



Portage Network for Research Data Management in Canada

BIREDIAL-ISTEC 2019

Aug 1, 2019

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What we'll cover...

Background – who we are

Progress – what we've been doing

Future – where we're going

Canadian “data deficit” in the news...



IN DEPTH

In the dark: The cost of Canada’s data deficit



Highlights gaps in:

What data are collected

How data are collected

&

Who has access to data
once collected

[ERIC ANDREW-GEE](#) AND [TAVIA GRANT](#)

TORONTO

PUBLISHED JANUARY 26, 2019

Makes no mention of progress with research data



Government
of Canada

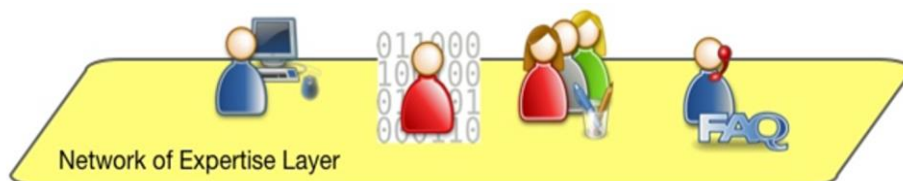
Gouvernement
du Canada

Innovation, Science and
Economic Development Canada

Funding for **DRI**: Digital Research Infrastructure

The Portage Network is a national initiative of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL), with the goal of **building research data management (RDM) capacity in Canada** through a **network of experts** in a **growing community of practice**.

Network of Experts



- Pan-Canadian network of RDM expertise
- Contribute to development of RDM resources, tools, training, and policy

Infrastructure Platforms



- Working with library consortia, institutions, and other infrastructure partners to develop & deploy essential RDM infrastructure and service components

Grounded in partnerships and collaboration



Portage Expert & Working Groups

Expert Groups

- Data Management Planning
- Curation
- Data Discovery
- Preservation
- Training
- Research Intelligence
- Data Repositories

Working Groups

- Dataverse North WG
- Responsible Research Data Management Practices for Sensitive Data
- FRDR Service Model WG
- FRDR Discovery Service WG
- Institutional RDM Strategies

**Over 130 in-kind experts from
over 60 organizations /
institutions**

**These groups both *inform* and help
perform what we do... Portage is
community-driven**

Funders as a catalyst for change

Portage RDM Support for Institutions & Researchers

Tri-Agency
Policy

Institutional
Strategy



DMPs



Deposit



Portage

RDM
Strategy
Template

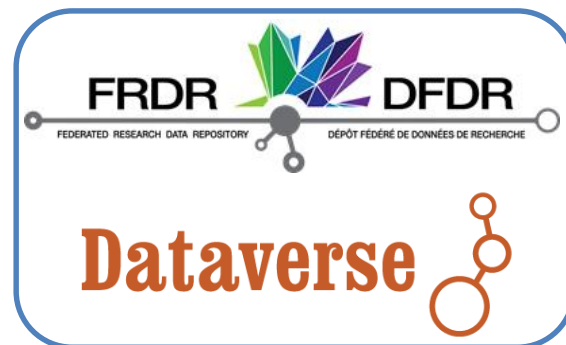


Portage

DMP Assistant
Sign In Sign Up

National, online,
bilingual, Data
Management
Planning Tool

Portage



Institutional RDM Strategies

Institutional
Strategy



DMPs



Deposit



RDM Strategy Template



- Institutions convening diverse teams to create RDM strategies (research services, ethics, libraries, IT, administration)
- Teams have fed into broader RDM awareness and culture change on campuses
- RDM strategies are setting the stage for future policy development
- Portage Research Intelligence Expert Group is conducting a short, targeted survey to measure institutional readiness for this aspect of the policy

Data Management Planning

Institutional
Strategy



DMPs



Deposit



47 institutional
accounts and
over 5700
registered
users

DMP Assistant

- Facilitates researcher-compliance with the second pillar of the emerging RDM policy
- Migration to DMP 2.0 (DMP Roadmap) promises to improve researcher experience
- Ability to ‘opt-in’ to share DMPs will make strong examples more readily available to researchers
- APIs to facilitate sharing among systems will help reduce administrative burden on researchers

‘enter once – use many’

- DMPs are often our ‘first contact’ with researchers, and are crucial to the culture change we’re advocating for on our campuses

Data Deposit: Canadian Repository Landscape

Institutional
Strategy



DMPs



Deposit



General
Repositories



Government
Repositories

re3data.org



Domain-specific
Repositories

Data Deposit: Canadian Repository Landscape

Institutional
Strategy



DMPs



Deposit



General
Repositories

Government
Repositories

Domain-specific
Repositories



re3data.org

Two National Repository Options



Federated Research Data Repository



National Instance of Dataverse

National Discovery Service

Portage Data Discovery and FRDR Service Working
Groups & Compute Canada FRDR Team



Portage Dataverse North Working
Group and OCUL Scholars Portal
Dataverse Team



FRDR: Federated Research Data Repository



FRDR: Federated Research Data Repository



Federated Research Data Repository



Main Features:

‘Big Data’ upload/download

Maintains file hierarchies

Scalable storage

National Repository Option

Preservation Processing capacity

Currently in Limited Production

Strategic Relevance

Strategic partnership with Compute Canada (ARC)

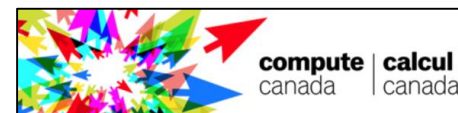
Fills key gaps in the RDM ecosystem

Complements existing repository solutions

FRDR facts...



- **Limited Production deposits as of May. 2019:**
 - **18** partnering research groups
 - **86** datasets published (4.5 TB)



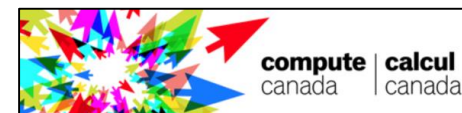
FRDR facts...



