- Consultations
- Subjective decision making
- No centralized resources (e.g. policy). Information spread out
- Inefficient IT systems (CRTS)
- Hardware system + support
- Records collection (manual process, dependant on people)

Muda - Inventory - Brainstorming



- X-govt calendar request and expenses
- Analyst file assignment
- Too many records
- To many e-mails waiting for response
- Files back up at QA steps
- \$ S12 consultations
- Bulk of requests to one program area
- Back up at delegated sign-off
- Uneven balance across teams
- Several high volume requests
- Intake accumulating new requests
- Files backed up at transfer points
- Uneven workload
- Insufficient client-resources

Muda - Defects - Brainstorming



- Missed/wrong severing
- Wrong interpretation of request
- Assign to wrong ministry
- Electronic check (file clean)
- Collect wrong records
- Don't find responsive records
- Inaccurate harms assessment
- Redaction technology errors
- Fee estimates miscalculations

- Send correspondence/request to wrong location
- Collating error/missed pages
- Duplicate records
- Inconsistent detail & information on approval slip
- Subjective changes from OI
- Quality of harms assessment
- Selecting appropriate contact
- Inconsistent disclosures between public bodies
- Frivolous and veracious requests

Muda – Lost Creativity



- By passing sign-off + consultation
- By passing formal procedures
- Hierarchical structure
- Bureaucracy
- Risk aversion (e.g. S12)
- Emphasis on issues management
- Over-specialization or over-generalization
- Misinterpretation of the act
- Client expectations
- Lack of control over policy or oversight body
- Lack of influence
- Micro managing
- Lack of support, engagement & communication
- Lack of mentoring

Areas to Improve



- Fee estimate
- Intake
- Section 12
- QA review of records
- Quality of incoming request
- Records gathering
- Tracking
- Consultation internal
- Analyst control/delegation
- ❖ IM/IT

- Sign-off
- Harm assessment
- Physical file creation
- File assignments
- Formal correspondence
- Reporting
- Publication review

Ideal process with no constraints exercise



- Search engine
- Routine easy available
- More educated requestor on 1st option (before FOI)
- Publicly available
- Documents/records created with FOI by design in mind
- Apply best practices in record management
- Better communication and knowledge sharing
- IAO has access to central services
- No transfers, only analyst from request to response
- No ministry sign-off (delegated to IAO)
- 1 file for 1 analyst (pull)

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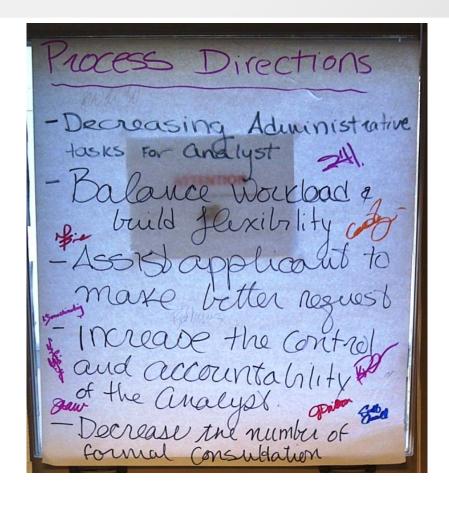
Ideal process with no constraints exercise

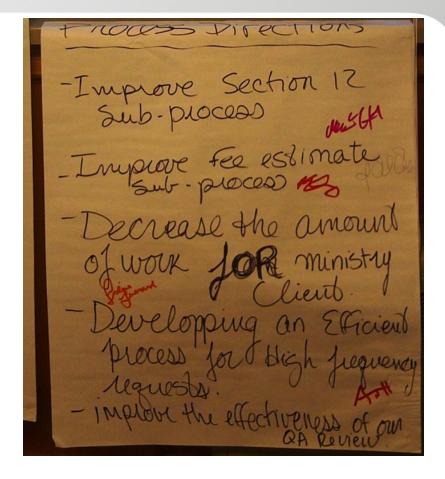


- Good requests from applicants
- Section 43 enforced when necessary
- One way/channel to put in request
- 1 system (IT) (Standard data entry for Ministry and IAO)
- 1 standardized process (no pods) + work cell that support each other (workload)
- Analyst analyzes records 80/20 + Balance between analysing and admin (having some control)

