



# Neighbourhood and Community Boundaries

User Manual  
v2010.2

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## About DMTI Spatial

DMTI Spatial™ Inc. is Canada's leading Location Intelligence provider. We enable users to understand their customers, optimize resources, realize opportunities, maximize profitability and make more informed decisions through accurate products and innovative thinking.

DMTI Spatial publishes precision built street map, rail and routing data (CanMap®), a detailed water layer, and innovative geocoding and address management software (GeoPinpoint™). In addition, DMTI Spatial publishes a full range of positionally accurate geospatial data products including: enhanced points of interest (EPOI), census data and boundaries, postal geography, topographic maps, and US mapping data. As part of a complete business geographic solution, DMTI Spatial™ offers a wide range of GIS services, consulting, and software training.

Established in 1994, DMTI Spatial is committed to setting the standard within the GIS industry for precision built geo-spatial data and address management services.

At DMTI Spatial, we believe that our true strength comes from working closely with our customers and providing innovative solutions to meet their strategic business objectives. As Canada's premier spatial solutions provider we pride ourselves with having worked with North America's leading organizations to support their mission critical applications.

DMTI Spatial works with large and small organizations representative of a wide variety of industries:

- Agriculture
- Banking/Finance
- Consulting
- Education
- Emergency Services
- Engineering
- Environmental
- Forestry
- Government
- Health
- High Technology
- Insurance
- Manufacturing
- Media
- Mining
- Real Estate
- Retail
- Telecommunications
- Transportation
- Utilities

We are a member of the ESRI Canada Business Partner Program, and winner of the 2001 ESRI Worldwide New Business Partner of the Year Award and the 2005 ESRI Foundation Partner of the Year Award. We are a strategic business partner of MapInfo and winner of the Markham Board of Trade 2000 Award for Entrepreneurship and Innovation. Recipient of The Association of Canadian Map Libraries and Archives (ACMLA) 2002 Certificate of Appreciation.



## Really Smart Spatial Solutions™

Through the application of its products and services, DMTI Spatial™ has been involved with projects such as: location-based services, logistics planning, emergency dispatch, facilities management, data management, customer care, address management, land base development in support of network planning, and marketing/demographic analysis applications.

DMTI Spatial™ can provide all of the components necessary for the acquisition, implementation, operation and maintenance of a successful GIS system within companies of all sizes. Through its product and service offering, DMTI Spatial™ can provide users with 5 key components:

1. Accurate, detailed, and compatible data
2. Comprehensive maintenance program
3. GIS software
4. Consulting and services
5. Software training

### DMTI Spatial™ Product & Service Portfolio

DMTI Spatial's product & service offering includes:

#### CanMap® - Digital Map Data for Canada

- CanMap® Streetfiles
- CanMap® RouteLogistics
- CanMap® Rail
- CanMap® Major Roads and Highways
- CanMap® Parks & Recreation
- CanMap® Water

#### Satellite Imagery

- Satellite StreetView™

#### Municipal Amalgamations

- CanMap® Municipality Amalgamation File (MAF)

#### Business & Recreational Points of Interest

- Enhanced Points Of Interest (EPOI)

#### GeoPinpoint™ Suite

- Canada's Geocoding Solution
- Modular Architecture
- Windows Standalone Desktop Version
- UNIX, Java Wrapper, ActiveX (DLL Version)

#### Topographic Data and Base Maps

- Canadian Atlas Map Bundle (CAMB)
- Populated Placenames
- National Topographic Data Base (NTDB)
- 30 & 90m Digital Elevation Models (DEM)
- Clutter Data

#### Postal Geography - Platinum Postal Code<sup>OM</sup> Suite

- Six-Digit Postal Code File (LDU Boundary)
- Enhanced Postal Code File (MEP)
- Forward Sortation Areas (FSA) Boundary File

#### 1996 Census Boundaries & Demographic Data

- Enumeration Area (EA)
- Census Subdivision (CSD)
- Census Division (CD)
- Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration (CMA/CA)
- Census Tract (CT)
- Federal Electoral Districts (FED)

#### 2001/6 Census Boundaries

- Dissemination Area (DA)
- Census Subdivision (CSD)
- Census Division (CD)
- Census Metropolitan Area/Census Agglomeration (CMA/CA)
- Census Tract (CT)
- Federal Electoral Districts (FED)

#### GIS Software

- Contour Modeling and Display
- Demographic Profiling and Lifestyle Targeting
- Geocoding and Mapping Software
- Routing and Logistics

#### Consulting and Services

- Address Management Solutions
- Application Development
- Database Marketing
- Data Conversion and Creation
- Database Scrubbing
- Geocoding Services
- GIS Consulting
- Technical Support

\*Postal code is an official mark of Canada Post Corporation

## Technical Support, Error Reporting & Product Enhancement Services

DMTI Spatial is committed to building the best products possible for our customers. By using our data every day in your mission critical application you are our best source for product refinement. Please let us know if you have an enhancement request or found an error in any of our products so that we can make the correction for the next release.

This is your opportunity to provide feedback directly to the DMTI Spatial Product Development Team. Please be as specific as possible so that we can improve our products quickly and accurately. To submit an error or request technical assistance please visit: <http://www.dmtispatial.com/en/Resources/TechSupport.aspx>

If you have an idea for a new product, or an enhancement request for an existing product, please e-mail: [pm@dmtdispatial.com](mailto:pm@dmtdispatial.com)

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## Trademarks and Notices

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## About CanMap® Neighbourhood and Community Boundaries

### Layer Properties

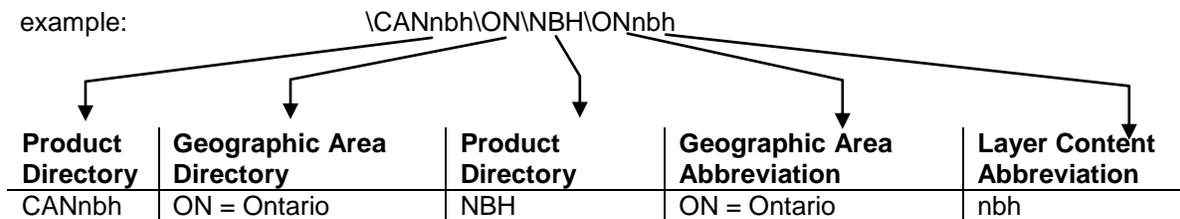
| Property          | Description   |
|-------------------|---|
| Coverage          | This file contains 4273 unique Neighbourhood Boundaries and 3138 unique Community Boundaries. Presently Neighbourhood Boundaries are only available in urban areas and Community Boundaries are available in both urban and rural areas. Neighbourhood and Community Boundaries will be continually added to the product as sources become available.   |
| Currency          | May 15, 2010  |
| Level of Accuracy | Neighbourhood boundaries data accuracy range from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digitized municipal sourced neighbourhood boundaries</li> <li>Digitized neighbourhood boundaries created based on text descriptions</li> </ul> Communities boundaries data accuracy range from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communities will reference the MAF product in urban areas. In rural areas, communities will be new boundaries created using a modeled approach.</li> </ul> |
| Projection        | All layers are displayed as unprojected Longitude-Latitude  |
| Datum             | All layers are in NAD83 datum   |
| Format            | ESRI and MapInfo <sup>1</sup>   |

### Layer Naming Conventions

The Neighbourhood Boundary File is organized into the following directory structure and uses the following directory and file naming conventions:

Geographic Area Abbreviation + Layer Content Abbreviation = Layer Name

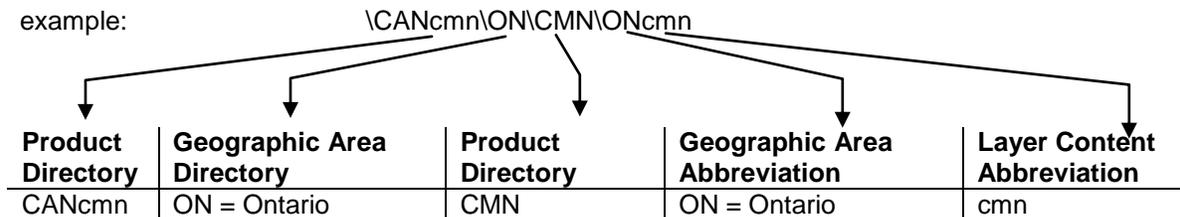
example:



The Community Boundary File is organized into the following directory structure and uses the following directory and file naming conventions:

Geographic Area Abbreviation + Layer Content Abbreviation = Layer Name

example:



<sup>1</sup> Custom formats available upon request. Refer to [Appendix A: ESRI File Extensions](#) and [Appendix B: MapInfo File Extensions](#) for more information regarding file extensions.

## About CanMap<sup>®</sup> Neighbourhood and Community Boundaries (*cont'd*)

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### Layer Contents

The Communities Boundary File (CMN) is comprised of the following layer:

| Layer Name           | Description                  | Feature Type |
|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| AREAcmn <sup>2</sup> | Communities (CMN) Boundaries | Polygon      |

Definition of Community:

A geographically defined area identified in part by a group of interacting people living in a common location. In addition to a common location, the community may be re-enforced by similarities shared within a location that include shared cultural, ethnic, or moral characteristics.