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Globus



portage
SERVICES PARTAGÉS POUR LES DONNÉES DE RECHERCHE
SHARED STEWARDSHIP OF RESEARCH DATA

Globus transfers data
from one 'secure
endpoint' to another



Globus overcomes
limitations of
'https' web protocol

- Faster than https
- Clean recovery from interruptions
- No practical limit on file sizes or number of files
- Retains file hierarchies

Researcher initiates transfer,
and is notified when
complete



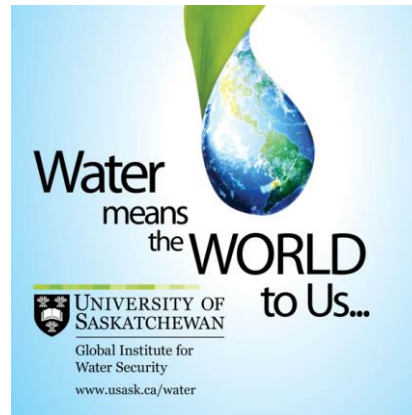
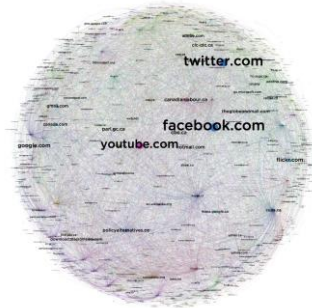
FRDR Limited Production Projects



“Big data solutions for the marine acoustic community”

Dalhousie University

Web Archives for Longitudinal Knowledge



“Capturing Change in Canada’s Mountains”
U. Victoria



“Breaking boundaries in water research”



Canadian Array for Realtime Investigations of Magnetic Activity

U. Alberta



S.D.S.
STONE TOOLS, DIET, AND SOCIALITY

compute | calcul
canada | canada

U. Calgary



portage
SERVICES PARTAGÉS POUR LES DONNÉES DE RECHERCHE
SHARED STEWARDSHIP OF RESEARCH DATA

Dataverse

Dataverse 

Dataverse

Main Features:

Mature platform

Widely adopted

User-friendly

Brandable

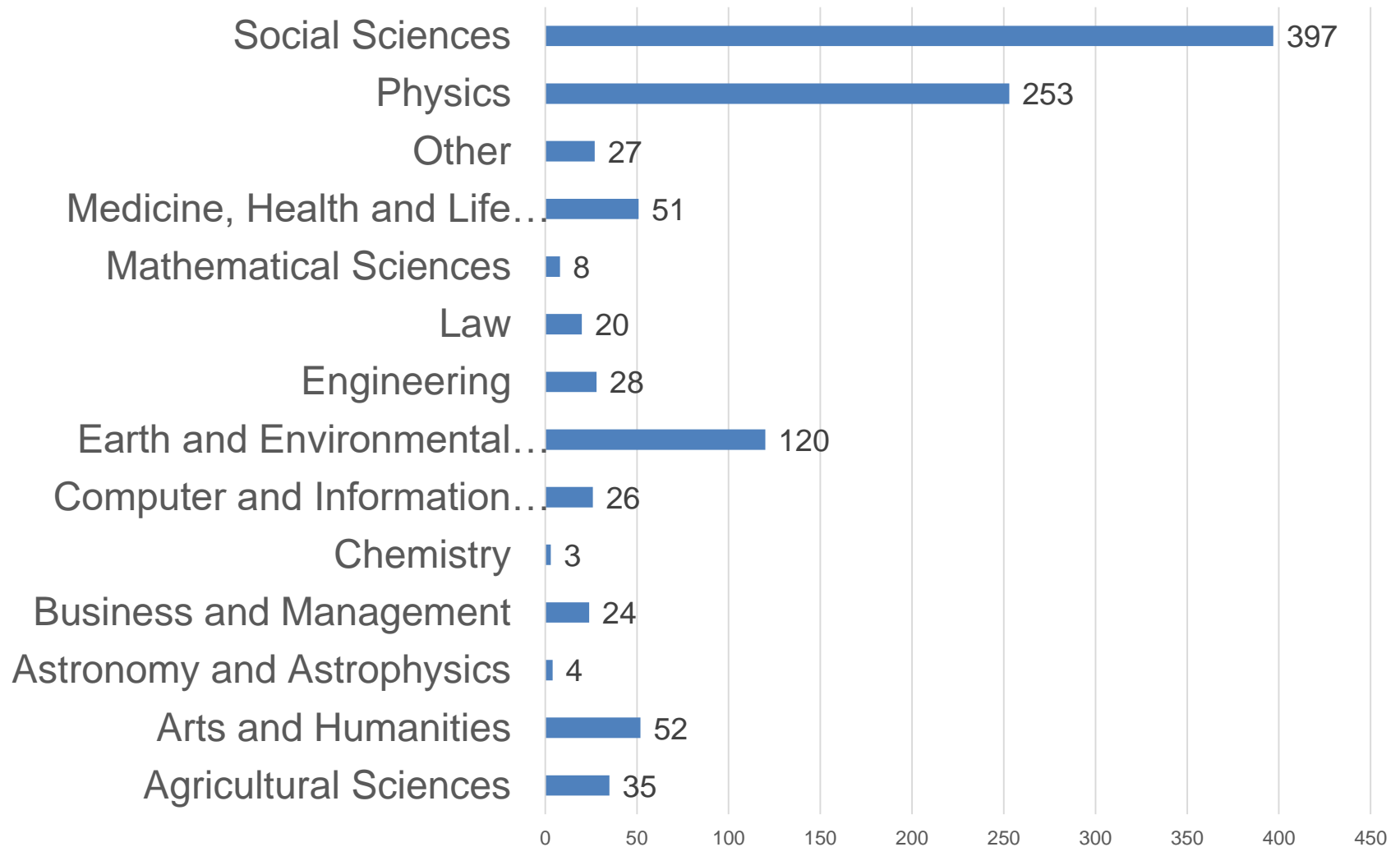
Localized service

***Developing National
Hosted Instance***

**Dataverse used widely in
Canada with 1000's of data
files deposited**

Dataverse facts...