Process Direction

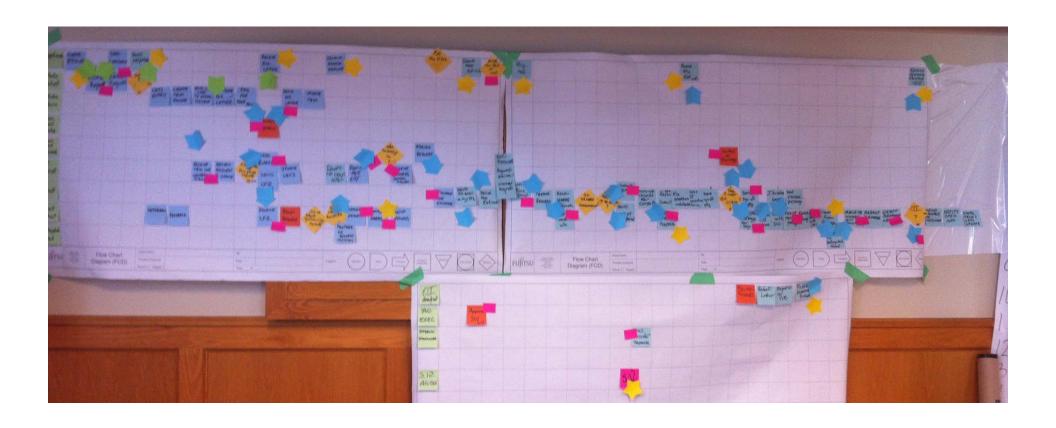






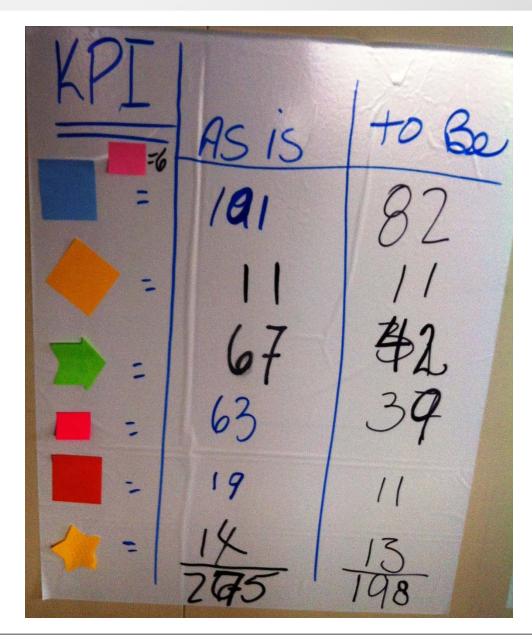
To be process





As is process





♦ As is

- 275 activities
- 6 are Value Added for the applicant
- ◆ PCE = 2,2%

❖ To be

- ◆ 198 activities
- Again 6 are Value Add
- ◆ PCE = 3,0 %

Gain

28 %

Strategy / Solutions



Quick Wins (End of calendar year)

- No physical file created at Intake
- Call for records handled through centralized team mailbox
- Formal letter converted to email templates

Medium Term (End of Fiscal)

- Increased quality of requests through online form, education and more clarification at Intake
- Internal consultation by original analyst
- Reduction in number of QA review



- Loss of Management/Team Lead Control
 - Create tools/training/guidelines to assist with building the trust and confidence of analysts
 - Continual evaluation of quality
 - 6 month review of new process with feedback
- Learning curves and transitions
 - Communicate about the increased availability/capacity of Managers/Team Leads to support the analyst
 - Establish sufficient criteria for analysts at the QA step and ensure there is adequate training and support



- IAO Skepticism/Fear of LEAN
 - Constant communication of the gains
 - Provide as much info to all about the LEAN methodology and process followed by Kaizen team
 - Celebrate all successes and focus on specific benefit statements for the stakeholders

■ IAO Employee Support

- Kaizen Team will be the ambassadors of the solution
- Invite IAO staff to be a part of any action items identified in the action plan
- Ministry *Lunch and LEAN* sessions
- Clearly communicate that the focus of the project was to reduce delays and this means less transfers



