Marcel Fortin is the Head of the Map and Data Library at the University of Toronto. He and his team support geospatial research and teaching across all three campuses of Canada’s largest post-secondary institution. Fortin teaches the course, The Power of Maps and Geographic Information in the Geography Department at the University of Toronto. He also teaches a course on GIS Librarianship at the U of Toronto’s Faculty of Information. In 2014 Fortin co-edited the book Historical GIS Research in Canada, published by the University of Calgary Press.

Presentation Abstract:
Spatial Data Discovery and Support in a Library Setting

It is no secret that there have been massive developments in geospatial data and technology worldwide over the past twenty years, with a tremendous explosion ten years ago with the adoption of a now ubiquitous worldwide mapping system, Google Maps. Libraries have played a large role in supporting this increase in demand for geospatial technology in the academic community. This presentation will examine the continued growth in demand for library geospatial services, and will also focus on some of the strategies, challenges, and policies libraries are adopting in order to continue to meet these demands.