Datasets by Discipline: Scholars Portal Dataverse [Aug, 2018]



Dataverses in Canada

6 Canadian Dataverse instances:

- 4 standalone (U Alberta, Dalhousie, UNB, U Manitoba)
- 2 confederated:
 - Abacus: 4 institutions - UBC, SFU, UNBC, & Uvic
 - Scholars Portal Dataverse: 24 institutions

Scholars Portal Dataverse (Jan 2019)

- 280 Dataverses
 - ~100,000 downloads
 - ~1500 datasets
 - ~25,000 files

< 2 TB

Recently signed an SLA to allow Quebec universities to use Scholars Portal Dataverse



Globe & Mail, 28 January, 2019:

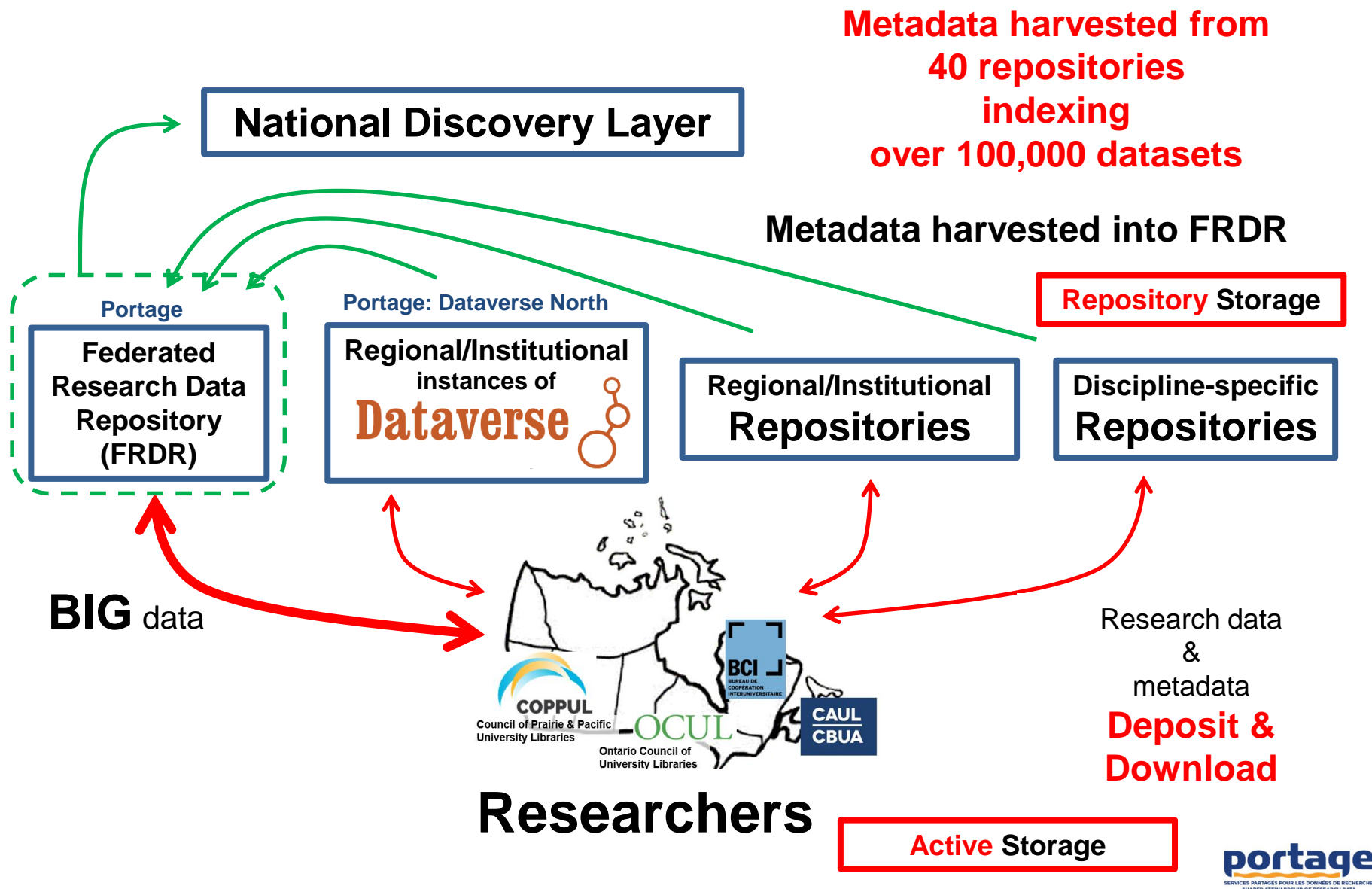
“Some researchers would like to see a **national open data portal** that incorporates not just the holdings of the federal government, but the numbers gathered by cities and provinces as well.”

“There needs to be a **central clearinghouse of publically available datasets in Canada**”

Fuyuki Kurasawa, Director, Global Digital Citizenship Lab, York University.



National Discovery Layer



National Discovery Layer



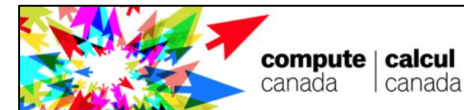
All searchable via
<https://www.frdr.ca>

Improve discovery of research data/metadata across Canada

Break down repository siloes

Drive traffic to existing repository sites

- FRDR **searches** between Nov 2017- April 2019
 - **Users:** 6,792
 - **Sessions:** 11,923
 - **Pageviews:** 41,553



National Discovery Layer

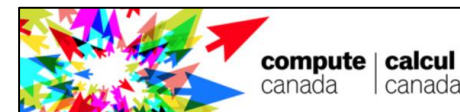


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Data Deposit

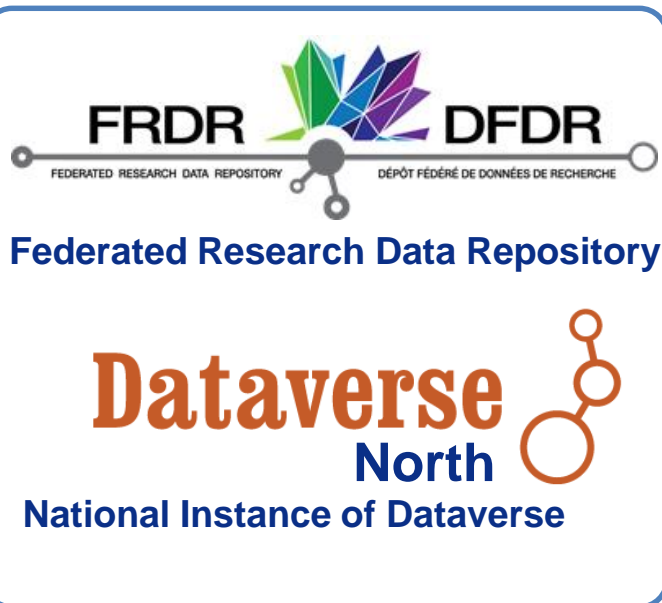
Institutional
Strategy

DMPs

Deposit



Repository Updates



- Progress toward a national instance of Dataverse (Service Level Agreement template developed)
- Improved Geospatial visualization & discovery through CANARIE RDM funding
- Developing ‘use-case’ narratives for Dataverse, FRDR, & Domain repositories
- New Working Group to improve metadata for FRDR discovery layer
- Bringing on new Canadian repositories for discovery & working with international initiatives

