



Crisis Commons Announces Toronto SnowMap

Crowd-Sourcing Allows Community to Help Community

Crisis Commons Toronto is pleased to announce the launch of a crowd-sourced mapping project to help visualize the upcoming snowstorm. Toronto's Snowmap will allow citizens to file and map reports about snow related problems, share information about power outages and business closings, or even just report a lost mitten.

By visiting <http://snowintoronto.crowdmap.com>, a user can see a map of other reports, read news articles and Twitter posts about the storm, and add his or her own observations, complete with the option to add photos or video to the report, mapped to a particular location. There are no fees or costs to participate.

Based on a platform called Crowdmap.com, this project combines citizen reporting, mapping, and social media to create an aggregation and visualization of all the information Torontonians feel like sharing about their experience during the snow storm.

For example, a user could post that they witnessed an accident, so traffic isn't getting through on Bloor Street. Another user could post photos from their afternoon tobogganing trip to Christie Pits. In other cities, some individuals have responded to these reports to help move stuck cars, shovel walkways, and check on people in need.

Help your neighbours, contribute to your community and help visualize the impending snowstorm.

About Crisis Commons:

Crisis Commons is a global network of volunteers who use creative problem solving and open technologies to help people and communities in times and places of crisis. Their projects include using social media and crowdsourcing initiatives to collect and organize information to support disaster and crisis response organizations.

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