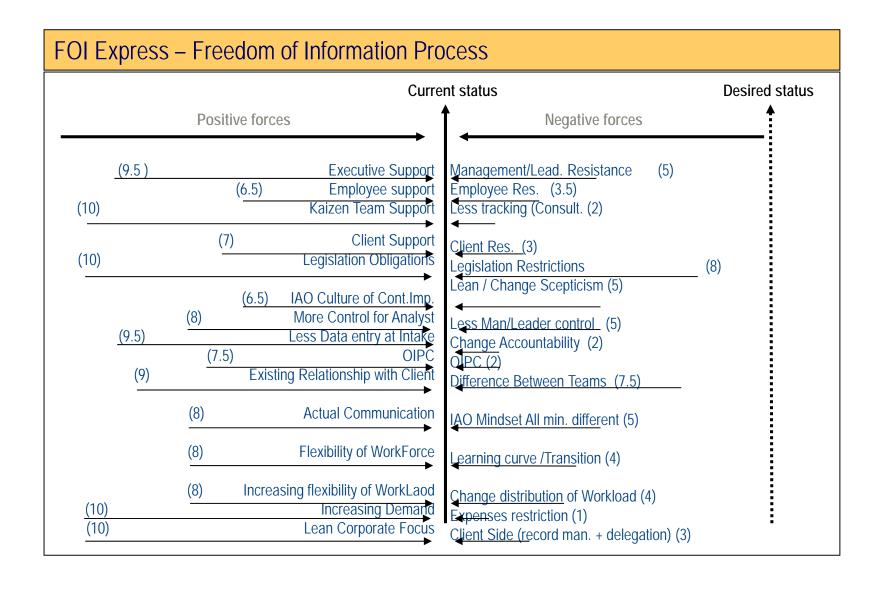
- Relationships with Client Ministries
 - Communication of the upcoming changes
 - With specific focus on consultation process changes
- Less Tracking
 - Communication of the upcoming changes
 - Including forthcoming SharePoint solution that will allow for improved tracking capabilities and more accurate business intelligence
 - Activity based tracking for IAO workload purposes



- Differences between the teams
 - Communicate the recommendation that the Team staffing complements be reviewed
 - Build a process to identify and agree upon the team specific gaps in staffing
- Increasing flexibility of workload distribution
 - Identify clearer roles and responsibilities across the teams
 - Ensure consistency across the teams with respect to these and identified developmental opportunities
 - Ensure consistency across the teams

Force Field Analysis





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Communication



Objectives:

- Inform stakeholders of the Kaizen workshop outcome, wastes identified, recommended solutions, plan for implementation of solutions
- Enlist support of key stakeholders to 'action' the solutions identified

Strategies:

- Kaizen team lead the communications (vs management) out to stakeholders following the Kaizen
- Kaizen team will engage stakeholders to become active participants in the implementation, encouraging them to provide input to further refine processes and fine tune solutions
- Celebrate successes as incremental improvements are made and streamlined processes produce results

Communication



Key Messages: (to be developed based on Kaizen decisions/action plan)

Will speak to the drivers for change, rationale behind proposed solutions, the value proposition for individual stakeholders (WIFM)

Tools:

Kaizen presentation, emails, memos, IAO All-staff meeting, client meetings, Lunch n' Lean coffee chat for CITZ, Ministry Integrated Plan, Intranet features/@Work features, BIC updates, SharePoint tracking, Executive communication (DM, ADM, ED – as validators of staff-driven work)

United Way contribution





Amount = 15,00 \$

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Comments and Questions





Team – FOI Express



S2:

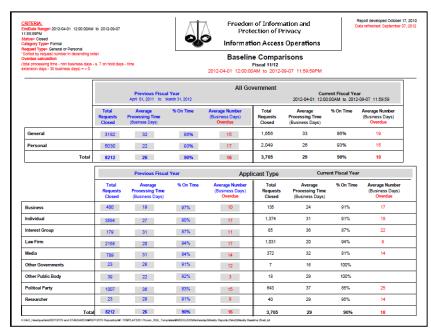


Data Collection

Actual Data



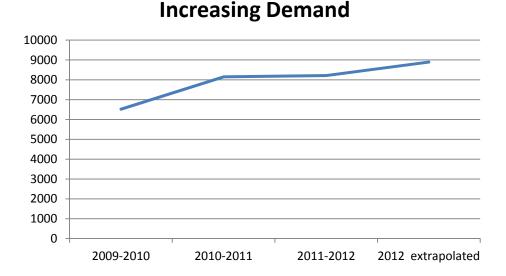
- The FOI Process is actually measured monthly by the % on time delivery (Legislated Timeframe of 30 days)
- The Total Requests Closed, Average Processing Time and Average Number of days overdue are also available
- The Data available at the time is related to closed requests (reactive data)



