

Before you begin, READ THIS STATEMENT:

The editing of the XSLT stylesheet can be complex. The code has clearly identified editable areas and areas the not-intended-to-be-edited. All editable areas will have the comment code "can be customized". If you choose to edit the not-intended-to-be-edited areas of the stylesheet, the GSA may reject your XSLT stylesheet. SNSMR will not provide support on edits of these areas. We will only answer questions involving the editable areas. Feel free to explore and play with the XSLT stylesheet that controls the results.

Once you have customized your Front End, email the XSLT file with contact information of the Web developer(s)/webmaster(s) associated with it to [SNSMR](#).

Customizes in general

The majority of the customization is between lines 1 to 555. In this section of code, you will see comment code that tells what its use. The name of the variable is also another good indication of the code use. When the variable is prefixed with “**show_**”, this is where you decide to neither active it or not. The value of 1 will activate the code while 0 will deactivate it. The line, below the “**show_**” variable, is for the value of code snippet. It can be used for anything from text to an URL or pixel value to the height or width for an image to the hex value for the colour of a border.

For example, at line 254 you can either activate the favicon for the browser or not.

```
<!-- *** show favicon *** -->
<xsl:variable name="show_favicon">1</xsl:variable>
<xsl:variable name="favicon">http://www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/flag2.ico</xsl:variable>
```

This will show SNSMR favicon in the browser.

Adding a Header and Footer

You may customize your GSA search results page to include a header and footer that you create. If you do not wish to customize your search results page, what people will see is the default search results page ([sample search results page](#)).

Develop your header and footer code that you want to appear on the search results page. We recommend you keep your code **simple**. You do not want to waste too much screen real estate with giant graphics and text.

When developing the header and footer code, **keep these things in mind:**

- Your header and footer code needs to be valid XHTML code (you may validate on the [xhtml1-transitional DTD](#)).
- All paths (e.g., to images or links) in your code must be absolute (e.g., begin with `http://` and contain the full path to the file or location).

An example of valid XHTML header code:

How to Customize the Google Search Appliance's Results Page

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```
<div id="header">
  
</div>
```

An example of valid XHTML footer code:

```
<div id="footer">
  <a href="http://www.yourDomain.ca/contact.asp" title="Contact Us">Contact
Us</a>
  | <a href="http://www.yourDomain.ca/privacy/"title="Privacy Policy">Privacy
Policy</a>
  | <a href="http://www.yourDomain.ca/cookies.asp" title="Use of
Cookies">Cookies</a>
  | <a href="http://www.yourDomain.ca/sitemap.asp" title="Site Map">Site Map</a>
  | <a href="http://www.yourDomain.ca/gsa.asp" title="Search Our
Website">Search</a>
  | <a href="http://www.yourDomain.ca/" title="Homepage">Homepage</a>
</div>
```

Open either **gsa-xhtml-VALID.en.xslt** or **gsa-xhtml-VALID.fr.xslt** in your favorite editor. Save this file under a new file name so you always have a copy of the original state. We suggest you name the file **yoursite.xslt**. For example, for Service Nova Scotia, we would name it **snsmr.xslt**.

Search through the xslt file for the commented text "My global page header/footer (can be customized)" (line 287). Insert your header code between the "header" comment lines and footer code between the "footer" comment lines.

NOTE: Once again, the code has clearly identified editable areas and areas the not-intended-to-be-edited. All editable areas will have the comment code "can be customized". If you choose to edit the not-intended-to-be-edited areas of the stylesheet, the GSA may reject your XSLT stylesheet. SNSMR will not provide support on edits of these areas. We will only answer questions involving the editable areas.

Email [SNSMR](mailto:snsmr@gov.ns.ca) your XSLT stylesheet as an attachment and indicate your Frontend name. We will then import your custom XSLT stylesheet into the GSA to be associated with your Frontend.

GSA Search Code

Please visit <http://gov.ns.ca/snsmr/gsa/> for the GSA search code.