

Freeform Solutions is a not-for-profit organization. Our mission is to help other not-for-profits use technology to build their capacity and increase their effectiveness.



We know from our own experience that not-for-profits operate under different constraints to other organizations. We know this because all of us have worked in not-for-profit organizations in a variety of operational, technical, managerial and voluntary roles. It is our collective experience in these roles that has drawn us to Freeform Solutions, and that we wish to share with you.

Some of the constraints of not-for-profits will be familiar to you:

- staff members are not always in the same office, city, or even province, often connected only by the internet
- staff members often have very different backgrounds and expertise
- there is often a high turnover in personnel (both staff and volunteers) making knowledge management and knowledge transfer a key challenge
- there is often no one specifically responsible for managing technology, and keeping everything working is something the “accidental techies” do in addition to their everyday work
- cash-flow is highly variable and difficult to predict

These realities are unlikely to change, so how do we improve in spite of them? We believe that positive changes can happen when organizations deploy appropriate information and communication technologies (ICTs) to help improve the way they get things done. We believe that through such deployments, our partner organizations can:

- carry out their operations more efficiently than before
- provide services they were unable to provide before
- increase the benefits that they provide to their constituents & beneficiaries
- improve the quality of information they can provide to their donors

We can assist our partners by providing the following services:

- assessment of your current operations and your current ICT systems (how are you doing what you do, right now)
- planning and delivery of improvements to your ICT systems (how you could/should/will do what you want to do in the future)
- sharing of best practices and open source technologies (different ways to do what you do)
- access to a development commons that fosters a sustainable ecosystem of technologies (sharing the lessons from your peer organizations in doing what they do)
- capacity building by reducing barriers to the management of technology, or by providing access to technology through hosted solutions (not doing what you don't have to do)
- integration of processes and systems (doing what you are best at, better)

We are interested in fulfilling a range of roles in our partnerships, from strategic advice through to ICT deployments and maintenance. We are more interested in relationships than projects. We work with our partners to understand their particular challenges, and to provide insight and options, not just solutions.

Our overall goal is to find innovative ways to build the capacity of the not-for-profit sector as a whole by improving the ways that not-for-profits operate. We are excited by the possibilities. We hope you are too. To find out more, let's start a conversation: