

Topic: Being Successful in the Nova Scotia job market. (Presentation aimed to help students develop their own entrepreneurial endeavors and be successful upon graduation)

Chris Turner

Chris has been working in the field of Geomatics and Information Management since he graduated from COGS in 1992. He began his career as a GIS Coordinator at the Center for GIS in Qatar, where he was heavily involved in helping set data standards for the State of Qatar. He also spent several years in Prince George, British Columbia where he served as a GIS Project Manager for a private sector firm serving the geomatics needs within the forest sector. Chris didn't have enough of the heat and desert, so he returned again to the Middle East where he worked as the GIS Coordinator for Qatar General Petroleum Corporation with a focus on assisting the development of an Enterprise wide GIS for approximately 5000 users.

Upon his return to Canada, he finally landed in Nova Scotia, and assumed the role of GIS Manager for a large environmental firm called Jacques Whitford Ltd (i.e. now Stantec). During his tenure he developed the Corporation's first GIS Enterprise Strategy and rolled out the first map service for Maine Yankee Nuclear Power Corp for asset tracking.

In the late 90's early 00's Chris became bored with GIS because he saw little growth in the industry or the discipline and decided to pursue more active roles in Information Management and Project Management for firms like Xwave, Manulife Financial and CGI (a large international IT firm).

At this time, the light finally came on for Chris when he realized he was bored with the advancements of GIS in industry not because of his lack of love for the discipline, but because of a lack of understanding from government and private sector bodies on what GIS was really supposed to do. Within weeks of his realization, Chris resigned from his current role and developed from scratch a blended best practice approach of Project Management, GIS, Best Practices and Information Management into a suite of best of breed services to developing Enterprise GIS roll outs. This was the inception model for Spatial Energistics Group (known today as SEG Consulting Inc.). Chris's story today, is a little different. It's not about fancy technologies, or fancy products; It's about how a company was born, and flourished in one of the worse IT growth years (2009) in the last 25 years; and is still growing and remains successful... Here is his entrepreneurial story....