What is RDC?

Mark Leggott, Executive Director | RDC Webinars | Jan 12, 2017

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Research Data Canada – Données de Recherche Canada

Research Data Canada is supported by CANARIE, an organization dedicated to advancing Canada's knowledge and innovation infrastructure.



> Context







Thirty organizations, including scientific journals, nonprofit groups, and research institutes, announced jointly ... that they would share any data or results that could be helpful in fighting the spread of Zika.

Zika threat prompts sweeping scientific collaboration. STAT, Eric Boodman. February 10, 2016





from rapidly sharing data during an outbreak.

Zika-microcephaly paper sparks data-sharing confusion. Ewen Callaway, Nature: 12 February 2016.









Biden report identifies data as key to breakthroughs in Cancer Moonshot

Biden's moonshot cancer plan calls for more data sharing

Calling on Data Enthusiasts to Help Advance Cancer Research

Biden pushes cancer research datasharing, threatens to pull funds from outliers



Biodiversity

- > OED: Diversity of plant and animal life, esp. as represented by the number of extant species.
- > Need to preserve species at risk...
- > somewhere in that biodiversity is the cure for...



> Everything.

Dataversity

- Diversity of data and information, esp. as represented by the amount that is openly accessible.
- > Need to preserve data at risk...
- > somewhere in that dataversity is the cure for...
- > Everything.





7 Reasons for Not Sharing Data

- 1. Will be disadvantaged in academic rat race
- 2. A researcher will "scoop" me using my data
- 3. Data may not be replicable
- 4. Another will come up with different results
- 5. Data is poor/in poor shape
- 6. The data is confidential
- 7. Technical challenges to sharing data

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4909097/





"A closed book is but a block of wood."

An inaccessible dataset is but a flash of electricity.



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> The Charge



What would happen to discovery and innovation and society as a whole - if all research outputs were made publicly accessible tomorrow?



A bold experiment in open science



Montreal Neurological Institute director Guy Rouleau says that neuroscience isn't progressing quickly enough. He and his colleagues have decided to do something daring to shake things up – making all their research data widely available and forgoing patents on their discoveries. Read more

"If 100 people look at the data that I work with, some of them will be interested in different things than I'm interested in. It's not that I don't think I'm smart, but I have my own particular point of view. Other people looking at the same data would ask different questions than I would and that might lead to something new."

Guy Rouleau, Director, Montreal Neurological Institute



Data Input Data Training Enhancement **Data Validation**



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> Research Data Canada



Development of RDC

>Initial effort to create RDC in late 2011

- Recommendation of Sep 2011 Data Summit
- Pam Bjornson initial Chair until 2016, NRC supported
- Steering Committee University and Federal

>CANARIE support in 2015

- RDC funding added to 2015-2020 mandate
- Walter Stewart provided Director role 2015-16
- Mark Leggott hired as first Executive Director in February 2016







Canadians have access to national and international collections of publiclyfunded research data.







Mission

Work with stakeholders to ensure research data is re-usable in support of innovation that benefits all Canadians.



Strategy

- >Facilitate the development of a collection of integrated National Data Services that support researchers through all stages of the research lifecycle and promote compliance.
- >Focus on enabling activities increasing stakeholder alignment, promoting support for data reusability and/or addressing gaps in enabling technologies.
- >Liaise with international RDM agencies/projects











Steering Committee

>Steering Committee

- Provides direction and guidance
- David Castle (VPR, U Victoria)
- Members from Funders, Higher-Ed, Non-Profit, Commercial
- Meet Quarterly to provide direction

>Focus for 2017 is to facilitate a conversation around the development of National Data Services



Standing Committees

>Standards & Interoperability Committee

- BP: Persistent IDs | BP: Data Deposit Guidelines | BP: Scholar Metadata | IRIDIUM RDM Glossary
- Focus on what standards and best practices would ensure a robust NDS and interoperability with international efforts – work closely with CASRAI

>Infrastructure Committee

- BP: National NDS Survey | BP: Requirements for a Canadian National NDS | Survey: RDM Capacity
- Focus on what the infrastructure requirements are for an accessible NDS – work closely with LCDI



Standing Committees

>Policy Committee

- BP: RDM Guidelines and Policy Templates | BP: Research Data Governance | NDS Governance Models
- Focus on approaches to governance for a NDS and one that intersects national, regional and provincial

Communications, Outreach and Education Committee

- Website/Blogs/Webinars | ResearchLink RDM Ecosystem Map | Survey: Education/Outreach Activities
- Focus on national focus groups and sessions, including a National Data Summit in September 2017



Participating

>Join RDC newsletter mailing list

- >Review RDC outputs and provide feedback
- Participate in a Standing Committee and/or Working Group
- Participate in RDC-hosted and other meetings to discuss RDM in Canada
- >Help build capacity for RDM in Canada





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