Tri-Agency
Data Management Initiative

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Rationale

- Excellence in data management is fundamental to research excellence.

- Ultimately allows research results to be accessible across disciplines, research areas and platforms, while ensuring that appropriate safeguards are in place and the creators of the datasets are acknowledged.

- In response to advances in digital technology, research data management practices and policies are evolving quickly in leading research countries.

- Data management capacity is increasingly linked to Canada's international competitiveness.

Tri-Agency Context

- Agency work on digital research
  - Open Access Policy on Publications (2015)
  - CIHR Data Requirements (2008)
  - SSHRC Data Archiving Policy (1990)

- Government of Canada activities
  - Action Plan on Open Government / Open Science Commitment

- Stakeholder activities
  - Organizations across Canada are increasingly focusing their attention on data management issues, sometimes as the core feature of their mandate

Tri-Agency Context: Some Stakeholders

- Leadership Council for Digital Infrastructure
  - DI Summits - 2012 and 2014

- Universities Canada
  - Working group to examine issues related to data and digital infrastructure

- Research Data Canada
  - "Federated pilot" to assess infrastructure requirements for data management

- Canadian Association of Research Libraries
  - "Portage" project developing a national preservation service and centre of expertise in data management

- CANARIE
  - Designs and delivers digital infrastructure

- Compute Canada
  - Provides advanced research computing systems, storage and software

- Canada Foundation for Innovation
  - Cyber-infrastructure funding program

Data Management Initiative Background

2013-2014

- Tri-Agency + CFI consultation document: *Capitalizing on Big Data: Toward a Policy Framework for Advancing Digital Scholarship in Canada* (2013)

- Established Tri-Agency working group with Research Data Canada and CARA observers

- Participated in discussions at meetings of CSPC, CASRAI, CARA, CARL, etc.

- Environmental scan: Kathleen Shearer, *Comprehensive Brief on Research Data Management Policies*.

- Established external advisory group

Data Management Initiative Recent Activities

Spring/Summer 2015:

- Drafted *Tri-Agency Statement of Principles on Digital Data Management*

- Engaged external advisory group for initial comment

- Shared with research community for feedback (July 17-Sept. 4)

Statement of Principles
on Digital Data Management

- Outlines the Agencies' overarching expectations with regards to research data management, and the roles and responsibilities of researchers, research communities, research institutions and research funders in meeting these expectations.

- Does not include mandatory requirements.

- Aims to establish a common set of principles that will serve as the basis for the development of data management requirements that the Agencies will establish collectively or individually.

Statement of Principles on Digital Data Management

Feedback Period (July 17-September 4, 2015)

The Agencies received 44 responses during the "feedback period" on the draft *Statement*, from the following groups:

Universities	University Libraries/Librarians
Faculties/Departments	Colleges
Data Service Providers	Research Centres/Institutes
Researchers	Information Technology specialists
Scholarly Associations	NGOs

Reactions to the Statement were on the whole quite positive

Statement of Principles
on Digital Data Management

Feedback Period (July 17-September 4, 2015)

Responses did reveal concern, generally pertaining to "realizing" the Statement, the path forward, and the challenges of implementing data management requirements. These concerns include:

Gaps in physical and human capacity; funding needed to address	Applicability of the Statement to the humanities
Researcher awareness of rationale and elements of data management	Balancing disciplinary freedom and interoperability
Guidance on data management best practice	Role of research institutions in ensuring ethics compliance

Data Management Initiative
Current Activities and Next Steps

Fall 2015

- Examined submissions from feedback period
- Revised Statement of Principles as necessary
- Goal: by end of 2015, Agencies formally adopt the Statement as a "living document"

Winter/Spring 2016:

- Consult on realizing the principles – development of requirements, etc.
- Promotion and awareness
- Determine next steps

Data Management Initiative Moving Forward

- Develop Tri-Agency data management requirements
  - Likely to include data management plans, initially as a learning opportunity
  - Engage community on scope and timelines

- Facilitate community preparedness
  - Some disciplines/institutions more advanced than others

- Engage stakeholders on infrastructure and capacity
  - Physical and human capacity is needed

Collaboration is Key

Thank you!
Merci!