

CNC Research Data Management (RDM) Strategy

Why does CNC have an RDM Strategy?

The purpose of this strategy is to ensure that research conducted on behalf of CNC accords with the Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy. Research Data Management (RDM) is important to ensure effective use of public research funds, accountability to appropriately manage research data, replicability of research studies, and robust communication of research results.

The Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy requires that post-secondary institutions publish an RDM Strategy that reflects institutional capacity and needs. CNC encourages a wide range of research activities focused on local and regional partnership. Collaborating to provide data management resources, tools, and protocols to CNC researchers is important for expanding CNC's capabilities to conduct quality research.

Sound RDM aligns with CNC's strategic commitments to organizational agility and responsiveness to community needs. Adapting systems to ensure that CNC staff have clear expectations about data storage and access will improve the institution's overall capacity to conduct quality research. Further, ensuring research data is accessible and re-useable will improve effective knowledge transfer to CNC's partners in research.

CNC understands the importance of balancing data security and confidentiality with the availability of research data. Sound data management practices should mean that research data is broadly accessible. This strategy commits to making research data as accessible as possible while still abiding by the ethical and contractual obligations to funders, partners, and relevant communities.

Principles

CNC supports the following RDM principles outlined by the Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy:

- recognizing data as an important research output;
- supporting researchers in their efforts to establish and implement data management practices that are consistent with ethical, legal and commercial obligations, as well as tri-agency requirements, including the [Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans – 2nd edition](#), the [Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research](#), and other relevant policies;
- promoting the importance of data management to researchers, staff and students;
- guiding their researchers on how to properly manage data in accordance with the principles outlined in the [Tri-Agency Statement of Principles on Digital Data Management](#), including the development of data management plans;
- committing to the adoption of established best practices when developing institutional standards and policies for data management plans;

- providing, or supporting access to, repository services or other platforms that securely preserve, curate and provide appropriate access to research data;
- recognizing that data created in the context of research by and with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities, collectives and organizations will be managed according to principles developed and approved by those communities, collectives and organizations, and in partnership with them;
- recognizing that a distinctions-based approach is needed to ensure that the unique rights, interests and circumstances of the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit are acknowledged, affirmed, and implemented.

Implementing RDM at CNC will mean adherence to [FAIR Principles](#) for data management:

- *Findable*. Data can be found using consistent identifiers and naming conventions.
- *Accessible*. The protocol to access data is clear to those with permission to access it.
- *Interoperable*. Data is formatted such that it can be integrated with other data or into existing workflows.
- *Reusable*. Research data is maintained so that it can be re-analyzed in future research.

Definitions

This strategy recognizes the following key definitions as defined by the Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy.

Research Data

The Tri-Agency Research Data Management policy defines research data as ‘...data that are used as primary sources to support technical or scientific enquiry, research, scholarship, or creative practice, and that are used as evidence in the research process and/or are commonly accepted in the research community as necessary to validate research findings and results.’

Research Data Management (RDM)

The Tri-Agency Research Data Management policy defines research data management as ‘...the processes applied through the lifecycle of a research project to guide the collection, documentation, storage, sharing and preservation of research data.’

Implementation goals

CNC will support RDM implementation via three key mechanisms:

1. Data Management Plans (DMPs)

CNC acknowledges that creating DMPs is a critical responsibility of researchers. Internal review of research proposals will ensure DMPs account for how data will be collected, documented, formatted, protected and preserved; how existing datasets will be used and what new data will be created over the course of the research project; whether and how data will be shared; and, where

data will be deposited. Data management plans will consider cultural sensitivity including but not limited to best practices reflected in the First Nations Principles of OCAP and The Tri-Council's EDI Action Plan.

2. Support from CNC Applied Research & Innovation

CNC AR&I operations will support CNC researchers by documenting processes for creating DMPs, digital data storage, confidentiality, privacy, indigenization, and communication of research results.

3. CNC RDM Policy

CNC will develop an RDM policy based on this strategy. The policy will integrate feedback from internal and external collaborators who are likely to be involved in research in the future.

4. Awareness and Training

CNC will develop training and guidance to enhance overall awareness of RDM within the College community, including faculty, staff, students, and research partners. CNC will develop awareness for the need to adopt and implement DMPs and training for the best practices of information management in research from proposals to final disposition of research data.

CNC will identify and build key relationships to support applied research. CNC will participate in external working groups and communities to stay current with best RDM practices.

Review

Questions, comments, and feedback about the Institutional Strategy should be directed to research@cnc.bc.ca.

Resources Considered

College of New Caledonia 2021, Ihulh whuts' odu tel' eh – Learning Together: Strategic Plan 2021-2026, accessed {November 21, 2023}, <https://cnc.bc.ca/about/initiatives/strategic-plan>

First Nations Information Governance Centre 2023, The First Nations Principles of OCAP, accessed {November 9, 2023}, The First Nations Principles of OCAP® - The First Nations Information Governance Centre (fnigc.ca)

GO FAIR 2023, FAIR Principles, accessed {November 9, 2023}, <https://www.go-fair.org/fair-principles/>

Government of Canada 2016, Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research, accessed {November 9, 2023}, Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research: The Interagency Advisory Panel on Responsible Conduct of Research (PRCR) (ethics.gc.ca)

Government of Canada 2019, Dimensions: equity, diversity and inclusion Canada, accessed {October 12, 2023}, http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/EDI-EDI/Dimensions-Charter_Dimensions-Charte_eng.asp

Government of Canada 2021, Tri-Agency Statement of Principles on Digital Data Management, accessed {November 9, 2023}, Tri-Agency Statement of Principles on Digital Data Management (science.gc.ca)

Government of Canada 2021, Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy, accessed {November 9, 2023}, [Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy \(science.gc.ca\)](#)

Government of Canada 2022, Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans – TCPS 2, accessed {November 9, 2023}, [Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans – TCPS 2 \(2022\) \(ethics.gc.ca\)](#)

Government of Canada 2023, Published institutional research data management strategies, accessed {November 9, 2023}, [Published institutional research data management strategies \(science.gc.ca\)](#)