Developing A Data Hub Model

Building A Knowledge-Driven Nonprofit Sector

ABNN Alberta Nonprofit Network

Policy Wise for Children & Families

Alberta

Nonprofit sector engagements in 2018 cited a need for a Data Hub to support data sharing, capacity-building, and coordination of other data-related activities at a sector level. In response to this need, PolicyWise and the Alberta Nonprofit Network brought together sector representatives, experts and stakeholders to better understand this need and develop a model of such a Hub for the nonprofit sector. Representatives from the Canadian Mental Health Association Edmonton Region, Skills Society, Inclusion Lethbridge/Volunteer Lethbridge, YYC Data Collective, Technology Helps, and Alberta Data Institute led this work. This project drew on interview data, a scan of Data Hubs in other jurisdictions, and included seeking advice from established Data Hubs in North America.

A two-stage model was developed to meet the current and future needs of the nonprofit sector. The first stage, **the Knowledge Hub** meets the sector's current needs by bridging open data users with data support, resources, a network, and a data standard. These foundational components enhance the capacity of new and experienced users of data. **The Data Hub** builds on the Knowledge Hub and introduces data sharing and data analytics. This model was developed based on qualitative interviews and an environmental scan conducted by PolicyWise. Advice provided by data platform moderators was incorporated. For more information and context, see our report here.

The Knowledge Hub supports the nonprofit sector by bringing users of open data together.
Five key components make up the Knowledge Hub:

A Moderated Network: in which users discuss data, share information and reports, and ask and answer data-related questions.

Data Support: is available through a "data librarian" or supported through users.

Data Capacity-Building Education/Resources: data tips, webinars, training, and resources are available on the Knowledge Hub.
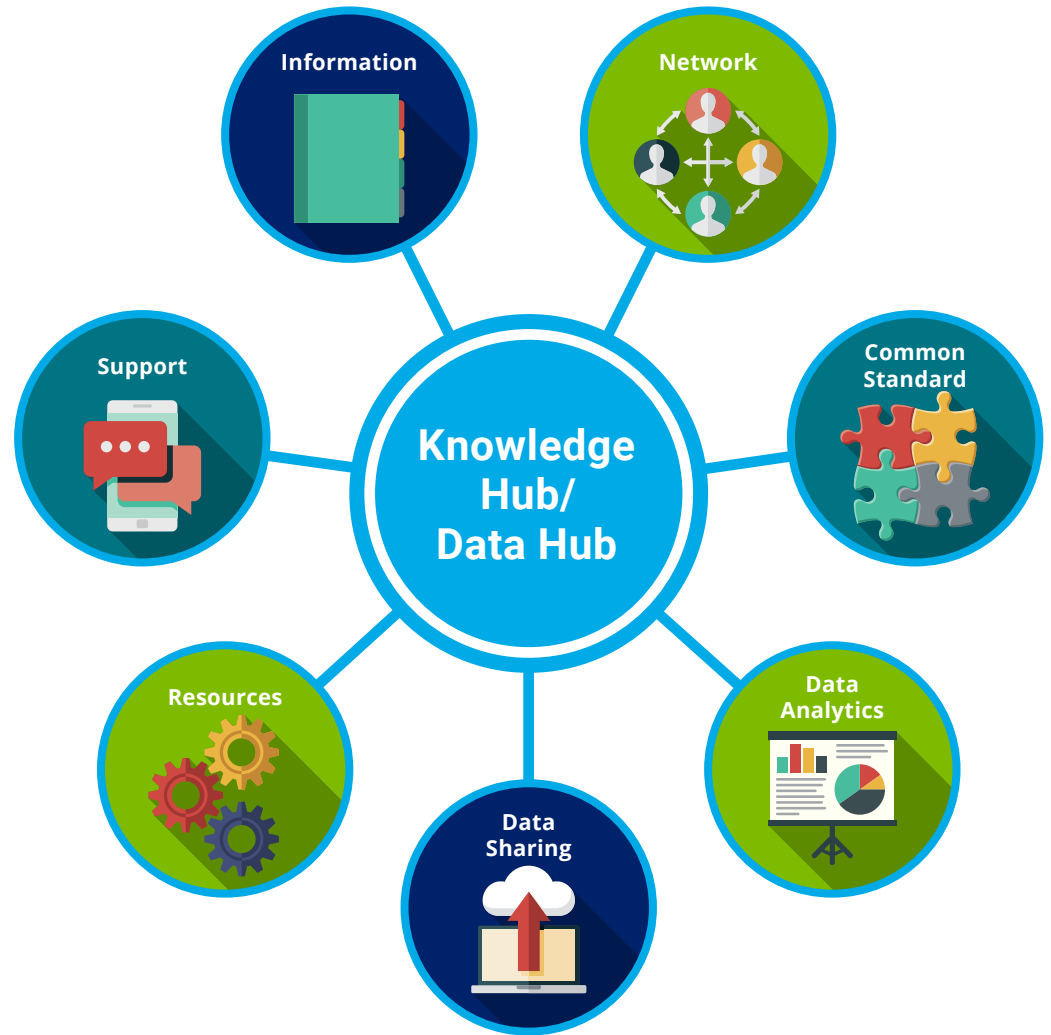
Open Data: "relevant" open data is defined by stakeholders as accessible, directly applicable reports, visualization, maps, and statistics.

Common Data Standard: encourages nonprofit organizations toward data standardization with flexibility.

The Data Hub expands on the Knowledge Hub by adding two additional components:

Data Sharing: organizations and users can openly share data, information, and reports.

Data Analytics: a variety of applications are available to support users to analyze, present, and extract data.

Information

Network

Common Standard

Support

Knowledge Hub/ Data Hub

Resources

Data Sharing

Data Analytics

Read more about the Alberta Nonprofit Data Strategy and our Knowledge Hub and Data Hub models <u>here</u>.