**New Data
Repositories Expert
Group → DREG**

Data Deposit

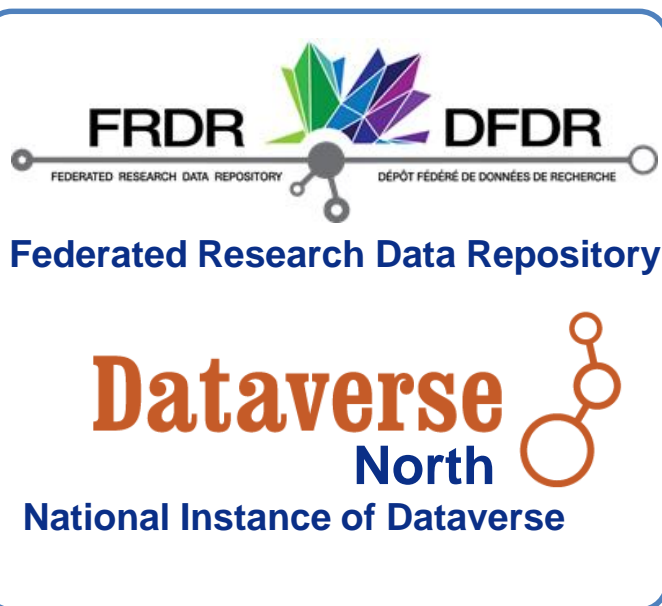
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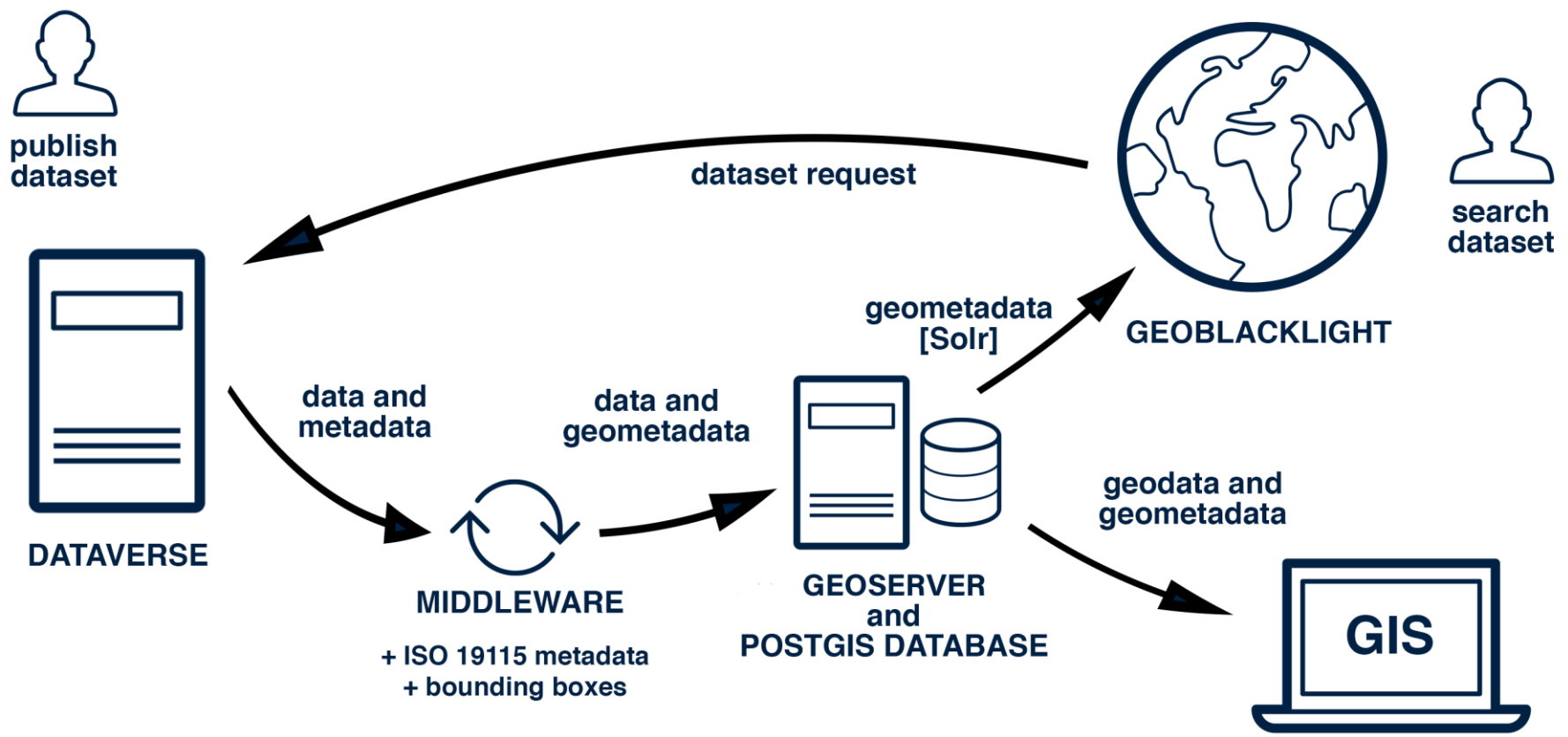
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**New Data
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Geodisy: Geospatial Discovery



