Webinar: Surveying Institutional Preparedness for Research Data Management

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- This webinar may be recorded and the chat may be archived for those who are unable to attend.
- We encourage you to use the latest version of Zoom so that you have access to all of the features.
- Please use the chat feature if you are having technical difficulties or have additional resources to share.
- Please use the Q+A option to ask questions of the presenter(s). Questions will be addressed at the end. You may also raise your hand if you wish to ask a question.
- Questions may be asked in English or French.
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We do not tolerate harassment of any kind.
The Presenters

Alexandra Cooper is the Data Services Coordinator at Queen's University Library. She is a member of RIEG, Dataverse North, and the Canadian RDM Survey Consortium. She is also a member of the OCUL Ontario Data Community and serves as chair of Statistics Canada’s DLI Professional Development Committee.

Dylanne Dearborn is the RDM Coordinator at University of Toronto Libraries. She has been part of Portage since 2016, and is currently a member of RIEG and the Canadian RDM Survey Consortium. She is also a Member of the IASSIST Administrative Committee.

Shahira Khair is a Data Curation Librarian at University of Victoria Libraries and Chair of the Portage Research Intelligence Expert Group (RIEG). She currently holds a part-time secondment with Canada’s New Digital Research Infrastructure Organization (NDRIO) as a Senior Analyst to support assessment and strategic planning initiatives.
Surveying Institutional Preparedness for Research Data Management

Research Intelligence Expert Group
26 May 2020
Poll #1
Objectives for Today

● **Sharing Key Results of Recent RIEG Work**
  ○ Institutional RDM Strategy Survey
  ○ Institutional RDM Capacity Survey

● **Gathering Community Input**
  ○ What’s important to you and your institution?
Research Intelligence Expert Group

**Purpose:** provide oversight of specific studies that gather evidence and produce reports on RDM topics of national interest

**Roadmap:** identify gaps in our knowledge of RDM, including practices, developments, culture, and policies in Canada
Gap 1 - Institutional RDM Strategy

1) **Gap** = Information related to RDM policies and strategic planning within research organizations and post-secondary institutions

**Outcome** = Survey to assess the current status of efforts to develop RDM strategies in Canadian research institutions (June 2019)

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Gap 2 - Institutional Capacity

2) Gap = Understanding institutional capacity, local capacity, national capacity

Outcome = Survey to assess RDM infrastructure, services, resources, staffing and regional/national engagement at Canadian institutions (Oct 2019)

Poll #2
The Surveys

- Highlight findings
- Discuss barriers and challenges
- Provide next steps
Institutional RDM Strategy Survey
(June 2019, 88 responses from 63 institutions)
Development Status (as of June 2019)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Status</th>
<th>Institutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Have not started yet</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Reviewing available support</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Formed a working group/committee</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Assessing institutional capacity</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Defining a desired end state</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Creating a draft strategy</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Creating a roadmap/action plan</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Draft strategy document currently under review by administration</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Finalized the institutional strategy document</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Posted the institutional strategy document on the website</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Resources for Developing Strategies

- Portage template: 64
- Existing policies: 44
- Other guidance docs: 33
- Consultants: 2
- Workshops: 16
- Other: 11
Challenges & Obstacles

- Uncertainty around when final Tri-Agency RDM policy will be announced
- Lack of practical/directed guidance for institutions
- Complexity of ecosystem
Institutional RDM Services Capacity Survey
(October 2019, 77 institutions)
Capacity Survey Response Breakdown

- **Atlantic**: 9 institutions
- **Quebec**: 14 institutions
- **Ontario**: 14 institutions
- **West**: 15 institutions

- **Government**
- **Research Centre**
- **College/CEGEP**
- **University**
Institutional RDM Policy

Number of institutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Have RDM policy</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under development</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not chosen</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RDM Collaboration

Internal

• Library, research administrative bodies, senior management, and IT departments are leading or participating the most
• Faculties, ethics boards, graduate studies, data science centres, and the legal department are also participating

External

• High regional and national participation
RDM Staffing Positions

- Created: 24 institutions, 2 universities, 13 colleges/CEGEP, 1 other
- Reassigned/part of another position: 8 institutions, 13 universities, 1 college/CEGEP, 1 other
- None: 12 institutions, 12 universities, 0 colleges/CEGEP, 0 other
- No answer/not applicable: 1 institution, 3 universities, 0 colleges/CEGEP, 0 other
RDM Support Services

Informational website(s)
Advisory services
Technical support
Data computing services
RDM best practices or DMP training
Targeted hands-on RDM workshops
Curation support
Specific financial support to researchers

Library
IT departments
National resources
Plan to provide
RDM Support Services

Informational website(s)
Advisory services
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Specific financial support to researchers

Plan to provide

Library
IT departments
National resources
## Current Skill Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skills</th>
<th>Fully available</th>
<th>Partially available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>48</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical skills - managing sensitive data</td>
<td>43</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data security and risk management</td>
<td>39</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data analysis and visualization</td>
<td>38</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metadata creation</td>
<td>35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data curation</td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data preservation</td>
<td>36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical skills - e-infrastructures</td>
<td>38</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research software development</td>
<td>41</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Researchers’ operational data management</td>
<td>44</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of national policies</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisory</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Barriers & Challenges

- Absence of policies/guidelines/coordination at regionally or national level: 38.3%
- Legal, confidentiality, technical concerns: 55.0%
- Lack of coordination: 59.7%
- Lack of support, training, awareness of researchers: 62.3%
- Funding/costs: 63.6%
- Lack of skills/time: 67.5%
- Lack of awareness/incentives: 70.1%
Insights Reports (coming soon!)