Actual Data



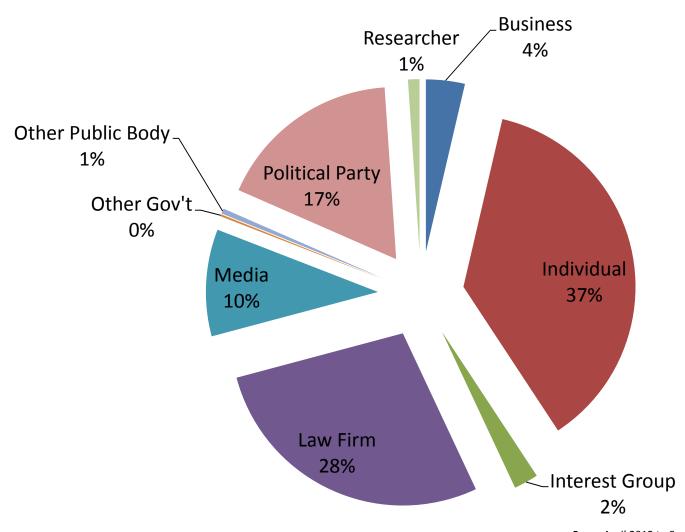
- The Demand is increasing over the past 4 years and is expected to continue to increase
- The demand is unpredictable and not leveled over time



 While the workforce is facing Demographic challenges such as Retirement, less worker available, Generation Y expectations, ...

Actual Data- Applicant Type



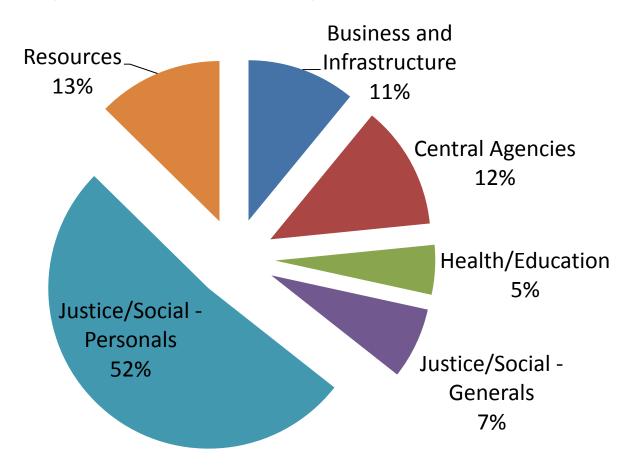


From April 2012 to September 07, 2012

Actual Data – Output FY to date



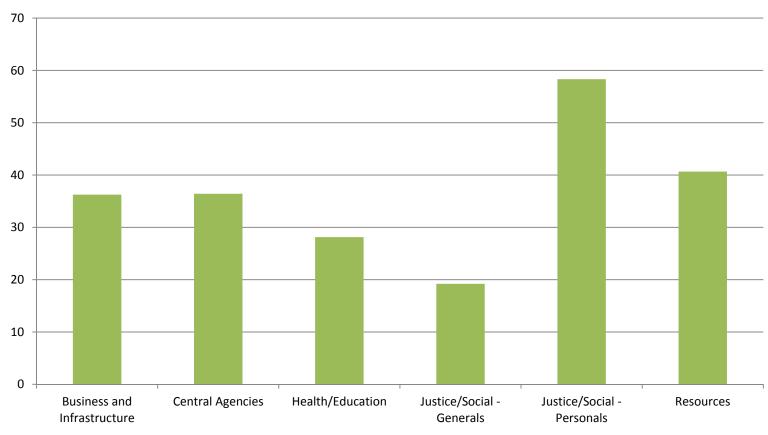
Requests closed this fiscal year to date



Actual Data- Workload per team



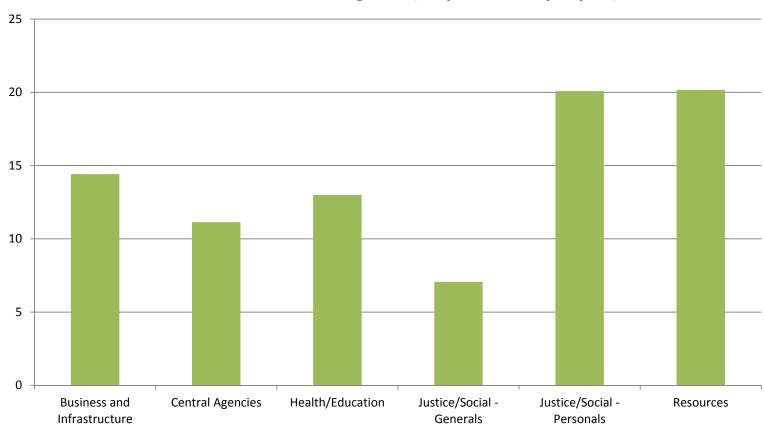
Requests closed this FY to date (requests/employee)



Actual Data – Work In Progress



Current Work in Progress (requests/employee)



