Reading Roadmap

Web

Team Mission

Advanced Mobile Contributions

Our goal is to support current mobile editors and to increase mobile contributions by making it easier for veteran contributors to access their preferred workflows from the mobile site.

In particular, we will be working on expanding the number of contributors-focused pages available on the mobile site and ensuring they are usable on a mobile device

Invest in the MobileFrontend & MinervaNeue frontend architecture

The mobile website (specifically MobileFrontend and MinervaNeue codebases) is technologically dated. This impedes development of new features and maintenance of existing ones. We want to iteratively refactor and revise the existing code in order to improve the developer experience, reduce technical debt, and prepare for future architectural changes

Your Q1 Goal

Advanced Mobile Contributions

Provide currently unavailable contribution workflows for medium and high-volume editors. Stage 1: Research

- Conducted around 30 interviews at Wikimania
- Determined list of pages we want to provide special attention to
- Tested prototypes for navigation for future iteration
- Collected a task force of interested editors we can reach out to directly for feedback
- Launched data investigations into mobile editing

Invest in the MobileFrontend & MinervaNeue frontend architecture

- Automate asset bundling in MobileFrontend/Minerva
- Speed up unit test execution and increase code coverage

Q2 & Q3/4

Q2
Advanced Mobile Contributions
- Continue working with our communities to ensure we are covering their needs and getting sufficient feedback
- Begin developing navigation and opt-in experience

Invest in the MobileFrontend & MinervaNeue frontend architecture
- Automate asset bundling in MobileFrontend/Minerva
- Speed up unit test execution and increase code coverage

Q3/Q4
Advanced Mobile Contributions
- Development on high-priority special pages & iteration
- Deploy to first set of wikis, deploy to all wikis

Invest in the MobileFrontend & MinervaNeue frontend architecture
- Make Minerva independent of MobileFrontend
- Review and refactor Minerva components

Why?

Advanced Mobile Contributions
- We wanted to focus on building mobile tools for veteran editors - moving editors away from using the desktop modes on their phones and into better experiences
- Exposing special pages and other workflows in the Minerva skin will give editors both functionality and familiarity

Invest in the MobileFrontend & MinervaNeue frontend architecture
- Improving our infrastructure so that we can be prepared for future technical and architectural changes

Dependencies

- We'll be working with Community Relations to expand our reach and get as many people from our community involved as possible. In particular, we'll want to expand our task force of people we can get direct feedback from

- Editing and Growth - we'll want to coordinate with these two teams as we make decisions throughout the process to ensure that our objectives are aligned

Android

Team Mission

Our goal is to understand, support, and increase mobile contributions, with a particular focus on attracting and retaining new contributors in emerging or historically under-served markets and languages.

We aim to do this by making contributing to Wikimedia via the Android app both intuitive and supportive. We will bring the same commitment to design, user testing, and quality that we have brought to Wikipedia's readers on Android to deliver compelling new contribution features that will benefit both existing communities and our newest contributors.

Q1 Goals

User test redesigned app navigation
Beginning this week

V0 of in-app notifications to encourage repeat editing
Code complete, pending analytics, QA and design sign-off

Community engagement around editing features
Underway in consultation with our CL

Q2 & Q3/4

Q2
Edit action feed (for captions, content translation "microcontributions", extending wikidata description editing) prototype and user testing.

Q3/4
Productionise edit action feed.
Prototype and user test native Talk pages and/or Watchlists.
Integrate additional notifications.

Why?

Equity is at the core of our work, so we want to make sure the mobile editing love is shared by all. By reaching out to new contributors in emerging and historically under-served markets, we can attract content that we might never otherwise have gotten in languages whose presence on Wiki doesn't match their presence in the world.

The first feature we're doing is around making contributing a rewarding experience. We hope that by telling people "Thank you!" for their contributions, we can keep them coming back - and we'll be gathering extensive quantitative data to make sure.

Subsequent features are around allowing all contributors (but we hope especially newer contributors) to find an easy and quick way to make a big impact, such as by adding/translating captions.

Dependencies

We'll be working with our friends in Commons on the edit action feed - they're aiming to provide us an API by late October/early November.

We'll also be working closely with Reading Infrastructure on other parts of the edit action feed.

Some of our expected features (Talk Pages/Watchlists) overlap with iOS from both a design and engineering POV. We'll be dividing up the work in a way that makes sense with each team's yearly goals.

Kudos to Chris Koerner for his help with community engagement, and to the wider design team (Nirzar, Daisy) for help with getting our user testing going! (And obviously to everyone on the Android team, who are awesome.)

iOS

Team Mission

Our goal is to understand, support, and increase mobile contributions, with a particular focus on existing Wikipedia contributors in target languages.

We aim to do this by making contributing to Wikimedia via the iOS app as good a user experience as we have made reading in the app. We will bring the same commitment to design, user testing, and quality that we have brought to Wikipedia's readers on iOS to deliver useful and delightful versions of existing contribution features.

Your Q1 Goal

Ship final Readers release (6.0.0)
Complete, with some bug fixes this week

Wikidata description editing
Just starting in earnest on our Q1 goal of adding Wikidata description editing. Starting small with a proven success on Android.

Design research for mobile edits
We're also investing heavily in design work for Q2 and beyond.

Q2 & Q3/4

Q2
Wikitext keyboard with predictive text entry.
Initial wikitext highlighting ability.
Basic useability fixes to the editing flow.