1. Organization, Collaboration, Strategy/Policy, and Business/Sustainability

2. Support, Infrastructure, Skills

3. Awareness, Barriers/Challenges, Accelerators
Upcoming RIEG Projects

For more info on RIEG

E-mail: portage@carl-abrc.ca
Q&A Session

Please use the “Q&A” button at the bottom of your Zoom window to ask a question.
Poll #3
Discussion Question 1

Which of our proposed further research areas are most important to you?

Are there other areas you’d be interested in knowing more about that we haven’t mentioned?
In the last year, how has your institution mobilized in relation to the challenges and barriers we mentioned?
Discussion Question 3

How could changes/developments in researcher RDM practices affect the direction your institution is taking?
Outline

- Introducing speakers, moderator, panelists (Jen) ~ 1 min
- Introduce topic and objectives for session (Shahira) ~ 1 min
- RIEG, background + intro to surveys (Dylanne) ~ 7 min
- Institutional strategy survey + results (Shahira) ~ 7 min
- Institutional capacity survey + results (Alex) ~ 10 min
- Upcoming RIEG work
- Open Q/A session (All, moderated by Jen)
- Guided participant discussion (All, moderated by Jen)
Institutional RDM Strategy Survey

Conducted June 2019

Distributed on various listservs
- CANLIB-DATA, RDC VPR listserv, etc.

Good response rate
- 88 responses
- 63 organizations

Portage Research Intelligence Expert Group
Institutional RDM Strategy Survey - Summary of Results

ISSUE

In May 2019, the Tri-Agency announced a draft Research Data Management Policy with the objective of supporting Canadian research excellence by promoting sound data management and data stewardship practices. A central component of this draft policy was a requirement that each institution administering Tri-Agency funds create a strategy outlining how they will provide their researchers with an environment that enables and supports research data management.

Since the announcement of this draft policy, research institutions across Canada (post-secondary institutions, in particular) have been preparing to meet this new requirement for an institutional research data management strategy.

RESPONSE

Portage is a Strathy-based network of Canadian experts in research data management. The network develops best practice, facilitates training, and advances national platforms for planning, resourcing, and disseminating research data. The network’s Research Intelligence Expert Group (RIEG) gathers evidence to guide the promotion of best practices in Canada and informs the stakeholder communities about issues arising related to policy and practices.

Anticipating the announcement of the official Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy, RIEG created an online survey to gather information on the successes and challenges Canadian research institutions are currently experiencing in developing their own institutional strategies on research data management. The survey mirrored the progress that has been made and what more support Portage and other stakeholder groups could provide.

The online survey was publicly released on June 9th, 2019 and closed June 28, 2019. The survey was advertised on various listservs and by direct invitation.

ANALYSIS

A. Response

The survey received 88 complete and partial/partially submissions from respondents, who represented 63 research institutions across Canada. Figure 1 summarizes institutional representation, according to region and institution type.

As seen in Fig.1, respondents overwhelmingly represented university institutions (76%).
- 133 U of U research institutions were represented in the responses.
- 46-99 Universities Canada member institutions were represented in the responses.

1 DRAFT Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy - For Consultation
http://www.scienc.gc.ca/eng/35159420000159.html

Recommendations

● Collect and share exemplar strategies
● Develop peer-peer communities of practice
● Provide more explicit best-practices
RDM Support Services

group services by provider; talk about; delete slide 25
separate out plan to provide - all had intentions to
provide [selected by over 30 institutions]: Alex, you can
alternatively present them by providers

• Informational website(s) [library (49); national resources (32)]
• Advisory services [library (41)]
• Technical support [IT (30)]
• Data computing services
• General RDM best practices or DMP training [library (37)]
• Targeted hands-on RDM workshops [library (33); plan to
  provide (35)]
• Curation support [library (39)]
RDM support services - Support providers

Local (plan to OR currently provide):

- **Library:** all services
- **IT:** data computing services, technical support

National:

- training, workshops, information resources

Plan to provide - number of institutions choose this option

*Portage ran the survey so expect that the majority of responses would be from libraries.*
Institutional RDM Services Capacity Survey

Conducted September - October 2019

Distributed on various listservs
- CANLIB-DATA, RDC VPR listserv, etc.

Good response rate
- 85 responses
- 77 institutions
Institutional RDM Strategies

Have RDM strategy

- Yes: 4
- No: 34
- Under development: 35
- Don't know: 1
- Not chosen: 3

Number of institutions