Actual Data – Performance by Stage



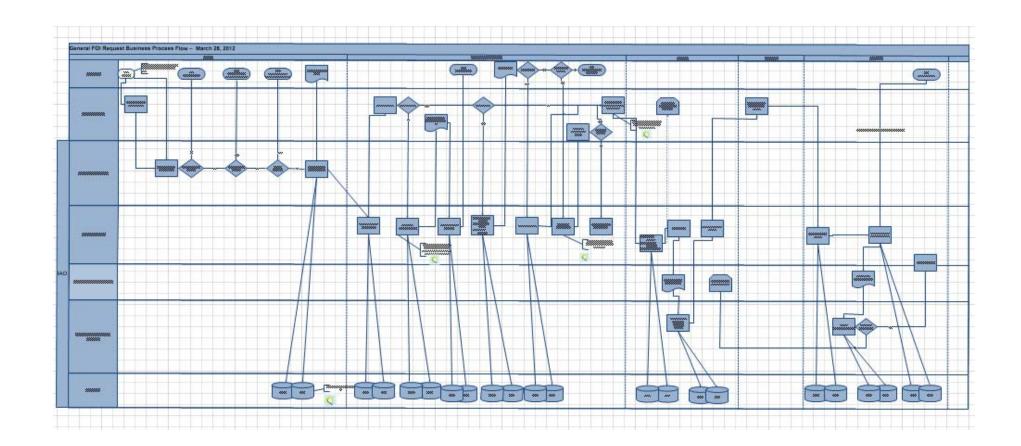
Teams		Stages					
		Received	Gathering	Review	Sign-Off	Release	% On-time
Business and Infrastructure	CSC	2	.3 10.2	2 13.2	5.4	0.6	90.00%
	FIN	1	.8 10.5	18.5	6.6	1.0	72.18%
	JTI	2	.4 20.1	16.1	7.6	0.4	75.71%
	LBR	3	.2 16.4	8.7	3.2	1.0	100.00%
	TRA	2	.1 13.9	13.6	3.6	0.6	89.13%
Central Agencies	CTZ	2	.6 13.7	18.3	5.6	1.3	86.05%
	GCP	2	.5 12.1	9.9	2.5	1.8	91.25%
	OOP	2	.1 16.8	3.4	4.0	0.9	94.67%
	PSA	4	<mark>.3</mark> 9.5	10.3	4.8	1.8	83.96%
Health/Education	AED	3	.2 16.7	20.9	7.8	0.2	90.20%
	EDU	3	.2 13.3	11.0	5.0	0.1	95.52%
	HTH	3	.0 25.7	11.1	4.2	1.1	92.68%
Justice/Social - Generals	CFD	3	.1 8.2	20.0	9.4	0.3	73.68%
	CLB	2	.0 14.5	25.0	15.0	0.5	0.00%
	JAG	2	.5 10.8	21.3	6.8	0.7	70.65%
	MSD	3	.2 13.1	18.7	6.4	0.4	69.39%
	occ	3	.8 3.9	16.0	3.6	0.5	89.47%
Justice/Social - Personals	CFD	3	.0 16.7	22.0	0.4	0.0	92.81%
	CLB	3	.1 24.7	13.0	0.0	0.0	100.00%
	JAG	2	<mark>.6</mark> 5.2			5.0	89.70%
	MSD	2	.4 7.6	10.8	0.0	26.7	97.96%
	occ	C	.0 4.0	20.0	7.0	0.0	0.00%
Resources	AGR	2	.2 9.5	10.6	5.2	0.4	
	ARR	1	.7 7.9	11.9		1.0	100.00%
	EAO	1	.3 7.3	1.8	0.6	0.6	100.00%
	EGM		.7 12.8	3 12.5		1.5	
	FNR	C	.9 13.6			0.5	
	HOU	2	.6 11.4			0.9	
	MOE		.8 9.6			0.7	93.18%
IAO Average		2	.5 11.5	5 14.0	2.8	4.2	89.68%

General Mapping: Current Process



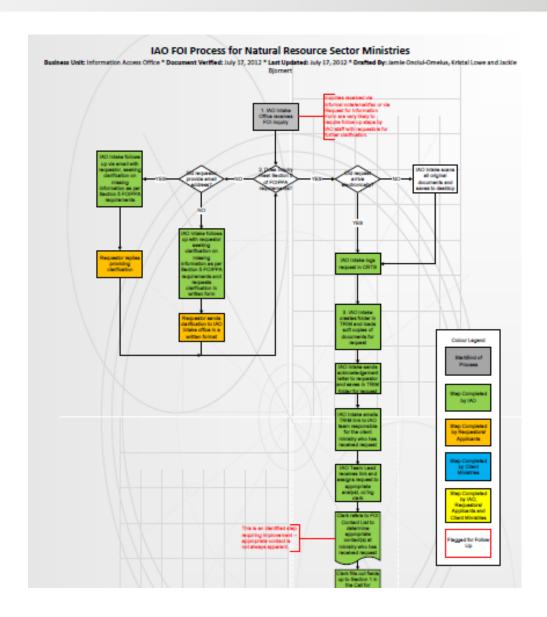
- A Preliminary Baseline for the FOI voice of process (VOP) was captured in March 2012
- The process was high leveled mapped from the request to the response to the applicant, and estimated delay was determine for the main steps
- Other mappings, with more detail are also available;
 - TRIM IAO General Requests
 - Resource Team Requests

