Quarterly

Newsletter

June 2026

Inside This Issue

PG. 2

President's greetings

PG. 3

Agentic AI Governance: Managing the Coming Wave of AI Agent Sprawl

AI-Ready Data: The New Fuel for Intelligent Business

PG. 4

Training Data Transparency: Knowing What Your AI Has Been Eating

PG. 5

AI Governance Standards and Regulation: From Principles to Practice

OSFI E-23: Model Risk Management Enters the AI Era

PG.6

Data Sovereignty, Cloud Control, and Sovereign AI in Canada

Consumer-Driven Banking: When Data Moves With Permission

PG.7

Closing remarks and how to stay involved

Welcome to the second DAMA Edmonton newsletter of 2026. This is an exciting time for data management. AI governance, new government legislation and directives, AI agents, data governance, composable data architectures, and GenAI are rapidly changing how organizations create value from trusted data. For DAMA Edmonton, this creates a tremendous opportunity to bring our community together to learn, share, debate, and prepare for what comes next.

This year, our Chapter will continue to focus on practical learning and meaningful connection. Our regular monthly meetings, held on the last Thursday of each month from 5:00–7:00 p.m. at Edmonton Unlimited, will feature thought leaders, guest speakers, roundtable discussions, and networking opportunities. We are also expanding workshops based on member feedback, including our June 10 all-day session, **"Building Data Foundations: From Messy Data to Scalable Analytics,"** with speakers experienced at Google, JP Morgan, NTT, and Best Buy. In June, we will also host a DAMA Edmonton Patio Party at NAIT's Productivity and Innovation Centre, combining food, networking, and a wonderful rooftop view of downtown Edmonton.

Most importantly, mark your calendar for our **12th Annual Data Management Conference, "Powering Health and AI with Trusted Data,"** November 4–7, 2026, with the main conference on November 5–6 at NAIT PIC, workshops on November 4 and 7, and certification exams on November 7. More details are available at www.dama-edmonton.org.

Warm regards,

Peter Guest
President, DAMA Edmonton Chapter

Prepared by Stephen Kaiser

AGENTIC AI GOVERNANCE: MANAGING THE COMING WAVE OF AI AGENT SPRAWL

Agentic AI is moving from “help me write an email” to “help me complete the work.” These new AI agents can search information, call applications, update records, summarize decisions, coordinate tasks, and trigger workflow steps across the enterprise. That creates enormous business potential: faster service, smarter operations, improved productivity, and employees freed from routine coordination work. But it also introduces a new governance challenge. Organizations may soon have thousands—or even hundreds of thousands—of digital actors operating across systems, data stores, and business processes.

Gartner warns that by 2028, an average global Fortune 500 enterprise could have more than 150,000 AI agents in use, while only 13% of organizations believe they have the right agent governance in place. (Gartner). The lesson is clear: agentic AI needs a “control tower.” Every agent should have a defined owner, approved business purpose, identity, permissions, data-access rules, cost controls, monitoring, and a retirement plan. Organizations also need clear rules for when human approval is required, especially for customer-impacting actions, regulated processes, financial decisions, and anything that changes rights, obligations, or records. (Gartner)

Done well, agentic AI governance does not slow innovation. It gives organizations the confidence to scale AI safely, responsibly, and with measurable business value.

AI-READY DATA: THE NEW FUEL FOR INTELLIGENT BUSINESS

If agentic AI is the new digital workforce, then AI-ready data is the fuel, map, and rulebook that keeps it moving in the right direction. Generative AI and advanced analytics can produce impressive results, but only when they understand the data they are using. Poor definitions, inconsistent records, missing ownership, weak metadata, and unclear lineage can turn a promising AI initiative into a very confident source of confusion.

In 2026, leading data-management discussions increasingly point to the same conclusion: data quality, governance, AI governance, and data literacy are no longer back-office disciplines; they are business growth capabilities. (Dataversity) AI-ready data requires practical foundations: business glossaries so people agree on meaning, metadata so systems understand context, lineage so users know where data came from, and ownership so someone is accountable when quality issues arise. Modern governance platforms are also emphasizing catalogues, data products, lineage, explainability, transparency, and stewardship workflows. (DataGalaxy)

The opportunity is significant. When organizations build trusted, well-described, well-governed data, AI becomes more than a clever assistant. It becomes a reliable business partner. Data fabric concepts, using active metadata, automation, and shared understanding, point toward a future where trusted data can be found, understood, and responsibly used across the enterprise. (ibm.com)

