What is RDC?

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

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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
...concerned that this lack of formal recognition could dissuade others from rapidly sharing data during an outbreak.

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 data-sharing, 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.
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
Training
Impact
Innovation
Linkages
Serendipity
Reusability
Data Enhancement
Data Validation
Reproducibility
Discoverability
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
Vision

Canadians have access to national and international collections of publicly-funded 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
Research Information

ONC
NRC
COU
ISED
CARL
ODC

Open Information

RDC
CASRAI
Re-Use

Research Data

Portage
RDA
CUCCIO
LCDI
CC
CANARIE
CAUL
TC3+

Open Data
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