Start-up Thinking for Large Organizations

Hi, I'm Jason









Digital Transformation Efforts







Australian Government

Digital Transformation Agency



DIGITAL.GOVT.NZ



Digital Transformation Efforts



Why is a Digital Transformation necessary?

Phoenix fix approaching \$1B as feds look at scrapping system



Federal budget commits additional \$430M to address problems, \$16M toward eventual replacement

Latest Shared Services Canada outages disrupt border traffic



Computer network designed to assure security at Canada-U.S. border crashes 200plus times

Why is a Digital Transformation necessary?

Phoenix fix approaching Government must account for tech failures afflicting RCMP, opposition says

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Federal budget commits additional \$430Provinces that contract RCMP police services also keeping a close eye on Mounties' ITeventual replacementtroubles

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Latest Shared Services Cal New passport processing system \$75M over border traffic

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Computer network designed to assure secuproplus times

Passport Canada's new technology plan is overdue, overbudget, more complex than predicted

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Why is a Digital Transformation necessary?

Phoenix fix approaching Government must account for tech failures scra Healthcare.gov problem: afflicting RCMP, opposition says

recriminations

Cotober 16, 2013 | By David Perera

Health Insurance ketplace is Open

Email

(f) (Worst failure of public administration in this nation': payroll system

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verdue, overbudget, more complex than

eventu Latest Shared Services Can: New passport processing system \$75M over bc NHS IT system one of 'worst fiascos ever', f say MPs

Con 18 September 2013

Federa



Caveats

I'm not a medical professional, nor do I play one on TV

Software engineering and healthcare policy have wildly different constraints

You can't actually run a government like a startup

People are hard-working & well-intentioned

1 + 1 = 3

1 + 1 = 3 2

Complicated vs Complex

IT'S COMPLICATED



Complicated

Long chains of cause & effect

Linear relationships

Scientific management - "Taylorism"

No feedback loops

Complicated

Building a bridge is *complicated*

Millions of parts

Ruled by laws of physics

Repeatable, predictable

No non-linear effects



Complex

Can't separate cause & effect

Non-linear relationships

Manage & guide, not control

Feedback loops

Secondary & tertiary effects

Complex

Designing a road network is *complex*

Feedback loops and nonlinearities

Ruled by randomness

Impossible to predict

Possible to *model*



We live in a complex world

1 + 1 = 3 is obviously incorrect

Conveys a need to think *non-linearly*

Synergy is a result of complementary feedback loops

So is discordance

Need multiple *iterations* to explore problem space and solution space

Iterate, Iterate, Iterate





Passport Program Modernization Initiative

New passport processing system \$75M over budget



Passport Canada's new technology plan is overdue, overbudget, more complex than predicted

Passport Program Modernization Initiative

Expected surge of applications in 2023

Project launched in Dec 2013

Expected completion in June 2018

By Nov 2017 (4 years into 4.5 year schedule):

- No code written
- 75% over budget
- Deadline pushed 3 years

Passport Program Modernization Initiative





A Guide to Project Gating for IT-Enabled Projects - Treasury Board Secretariat

Reframe the approach

Phases of Engineering

Tracking implementation towards completion of original concept Reframe the approach

Phases of Engineering

Tracking implementation towards completion of original concept



Continuously exploring the problem-space and solution-space

Assumes we don't have all the answers at the beginning



Iterative Approach



Iterative Approach

Smaller steps

Rapid iterations, constant improvements

More rapid feedback, course correction

Expect & tolerate failure

Policies

WHAT FOTOLD YOU

POLICIES NEED TO KEEP PACE WITH RISK

Policies

- 1. Make something impossible, possible
- 2. Make something previously difficult, simple
- 3. Everything else

Self-Reinforcing Feedback Cycle

Large project fails

Management reacts

New policies are introduced

Policies are cumbersome & time-consuming

Encourages larger projects



Policies

Policies aren't law

Freedom to challenge policies

Don't underestimate the burden they create

Change environment first

Automate second

Trust





Communication

I came from a "traditional" business culture

• Mainly email, some phone

"Default to open" felt really weird

- All my instincts were wrong
- Mainly group chat and IM
- Some email
- Why are you calling me?

Communication

Get creative. Break the norms here.

Talk about how we communicate

Demand better tools, permission to experiment

Multidisciplinary teams really help here



Open First Whitepaper (DRAFT)

The Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat is writing this whitepaper to pull together our thinking on how to shift government to an "Open" approach. This paper will unpack and get into the details on the subject of "Open" in order to inform a few initiatives, including the new Enterprise Architecture Review Board (EARB) in setting standards (open standards, open source software (OSS)) that would influence our technological ecosystem as well as our Information Management - Information Technology (IM-IT) practices. Hopefully, this whitepaper will lead to a number of strategic changes to the Government of Canada (GC) approach, including an IM-IT digital strategy that favours the use of open standards as well as OSS and that this would be a central part of the GC digital policy. It's not just open standards and



Kayle Hatt Follow

Canadian Public Servant, Policy Wonk, Digital Change analyst. Previous experience at the alphabet soup: FCM, CCPA, PCO, Fin, TBS, TC, ETC. Not a spokesperson.

Oct 3

Help us build a Strategic Action Plan for Digital Government

Digital Government is about building a more responsive, more connected, more open government that provides better, easier to use services. <u>In my</u> <u>earlier blog post</u>, I said Digital Government is about "making government more like buying a house with e-signatures and less like learning how to use a fax machine."







Takeaways

Complex != Complicated

Optimize iteration speed

Align on values to introduce change

Policies are a burden

We move at the speed of trust