TRAINING DATA TRANSPARENCY: KNOWING WHAT YOUR AI HAS BEEN EATING

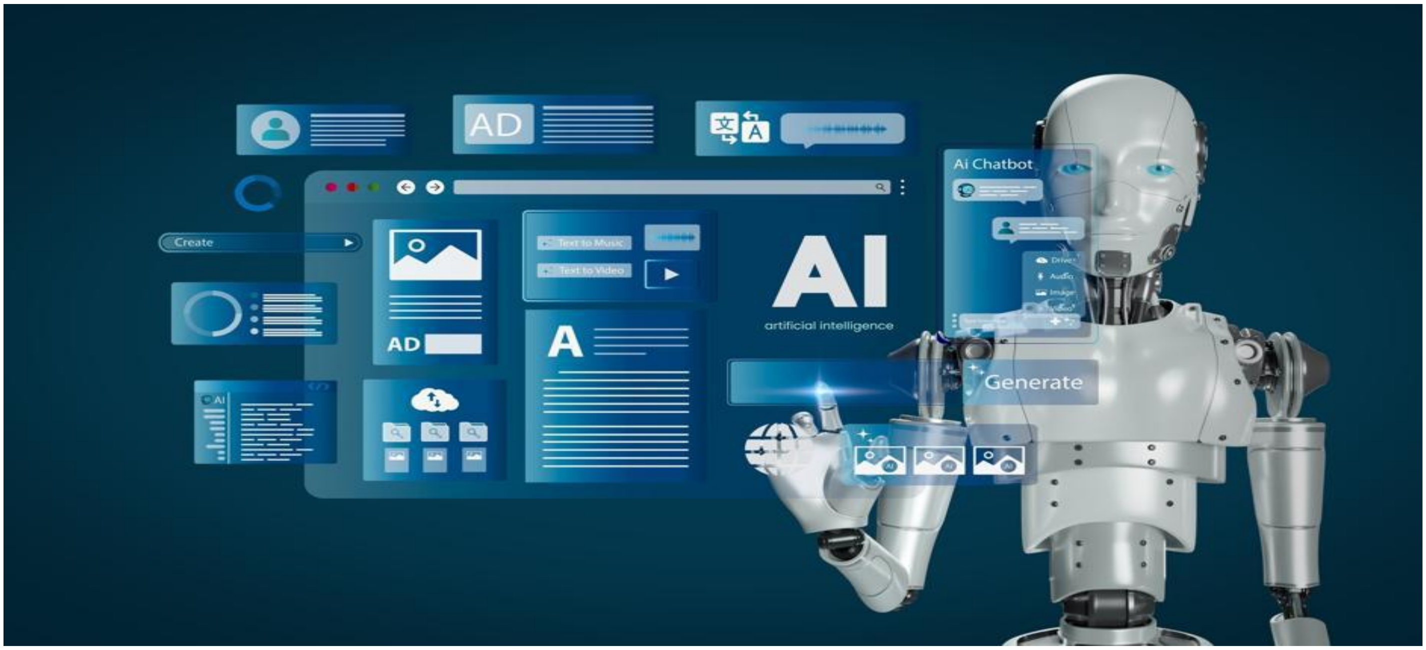

Image source: https://www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2025/02/03/generative-ai-vs-agentic-ai-the-key-differences-everyone-needs-to-know/

If AI-ready data is the fuel for intelligent business, training data is the diet that shapes how AI thinks, speaks, and decides. The problem is that many organizations do not fully know what their AI models have consumed. Was the data accurate? Was it current? Was it legally usable? Was it human-created, synthetic, copyrighted, biased, or quietly scraped from the web?

This matters because AI systems trained on weak or poorly documented data can produce confident but unreliable results. Even more concerning is the growing risk of “model collapse,” where future AI models are trained on the outputs of earlier AI models, gradually losing originality, accuracy, and connection to real-world evidence. Gartner has warned that organizations may need zero-trust data governance as AI-generated content becomes harder to distinguish from human-created information. (Gartner)

Regulators are also paying attention. California’s Training Data Transparency Act, effective January 1, 2026, requires public-facing generative AI developers to disclose high-level summaries of training datasets, including sources, types, size, intellectual property status, and personal information. (Reuters)

For data professionals, the message is powerful: provenance is no longer administrative paperwork. It is the foundation for trustworthy AI, regulatory confidence, and better business decisions.

AI GOVERNANCE STANDARDS AND REGULATION: FROM PRINCIPLES TO PRACTICE

AI governance is entering a new phase. For years, many organizations relied on broad principles such as fairness, transparency, privacy, and accountability. Those principles still matter, but in 2026 the conversation is shifting toward something more practical: inventories, risk assessments, documented controls, lifecycle management, testing, monitoring, and auditability.

The European Union's AI Act is helping drive this shift. The Act entered into force in 2024, with obligations applying in stages, including general-purpose AI requirements in 2025 and broader implementation milestones in 2026 and 2027. (Digital Strategy) In Canada, the Standards Council of Canada is offering accreditation for Artificial Intelligence Management Systems based on ISO/IEC 42001, the world's first international AI management system standard. (scc-ccn.ca)

For business leaders, the message is not "slow down." It is "build the guardrails that allow you to speed up safely." Good AI governance connects data governance, privacy, risk management, cybersecurity, legal compliance, procurement, and enterprise architecture. It ensures that AI systems are not only innovative, but also explainable, controlled, and aligned with business purpose. MIT CISR's 2026 work on "minimum viable governance" makes the point well: governance must be strong enough to manage risk, but light enough to keep pace with GenAI. (cisr.mit.edu)

