



**NOTICE OF  
UNIVERSITY ORAL**  
GEODESY AND GEOMATICS ENGINEERING

**Master of Science in Engineering**

**Andriy Rak**

**Thursday, April 25, 2013 @ 11:00 am**

**Head Hall – Room E-11**

**Board of Examiners: Co-Supervisors: Dr. Susan Nichols, Geodesy & Geomatics Eng.  
Dr. Dave Coleman, Geodesy & Geomatics Eng.  
Examining Board: Dr. Emmanuel Stefanakis, Geodesy & Geomatics Eng.  
Dr. Hilary Young, Faculty of Law  
Dr. Yvan Bedard, Laval University**

**Chair: To Be Announced**

**Legal Issues and Validation of Volunteered Geographic Information**

**ABSTRACT**

The Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGDI) provides access to authoritative geographic datasets of Canada, which are the source of accurate and reliable data. The process of acquiring, updating and maintaining such datasets using traditional approaches, requires both time and costly resources. As a result, in many cases the datasets are out of date because of the high cost of maintenance. An alternative approach to reliably create and update authoritative datasets is linked to its integration with Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI). VGI provides a vast source of spatial information to government, industry and citizens. However, the integration of VGI with CGDI generates several questions, with VGI quality and legal issues at the forefront.

This research has investigated methods for assessing the quality of VGI, and describes the importance of a link between VGI and legal liability in the need for integration of VGI with CGDI. This research developed a prototype to validate data quality and examined legal liability issues around VGI to discover a strategy for possible integration of VGI with CGDI datasets. The research also provides four primary risk management techniques for CGDI to manage risks resulted from incorporating VGI into their datasets.

**Faculty Members and Graduate Students are invited to attend this presentation.**