New FRDR Working Group to improve discovery

Mapping
researcher-supplied
subject keywords to the
FAST schema using
OpenRefine

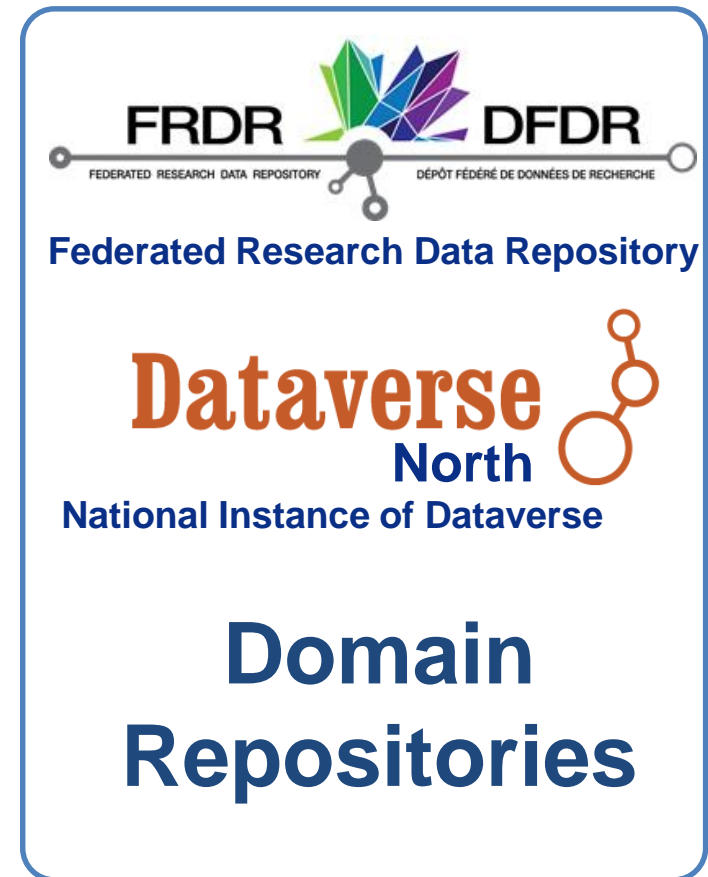
RVM: Répertoire de vedettes-matière
Developed by l'Université Laval
(French equivalent of LCSH)
→ Have goal of mapping the RVM to
FAST over the next year



New: Data Repository Expert Group

‘DREG’

Coordinating work of current national repository platforms (Dataverse & FRDR) and developing connections/collaborations with domain repositories



TRAINING



Continuum of Training

Essentials

Essentials and More!

On-line Training Modules



Webinars

Coming in the future! Potential webinar topics include: RDM 101; DMPs 101; Institutional Repositories; Dealing with Sensitive Data; Data Curation 101; Data Preservation 101; How to Develop an Institutional Strategy; and others.

On-Demand Training

On-demand assistance is available to those organizing RDM training on Canadian academic campuses who would like help developing and delivering training and guidance materials in all areas of RDM.

Supporting national integration of Digital Research Infrastructure (DRI)

RDM in transition...