Baseline Current Process: Visual Overviewinsu



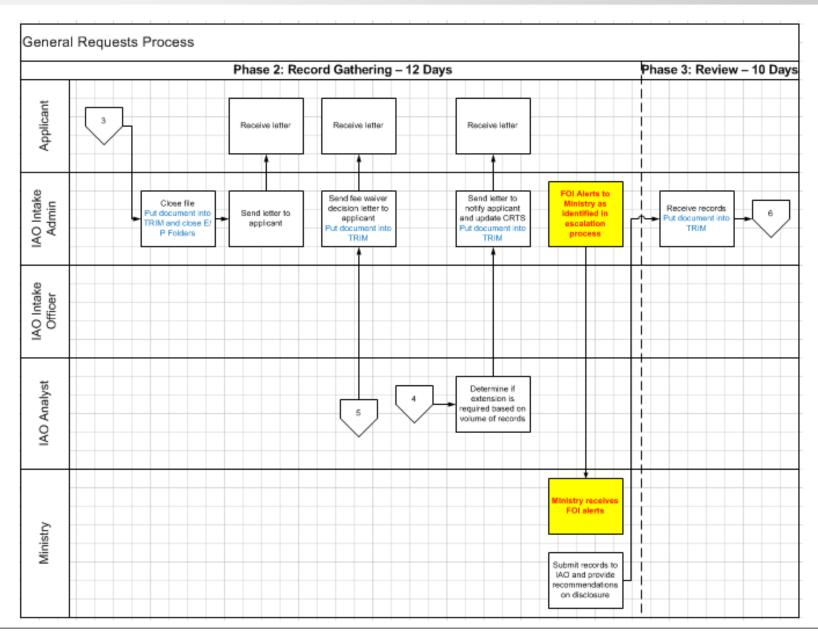
Resources Team: Current Process





Original IAO: Current Process





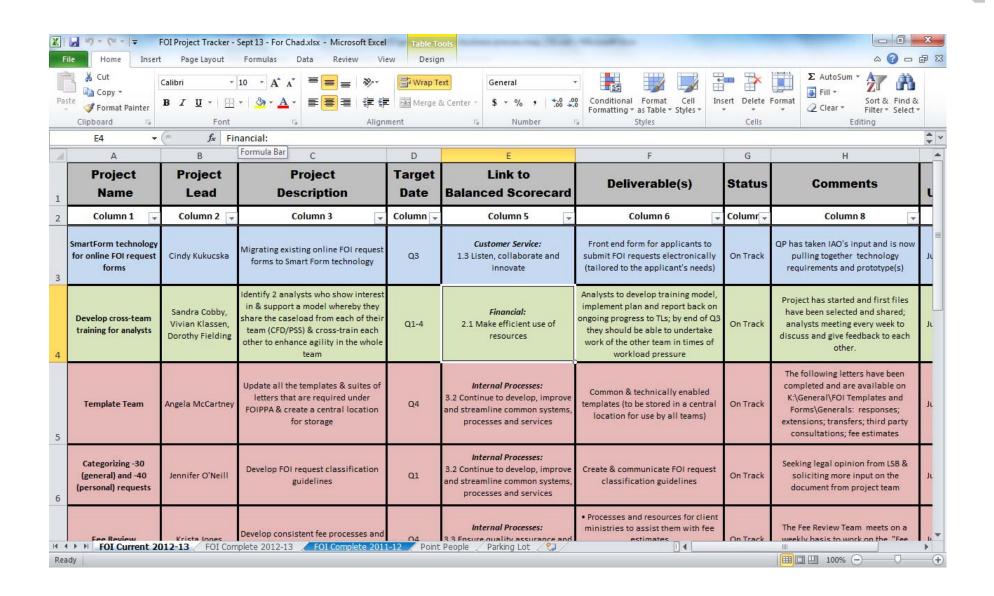
Baseline Current Process



- The following numbers are from the actual TRIM mapping. Experience indicates that these numbers will increase significantly during the Kaizen workshop.
- High-level Results:
 - Several individuals touch the process multiple times;
 - After the first draft, there are approximately 75 identified steps in the General FOI process
 - 5 decision boxes have been identified
 - There is only one review and/or approval identified at the end of the mapping (Sign-off).