The Neighbourhood Boundary File (NBH) is comprised of the following layer:

| Layer Name           | Description                    | Feature Type |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| AREAnbh <sup>3</sup> | Neighbourhood (NBH) Boundaries | Polygon      |

Definition of Neighbourhood:

A geographically localized area within a larger city, town or suburb. Neighbourhoods are often social communities with considerable face-to-face interaction among members. *Neighbourhoods* can be used to refer to the small group of houses with similar housing types and market values. *Neighbourhoods* can also describe an area surrounding a local institution patronized by residents, such as a church, school, or social agency. The concept of neighborhood includes both geographic (place-oriented) and social (people-oriented) components.

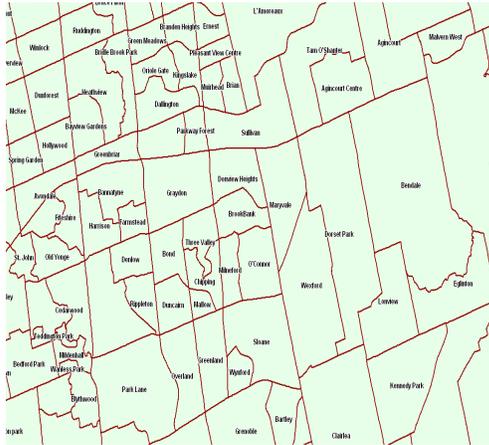
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<sup>2</sup> Where *AREA* refers to a DMTI Spatial Standard Geographic Areas

<sup>3</sup> Where *AREA* refers to a DMTI Spatial Standard Geographic Areas



## Neighbourhood Boundaries (NBH)



### Layer Location

\\NBH\AREAnbh

### Layer Structure

| Field Name | Field Type | Field Size | Description   |
|------------|------------|------------|---|
| NBHD_ID    | Decimal    | 11,0       | Unique ID assigned to every Neighbourhood boundary                          |
| NAME       | Character  | 70         | Neighbourhood name  |
| ALIAS      | Character  | 70         | Neighbourhood alias   |
| CPC_NAME   | Character  | 70         | Canada Post community name  |
| MAF        | Character  | 70         | Municipal Amalgamation name   |
| MAF_ID     | Decimal    | 9,0        | UniqueID assigned to each Municipal Amalgamation boundary                   |
| PROV       | Character  | 2          | Provincial/Territorial Abbreviation   |
| COUNTRY    | Character  | 3          | Country Abbreviation  |
| LONGITUDE  | Float      |            | X coordinate (boundary centroid)  |
| LATITUDE   | Float      |            | Y coordinate (boundary centroid)  |
| PREC_CODE  | Decimal    | 1,0        | Code indicating the positional accuracy or precision of the polygon feature |
| CONF_CODE  | Decimal    | 1,0        | Code that corresponds to the confidence of the provided source              |

## Communities and Neighbourhood Boundaries Look up Tables

### Precision Code Look Up Table

#### *Communities Boundaries*

| PRECISION CODE | DESCRIPTION  |
|----------------|--|
| 1              | Communities that reference the MAF product in urban areas.   |
| 2              | Communities created using a modeled approach in rural areas. |

#### *Neighbourhood Boundaries*

| PRECISION CODE | DESCRIPTION  |
|----------------|--|
| 1              | Boundary created for urban areas (digitized from source)                     |
| 2              | Boundary created for urban areas (using a variety of existing DMTI products) |

### Confidence Code (Neighbourhood Only) Look Up Table

| Confidence Code | Description          |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1               | Digitized Boundaries |
| 2               | Modeled Boundaries   |

## Appendix A: File Extensions

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### ESRI® File Extensions

Refer to the following table for descriptions of ESRI® file extensions. All file extensions are not available for all DMTI products.

| File Extension | File Description                 |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| *.shp          | Part of standard ESRI® Shapefile |
| *.shx          | Part of standard ESRI® Shapefile |
| *.dbf          | Part of standard ESRI® Shapefile |
| *.sbn          | Part of Spatial Index            |
| *.sbx          | Part of Spatial Index            |
| *.lyr          | Layer Properties                 |
| *.prj          | Datum and Projection Properties  |

### MapInfo® Professional File Extensions

Refer to the following table for descriptions of MapInfo file extensions.

| File Extension | File Description |
|----------------|------------------|
| *.dat          | Attribute Data   |
| *.id           | Graphic Index    |
| *.ind          | Attribute Index  |
| *.map          | Graphic Data     |
| *.tab          | Tab File         |

## Appendix B: Provincial and Territorial Abbreviations

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The provincial/territorial names and abbreviations reflect those in effect on January 1, 2001 with the exception of the name change of the province of Newfoundland and Labrador (previously Newfoundland), which came into effect on December 6, 2001. Newfoundland and Labrador is recognized by the alpha code NL (formerly NF). There were no changes to the abbreviation for Newfoundland and Labrador.