OSFI E-23: MODEL RISK MANAGEMENT ENTERS THE AI ERA

As AI governance becomes more formal, Canadian financial institutions have a very practical signpost: OSFI's updated Guideline E-23 on Model Risk Management. Released on September 11, 2025, and effective May 1, 2027, E-23 sets expectations for enterprise-wide model risk management across banks, insurers, trust and loan companies, and other federally regulated financial institutions. (OSFI)

Why does this matter beyond compliance? Because models are no longer hidden in specialist teams. They are increasingly embedded in credit decisions, fraud detection, customer service, marketing, operations, forecasting, and AI-enabled automation. OSFI explicitly recognizes that artificial intelligence and machine learning are expanding model use into more business areas, with more diverse data sources and more complex techniques. (OSFI)

The opportunity is to treat E-23 not as paperwork, but as a playbook for trusted innovation. Institutions will need clear model inventories, risk ratings, ownership, validation, monitoring, documentation, and lifecycle controls. They will also need strong data governance, because OSFI emphasizes that model data should be accurate, fit for use, relevant, compliant, traceable, and timely. (OSFI)

For data professionals, E-23 reinforces a powerful message: trustworthy AI starts with trustworthy data, disciplined governance, and clear accountability. Done well, model risk management helps organizations innovate with confidence rather than hesitation.

DATA SOVEREIGNTY, CLOUD CONTROL, AND SOVEREIGN AI IN CANADA

As organizations move from model risk management to real-world AI deployment, a bigger question is emerging: who actually controls the data, cloud services, AI models, prompts, logs, and operational access? Data sovereignty is no longer just about whether information is stored in Canada. It is about who can access it, under which laws, through which providers, and with what safeguards.

This distinction matters. BLG's 2026 analysis notes that storing data in Canada does not automatically prevent foreign lawful access if the service provider or corporate structure creates exposure under foreign law. Sovereignty is therefore a matter of control, not simply location. (BLG) Canada is also investing attention in sovereign AI infrastructure, with ISED seeking proposals for large-scale AI data centres in Canada to support domestic innovation, industry, and research. (ISED Canada)

For business, the opportunity is significant. Sovereign AI can improve trust, resilience, regulatory confidence, and strategic independence. But it requires strong data governance: mapping data flows, managing vendors, limiting unnecessary data collection, protecting sensitive information, and proving who can see, change, or move data.

The Alberta List of Electors incident is a timely reminder that stewardship is not abstract. Sensitive data must be governed before it becomes a headline. (oipc.ab.ca)

CONSUMER-DRIVEN BANKING: WHEN DATA MOVES WITH PERMISSION

After data sovereignty comes the next big question: how can data move safely when customers want it to move? Canada's consumer-driven banking framework, often called open banking, is designed to let individuals and small businesses securely share financial data with approved service providers of their choice. The goal is simple but powerful: give people more control over their data while encouraging better financial tools, more competition, and new business models. (Canada)

For data professionals, this is a major shift. Consumer-driven banking depends on trusted APIs, consent management, identity verification, privacy protection, data quality, interoperability, monitoring, and accountability. In plain language, the customer may say "yes, share my data," but the organization must prove exactly what was shared, with whom, for what purpose, for how long, and under what safeguards.

The Bank of Canada says it will administer Canada's Consumer-Driven Banking Framework so Canadians and businesses can securely share financial data with approved providers and gain clearer choices and better tools to manage their finances. (Bank of Canada) The Competition Bureau also argues that data portability can give consumers more freedom, choice, and convenience while fueling competition and innovation. (Competition Bureau Canada)

The opportunity is bigger than banking. Consent-based data sharing could become a foundation for trusted digital services across the economy.

CLOSING REMARKS AND HOW TO STAY INVOLVED

Image source: https://www.dama.org/cpages/chapters

DAMA Edmonton thrives because our community does more than attend events—we learn, connect, contribute, and help raise the standard of data management across Alberta. Whether you are a seasoned data leader, an emerging practitioner, a student, or simply curious about the future of data and AI, there are many ways to get involved. Join us at monthly Chapter meetings, introduce a colleague to DAMA, share event information with your network, volunteer to help with registration or logistics, or contribute ideas for future speakers, panels, and workshops. Small contributions make a big difference in a volunteer-led organization.

Our last Chapter meeting was held on **May 28 from 5:00–7:00 p.m. at Edmonton Unlimited**, and featured a distinguished panel—**Robert Martin, Dr. Euijin Choo, and Katrina Ingram**—debating **“Securing Trust in the Age of LLMs.”**

June is active, with the **June 10 workshop, “Building Data Foundations: From Messy Data to Scalable Analytics,”** use the code “**DAMAEDM50”** to get a 50% discount

June 18 DAMA Edmonton Patio Party – Register for food and networking.

Finally, start planning for the **12th Annual DAMA Edmonton Data Management Conference, “Powering Health and AI with Trusted Data,”** November 5–6, 2026, at NAIT’s Productivity Innovation Centre, with workshops and certification exams on November 4th and 7th.