2018 Canadian Budget

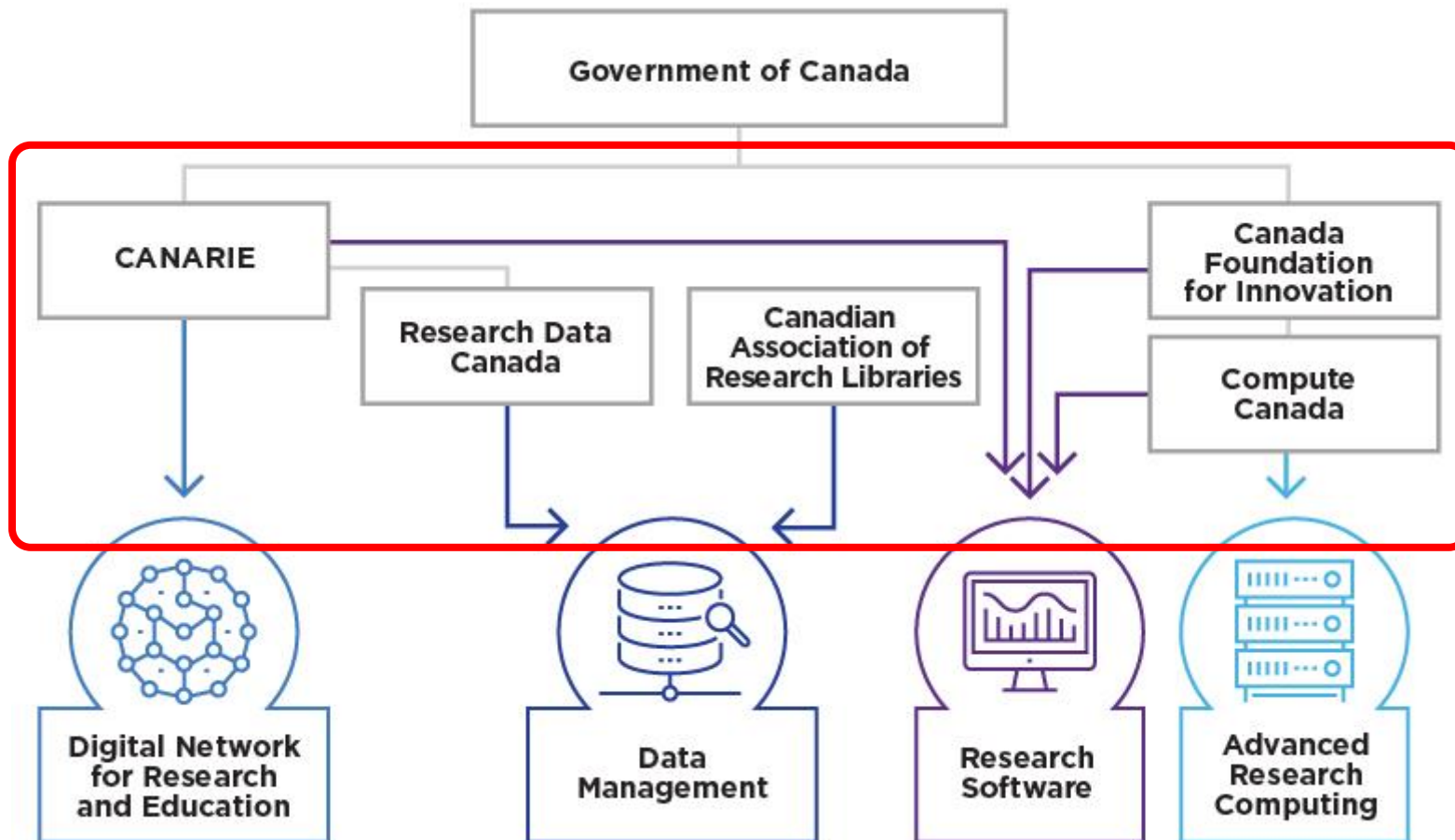
EQUALITY GROWTH

A Strong Middle Class

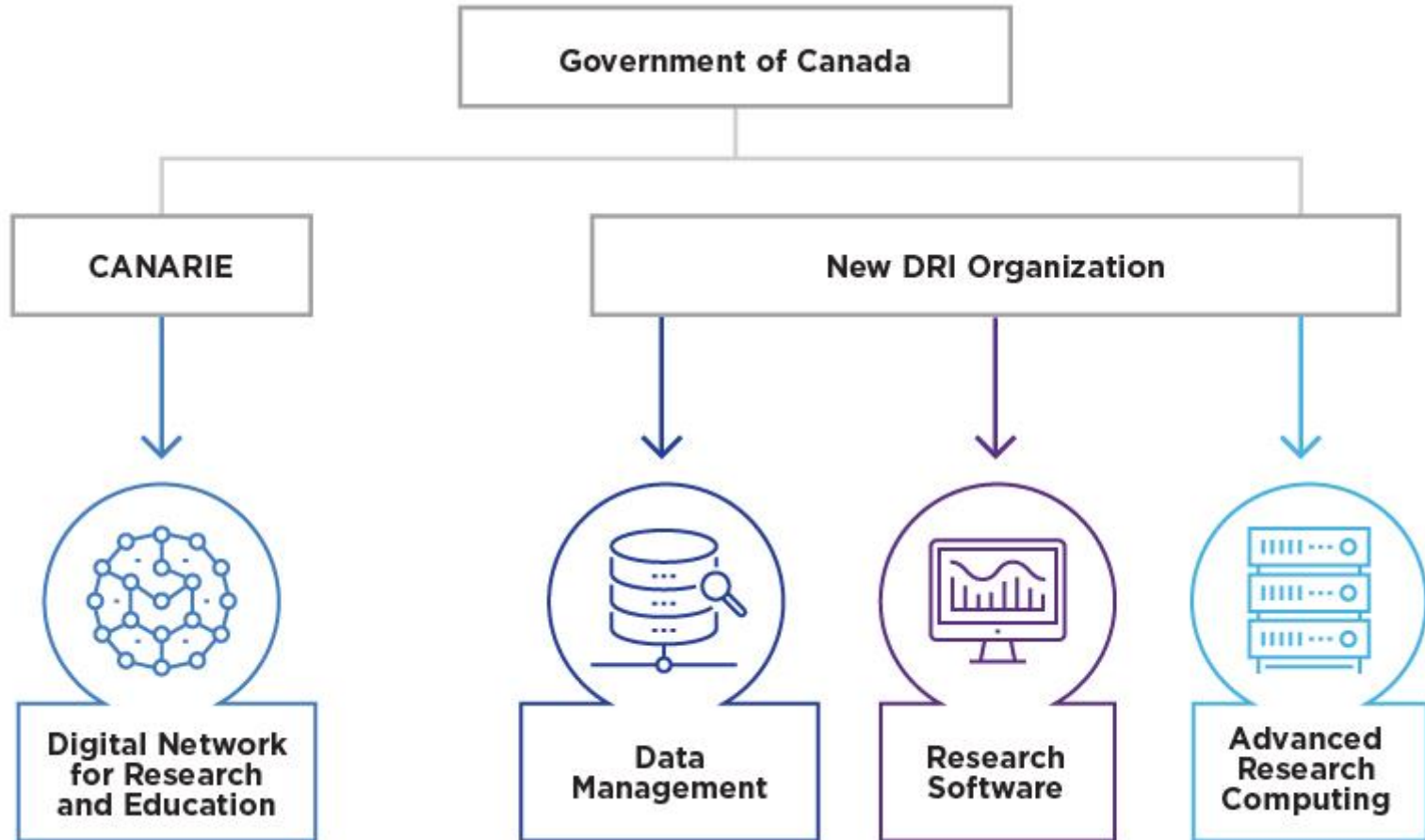
Harnessing Big Data

“The Government proposes to provide **\$572.5 million** over five years, with \$52 million per year ongoing, to implement a **Digital Research Infrastructure Strategy** that will deliver more open and equitable access to advanced computing and big data resources to researchers across Canada.”