Q3 & Q4
Talk and Usertalk improvements.
Visual diffs and history.

Why?

Focusing on the wikitext editing surface and experience first:
- Android prototype and research with wikitext keyboard
- Core to the many workflows we want to support from the mobile taxonomy
- Believe there are real potential user experience improvements we can deliver

Going forward we have four sources of features:
1. User feedback
2. Community obligations
3. Research recommendations
4. Technology needs

Dependencies

Community resources - particularly finding people who are interested
Language translations support - targeting wikis with languages we don't speak
Data transition - getting used to and understanding editing data
Editing, Parsing and Community Tech for expertise

Multimedia

Team Mission

Build out and launch the first features of the Structured Data on Commons project - multilingual file captions first, then "depicts" tags along with other Wikibase statements.

This early work primarily targets established Commons and Wikidata editors who are familiar with the concept of structured data and just need the tools to do the work they've been looking forward to.

Your Q1 Goal

Goal 1:
Improve and update the code of user interface elements for multilingual file captions (this includes integrating OOUI with Wikibase JavaScript elements). **Status:** work in progress and on-schedule

Goal 2:
Develop working prototypes for adding/editing/removing "depicts" statements on UploadWizard and file page; expand on depicts search prototype as necessary. **Status:** work in progress and on-schedule

Goal 3:
Complete documentation for the new search features and specifications that have been added for SDC. **Status:** work not yet started

Q2 & Q3/4

Q2
 Launch structured multilingual file captions live to production Commons

Q3
Launch depicts "tags" and other Wikibase style statements live to production Commons

Why?

We're starting with file captions as the first release because it's the smallest possible user-facing element that we can launch with the least amount of disruption to existing user experiences and workflows.

The depicts launch in Q3 is critically important, and seen by many as the most game-changing feature of the entire project, so we've put especially heavy focus on making it as robust and useful as possible and setting aside the necessary time to make it shine.

Dependencies

MCR work completed by the Core Platform team

Support from Community Liaisons

Support from product analytics team for metrics and other data-wrangling needs

Use cases and requirements from the GLAM team to make sure we're satisfying the needs of our institutional partners

(and many thanks to all of the above teams for their help so far!)

Infrastructure

WIKIMEDIA
FOUNDATION

Mission & Q1 Goals

Yearly area of focus
Reading client teams support and development
Platform evolution, services and APIs. Page content service (PCS) APIs for mobile platforms
Better use of data program

Q1 status
- Maps handoff. Fixing critical bugs, security vulnerabilities, and upgrading OS to Stretch
- Page content service: Working on the mobile-html endpoint and improvements to other services, like adding language variant support from parsoid
- Adding wikidata support to /page/summary (for page previews on web in the future). Currently finalizing the requirement gathering phase
- Better use of data: Participating in the working group, consulting with Analytics engineering for their annual program, and in-progress hiring for an engineer to support the program through the year

Q2 expectations

- Continuing PCS development, consulting with apps teams to ensure the services will meet their needs and preparing migration paths
- Continuing with Better use of data work, onboarding new hire and start discussing specific work for *Output 3.1: Instrumentation* and *Output 3.2: Controlled experiment (A/B test) capabilities*. Possibly some effort on *Output 4.3: Wiki segmentation*
- Platform Evolution participation, involvement in WM Tech Conf pre and post conference
- Support for reading client teams, involvement in the edit feed prototyping for possible backend support in upcoming quarters

Parsing

Team Mission & Current annual focus

Team Mission since mid-2016
- (Input) Advance wikitext as a language (easier to write, faster to parse, less mistake prone).
- (Output) Making wikitext content easier to analyze, manipulate, evolve to support tools like Visual Editor, Content Translation, Wikitext Linting, and others.
- (Parsers) Arrive at a unified parser for reading as well as editing. **← Current Annual Focus**

Unified Parser
1. Close down output & feature differences between Parsoid & PHP Parser **← Since 2015**
2. Move Parsoid to core to address architectural and language complaints about Parsoid **← Since 2018**

Q1 goals & status

High-level Goal 1: Prototype and evaluate a Parsoid port to PHP
- Implement testing & performance features in Parsoid
  - Initial work done previous quarter; being ported to PHP now; more to follow after this
- Identify other work to front load in Parsoid before a port and implement some of these
  - Some initial work done; stalled till team offsite in September

High-level Goal 2: Fewer differences between Parsoid & PHP Parser
- For media, PHP Parser generates HTML similar to Parsoid's output
  - Some initial work done; stalled on other work; will be picked up again
- (Unpublished Q1 goal): Additional work towards language variant support in Parsoid
  - Some language support already deployed; more languages to come
- (Unpublished Q1 goal): Additional work towards an extension API to replace parser hooks
  - Initial tweaks done; some extensions ported over; more to follow

Q2 expectations

High-level Goal 1: Prototype and evaluate a Parsoid port to PHP
- Port additional token and DOM transformers to PHP & evaluate performance
- Identify and shortlist feasible PEG.js replacements for PHP

High-level Goal 2: Fewer differences between Parsoid & PHP Parser
- For media, PHP Parser generates HTML similar to Parsoid's output
- Complete language variant support in Parsoid including RFC hearing for using same solution in core
- Evaluate some PHP extensions using parser hooks to add equivalent extension API functionality in Parsoid