New Data Advice Frequently Asked Questions

Who is impacted by the change to New Data Advice?

All Local Government, First Nation and Property Owners that subscribe to Data Advice and/or RC900 Ownership and Legal Description Change Reports will be impacted by the release of the New Data Advice. Enterprise customers will follow at date to be determined.

When was it released?

The New Data Advice products were released in the summer of 2016. This includes all annual roll products (Completed and Revised roll), periodic roll products (Weekly and Monthly Data Advice/RC900) Supplementary, Grant, Decision and PAAB rolls.

How are Data Advice deliverables changing?

Data advice files will change from .DAT format to .XML format. The RC series of reports will be compiled into a single report called the 'Audit Summary Report', with the exception of the RC900 Ownership and Legal Description Change report, which will be called the 'Change Report'. The RC series of reports will change from .TXT format to .PDF

How is Data Advice content changing?

Data advice content will remain primarily unchanged, with the exception of the removal of some limitations currently experienced with the Legacy (.DAT) Data Advice. Improvements include but are not limited to:

- Elimination of data truncation. Truncation reports will no longer be required. Fields known to have experienced truncation include: Certificate of Title, Street Name, and Plan Number
- Canadian mailing addresses will be broken out into address component fields while still being provided in a concatenated format
- Resolving reporting limitations. Some fields known to exceed reporting limitations include but are not limited to: Number of owners associated with a folio, number of PIDs associated with a folio
- Inclusion of more code descriptions and use of business names for data fields

When will the New Data Advice be available?

The New Data Advice is now available. The Property Information Team will work with customers to schedule and support transition activities. This will take place throughout 2018 with a deadline of August 31, 2018 for all customers to have completed the transition.

How long will Legacy Data Advice be available?

Legacy Data Advice will be retired in fall 2018.

How to Start Transition Activities?

Customers should review the New Data Advice User Guide, download the xsd schema and review the transition documents on DDW at https://data.bcassessment.ca/UserGuide.aspx. The next step is to contact the Property Information Team at bcacustomer.services@bcassessment.ca to request files.

Customers should run both New DA and Legacy DA in parallel to ensure data is duplicated, test side by side and inform the Property Information Team of any discrepancies or issues.

When ready, customers let the Property Information Team know they are ready to turn off Legacy Data Advice.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the New Data Advice product?

If you have any questions about the New Data Advice product or the release schedule, please contact Property Information at bcacustomer.services@bcassessment.ca.

Who do I contact with questions about BCA data content and error reporting?

Address changes can continue to be submitted using the address change form on the BC Assessment website: https://eforms.bcassessment.ca/address_change_form.asp.

Region	Office	Email
Vancouver Island Region	Victoria, Nanaimo and Courtenay Offices	vancouver.island@bcassessment.ca
Greater Vancouver Region	Vancouver and Burnaby Offices	greater.vancouver@bcassessment.ca
Fraser Valley Region	Surrey and Abbotsford Office	fraser.valley@bcassessment.ca
Thompson Okanagan Region	Kamloops and Kelowna Offices	thompson.okanagan@bcassessment.ca
Kootenay Columbia Region	Cranbrook and Nelson Offices	kootenay.columbia@bcassessment.ca
Northern BC Region	Prince George, Williams Lake, Dawson Creek and Terrace Offices	northern.bc@bcassessment.ca