Improvement idea





Number of Improvement idea implementedissu

- 21 ideas are currently being looked at
- 32 was completed in 2012-2013
- 3 in parking lot
- These are continuous improvement ideas, implemented by the employee to obtain their adherence.
- They are now documented in the Project Tracking Table, but the results haven't been measured
- It is suggested to include them in this project, but to consider 2 different Milestones:
 - March 2012
 - September 2012

Interviews & Waste Walk



- 13 Employee's Interviews (11 Structured and 2 informal)
 - Start Sept 6th End Sept 17th
- 3 Waste Walks: Meeting the people, seeing the work, the tools and materials
 - Start Sept 6th End Sept 17th

Participants



People interviewed was from different business team, and from different position to assure a good representativity of the whole IAO:

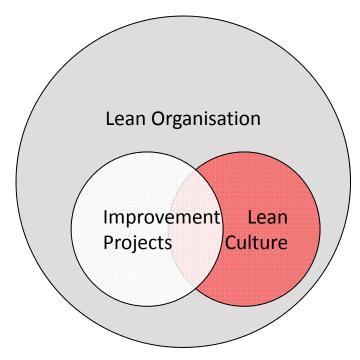
Team	# employee
Intake	3
Personals	2
Central Agency Operations	2
Health & Education	2+1
Justice & Social	1+1
Business & infrastructure	1

Resources & Open information were consulted through their managers

Interviews



- Overall, participants' attitudes were cooperative and optimistic about the FOI project.
- There was some interest about the future and how lean methodology may affect the results of the project.
- There is already a culture for change and continuous improvement within the organization.





- A focus on Client satisfaction is present in every team and throughout the process.
- However, it has been brought up that IAO Staff are often caught between their client's objectives and the requestor's expectations.
- There is also inconsistencies between the different team.





- Some teams have intake and administrative staff, while others have only analysts.
- Some teams assign the file to an analyst just after intake, while others wait for the records gathering to be completed before assigning the file.
- The release packages are not all the same, depending of the team.
- Different tools are used :
 - PDF
 - Word
 - Outlook
 - Excel

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- In one of the team, 2 analysts are sharing their case loads in order to be cross-trained in one other specialization. This increase the versatility and flexibility of our analyst, while increasing their interest in the jobs and reducing the stress.
- In another team, an initiative has been started with Ministry of Health to implement a SharePoint Site for records & requests management... To be followed...

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- The demand fluctuate over time and is unpredictable. Some teams have to face punctual peak, while others are momently in a low demand period or are waiting for records.
- The number of records per request is higher than before, therefore, longer to analyze.
- The process' Lead time is highly dependant and affected by the efficiency of the client in the records gathering step.

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Gemba: Efficiency Observations



Lean Foundational Efficiencies

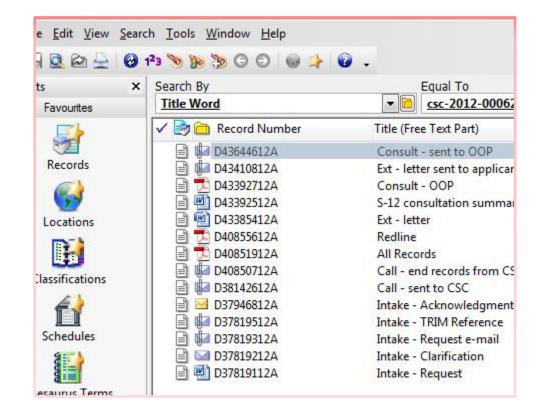
- Check lists, Templates and tool links are available;
 - Online or Soft Paper
- Some standardization have been made, at least within a business team;
 - Eg: Naming Convention in Trim



Gemba: Organized Work Environment



- For the most part, work environments were kept professional, organized, and very functional; partially meeting 5S standards.
- FOI Records & information was also well organized and quick to access for the data owner (Trim).
- CRTS is a tracking system made in Oracle. It seems to be used mostly for Management Reports.