On April 1, 1999 the Northwest Territories was divided into two territories to create Nunavut Territory. On December 18, 2000, Canada Post has introduced a new alpha code (NU) for Nunavut.

| Province/Territory (English) | Province/Territory (French) | Abbreviation <sup>4</sup> |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Alberta                      | Alberta                     | AB                        |
| British Columbia             | Colombie-Britannique        | BC                        |
| Manitoba                     | Manitoba                    | MB                        |
| New Brunswick                | Nouveau-Brunswick           | NB                        |
| Newfoundland and Labrador    | Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador     | NL                        |
| Nova Scotia                  | Nouvelle-Écosse             | NS                        |
| Northwest Territories        | Territoires du Nord-Ouest   | NT                        |
| Nunavut                      | Nunavut                     | NU                        |
| Ontario                      | Ontario                     | ON                        |
| Prince Edward Island         | Île-du-Prince-Édouard       | PE                        |
| Québec                       | Québec                      | QC                        |
| Saskatchewan                 | Saskatchewan                | SK                        |
| Yukon                        | Yukon                       | YT                        |

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Canada Post Corporation, The Canadian Addressing Guide, October 2002

## **Appendix C: ISO 19115:2003 Compliant Metadata**

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### **Metadata Notification**

As of May 15<sup>th</sup> 2005, DMTI Spatial data products have metadata that are ISO 19115:2003 compliant.

This product now includes structured metadata files as provided in XML and/or HTM format. These metadata files reside with the graphic or database files to which they are associated. It is recommended that users review and customize the metadata as per their specific needs.

This latest addition to the CanMap<sup>®</sup> line of products is another enhancement that will benefit our users and increase overall product satisfaction.

## **Appendix D: Neighbourhood and Community Boundary FAQ**

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*Why can I not find the Neighbourhood or Community name I am looking for?*

The Neighbourhood and Communities boundaries have been created based on currently available sources. As we continue to find more sources, additional Neighbourhood and Community boundaries will be added to subsequent releases. Please feel free to use our Technical Support portal (<http://www.dmtispatial.com/helpdesk/index.aspx>) to let us know what boundaries you are interested in seeing.

*Why are some of the Neighbourhood or Community boundaries not as I expected?*

Each of the neighbourhood boundaries have been created using a variety of sources. These boundaries were only altered to adhere to the current data fabric of the DMTI Spatial data to have them nest together. Boundaries can be modified in subsequent releases through the identification of new sources and/or dialog with persons who are familiar with these areas. Some community boundaries were modeled using the DMTI populated place name (PPN) product and were designed specifically to contain the area's street network density to represent these areas. Since some of these communities are modeled they may be inaccurately depicted. As sources are identified for each community, the modeled will be removed and replaced with the boundary from the source.

*Why is there empty space between Neighbourhood and Community boundaries?*

Neighbourhood and Community Boundaries are not continuous and thus do not cover all areas of Canada. As more boundaries are added to the product, the amount of empty space will decrease.

*Why are there no neighbourhoods in rural areas?*

Neighbourhood boundaries have mostly been created for urban areas mainly due to sourcing. Currently, it seems that sourcing for neighbourhoods seems to be mostly available for urban areas. Most rural communities are too small to have neighbourhoods or do not provide public sources. Neighbourhoods may be created for rural areas in the future, if sourcing can be obtained.

*Some sources indicated that the city of Toronto has 140 Neighbourhoods while others have 317 - why?*

DMTI Spatial has identified two neighbourhood boundary sources for Toronto. One has 140 neighbourhood boundaries while the other has 317 neighbourhood boundaries. We have decided to include the source with 317 with the product as this provides in our opinion the best view of Toronto and its granular neighbourhoods.

*What is the coverage of neighbourhoods for Canada?*

This product includes neighbourhoods for the top 25 Census Metropolitan Areas (CMA) and most of the highest populated Census Subdivisions (CSD) across Canada.

*Does this product nest with other DMTI products?*

The neighbourhood boundaries were specifically designed to align with DMTI products. Due to the modeled nature of the community boundaries, these do not nest with existing DMTI products but rather represent the area based on street network density.

*Why are some of the neighbourhood names attributed with the value “To Be Determined (TBD)”?*

Several of the sources we received, contained neighbourhood boundaries that did not have naming associated to them. In order to keep these polygons unique for our users, we have decided to give them all unique TBD codes for (To Be Determined – e.g., TBD1). When names are acquired for these areas, the names will be updated appropriately.



**About DMTI Spatial:**

DMTI has been providing industry leading enterprise Location Intelligence solutions for more than a decade to Global 2000 companies and government agencies. DMTI's world-class Location Hub® platform uniquely identifies, validates and maintains a universe of location-based data. DMTI is the creator of market leading Mapping Solutions and maintains the gold standard for GIS location-based data in Canada.

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