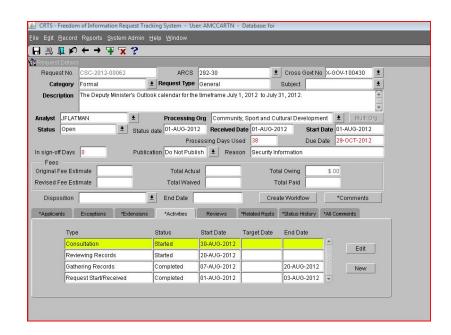


Gemba: General Observations



Lean Foundational Deficiencies

- Although the process is similar throughout the IAO, there is many different ways of managing a case load;
 - Standards across parallel team units were approximately 50%;
 - Eg: Some team are paperless and some others are still relying on Paper and Post-it.
 - Insufficient Poka Yoke (Mistake Proofing) and Visual Management in the process, especially for the tracking of the files;
 - Eg: CRTS usage is inconsistent and does not prevent mistake



Gemba: General observations



Lean Foundational Deficiencies

- Data is often manually re-entered from CRTS, TRIM,
 Documents, and PDF files.
- Process tasks are Knowledge Based, Analytics and not easy to standardize.
- Many levels of approval and reviews are required at each level.

Voice of the Customer – Summary Findings

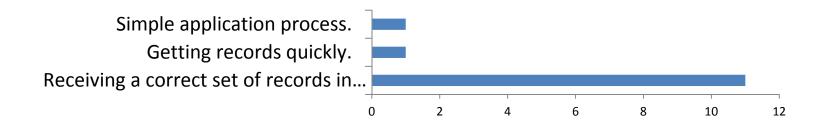


- Answers varies depending on the ministries and the roles the responder have in the process, however, these comments were often noted:
- Documentation for the process seems to be available.
- Retrieving the records within the applicable time is a challenge.
- The tracking and the communication of information between contacts in the process is not simple.
- Need to use the less amount of resource time.
- Clarifying and narrowing down requests for general records from the applicant may be a potential solution.

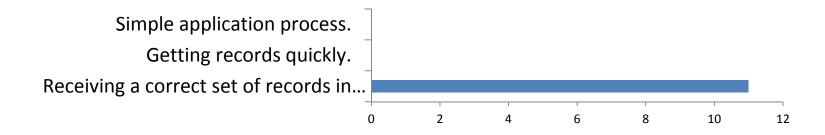
Voice of the Customer - Responses



In your opinion, what is more important for FOI applicants?



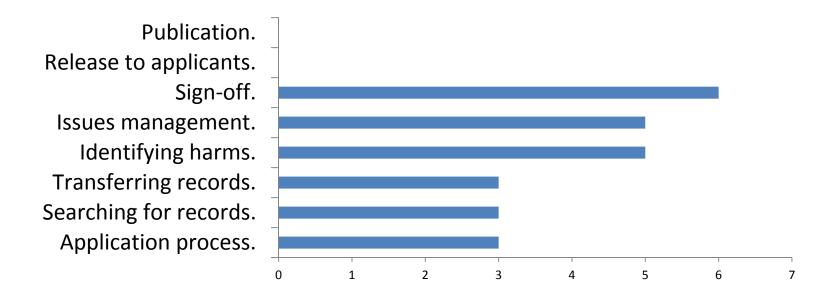
In your opinion, what is most important in the FOI process to be best at?



Voice of the Customer – Responses



Please check off the parts of the FOI process where you have observed unnecessary steps.



Voice of the Customer – Potential Solution



- Make sure more people in the ministry understand the FOI process, understand their role in the process and the importance of that role.
- Process mapping comparing results.
- Ensure the scope of the request is as narrow as possible (offer guidelines during the application stage).
- Delegate signoff to streamline process.
- Online solution for forwarding, tracking, and approving as email is cumbersome and takes too much space and time.
- Using SharePoint to post request for a section. Provide status updates on requests, etc. in a location where everyone can see them.
- **...**

Insley, Kara MTIC:EX

From: Ward, Kathleen MTIC:EX

Sent: March-11-13 2:53 PM

To: 'Mary-Anne McNeney'

Subject: FW: Lean Charter -final

Attachments: PSA A4Charter 13-027 LCTZ FOI (2).docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Kathleen Ward, BID, MA, Executive Director, Information Access Operations

Shared Services BC | Citizens' Services & Open Government

2nd Floor - 548 Michigan Street

Phone: 250.387-9807

Email: kathleen.ward@gov.bc.ca

From: Ward, Kathleen LCTZ:EX

Sent: Wednesday, September 19, 2012 10:56 AM

To: Plecas, Bobbi LCTZ:EX Cc: Cameron, Tara D LCTZ:EX Subject: Lean Charter -final

Thought you might like to have a look – I am ready to sign off and approve unless you have any amendments. Kathleen