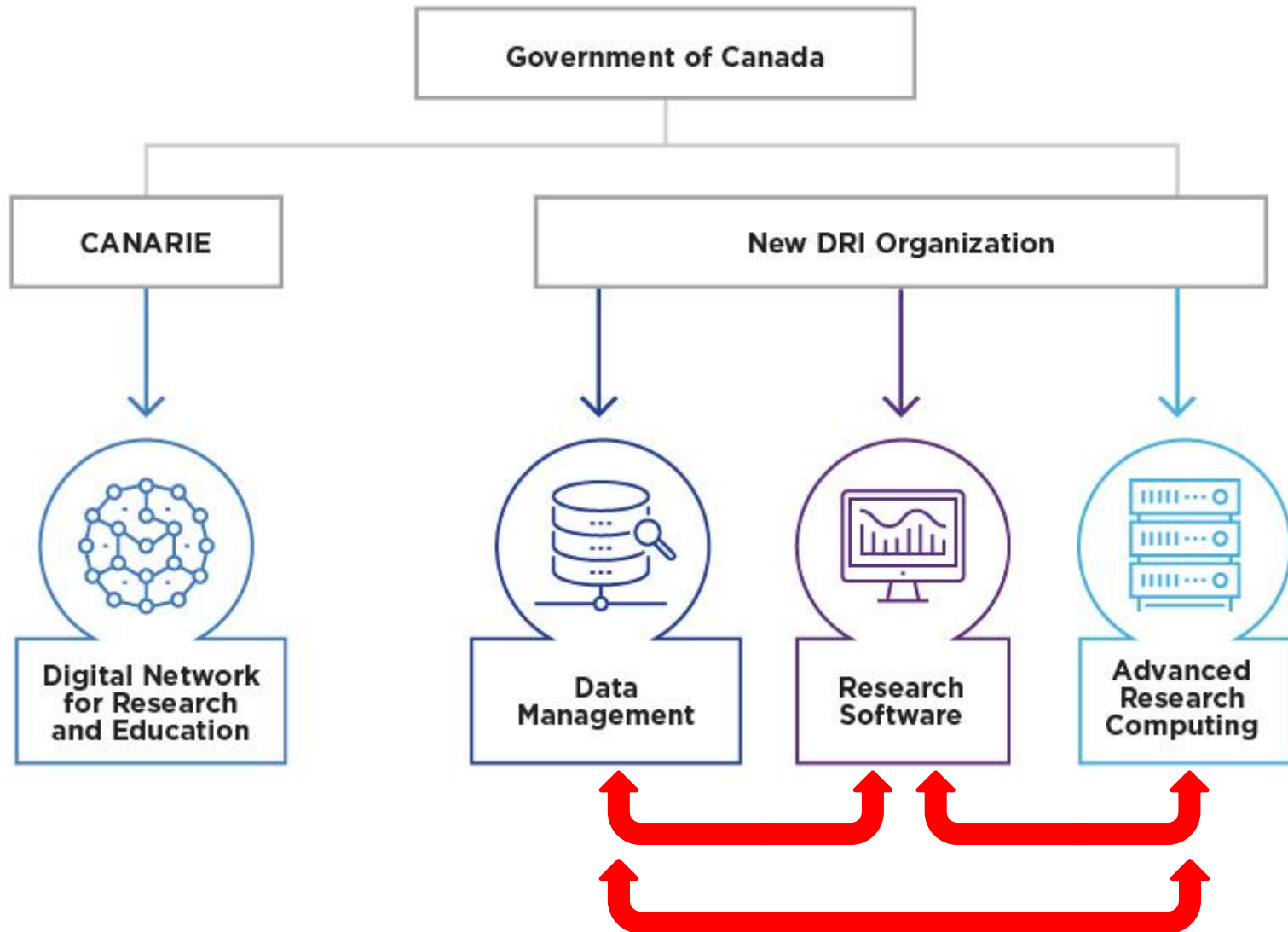
Current DRI Landscape



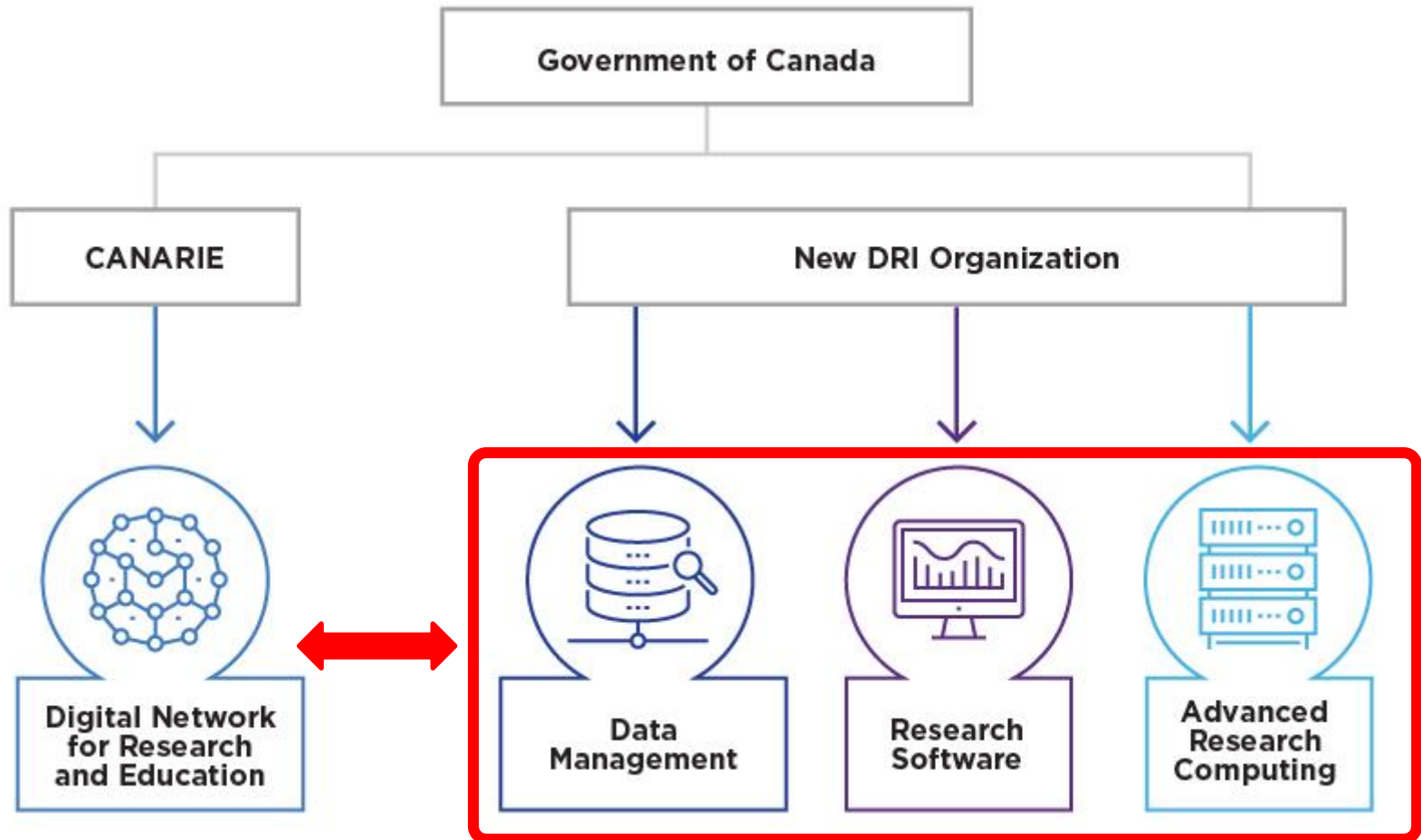
Future-state DRI Landscape



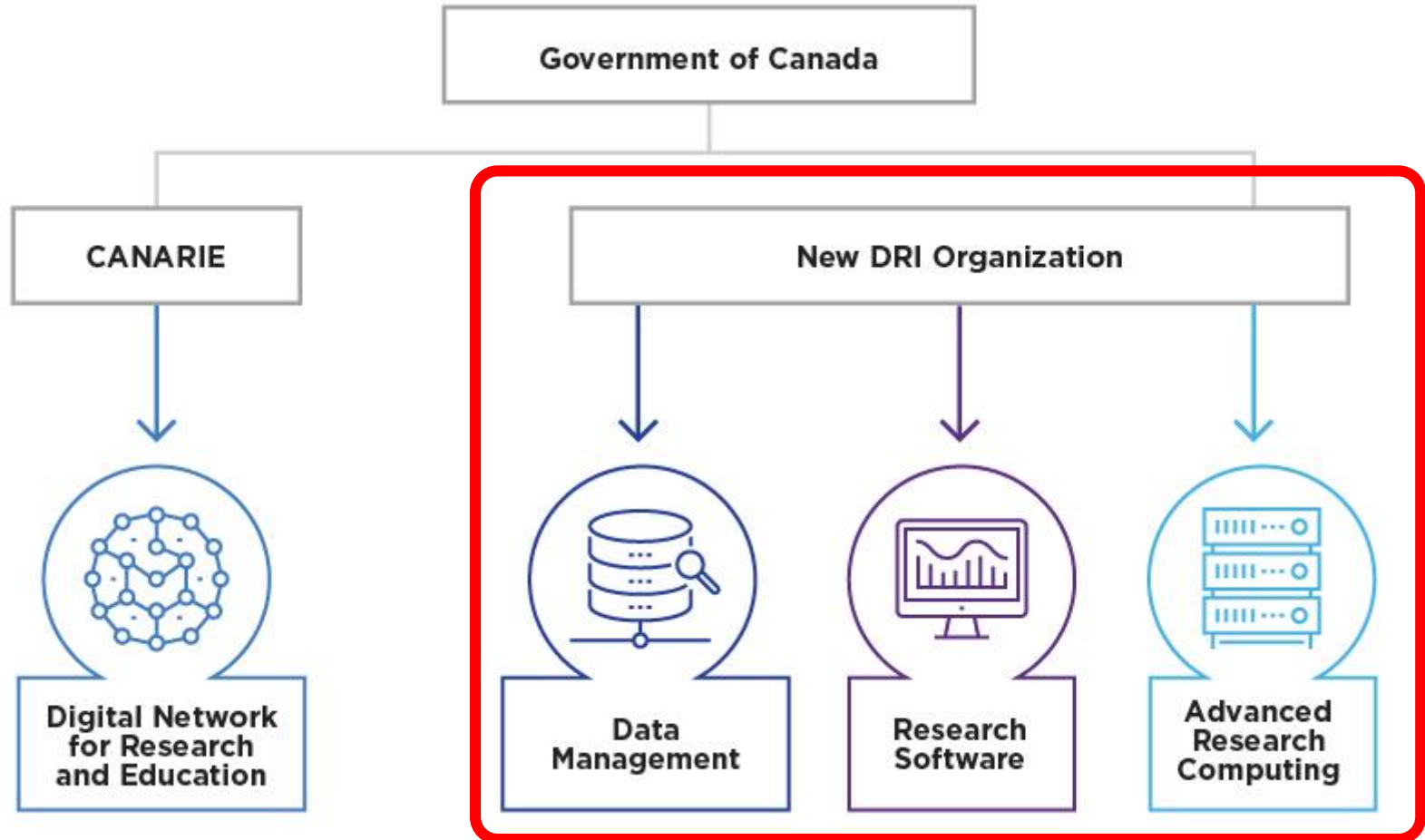
Future-state DRI Landscape



Future-state DRI Landscape



Creating a new not-for-profit organization...



Applicant Guide

All applications must include the following elements:

1. Program Application Form
2. Completed proposal that contains the following sections:
 - a. Executive Summary
 - b. Implementation
 - c. Collaboration and Engagement
 - d. Governance and Management
3. Appendices*
 - a. An outline of engagement activities over the next 2 years (until approximately March 2021)
 - b. Organizational chart for the governance structure
 - c. Competency matrix for the planned Board of Directors, if available
 - d. Resumes and biographies for all listed applicants on the Application Form
 - e. Letters of Support

**... and do it all in
18 business days**

Ahead of the looming election call...



A sprint to the starting line



Lightweight outreach to community...

Engage DRI

Feedback from 50+
& 30 letters of support

Collaborating for the future of Canada's Digital Research Infrastructure

C

omments and questions may be directed to the
email address info@engagedri.ca.

Summary of process...

Application Signatories ✓ **May 6 deadline**



Government Approval in Advance of Writ being dropped



Applicant Board

Advisory Group



Inaugural Board



New Organization

for

Digital Research Infrastructure

And there is a lot that needs to happen during the transition period

Key transition priorities for Portage in Y1

A. National Data Stewardship Support

Enhance the Portage Secretariat through National Coordinator roles for Curation, Preservation, Training, and Discovery & Metadata

B. RDM Platform Support and Development

Help Develop & Operationalize Several National, Collaborative RDM Platforms and Services

Key transition priorities for Portage in Y1

A. National Data Stewardship Support

- Portage Director
 - Project Manager – finances & reporting
 - Communications Officer (0.5 FTE) – comms strategy
 - Training Coordinator
 - Service Manager
 - Curation Coordinator
 - Preservation Coordinator (0.5 FTE)
 - Discovery & Metadata Coordinator

Key transition priorities for Portage in Y1

B. RDM Platform Support and Development

- **FRDR to full Production**
 - Project Manager
 - Developer
 - Platform maintenance, development, & storage
- **Dataverse North** (a Portage Working Group)
 - Augmented storage capacity
- **DMP Assistant**
 - Platform migration & service development
 - Programmer
 - Program Management
 - RMI - DMP Integration Project
 - Metadata specialist

compute | calcul
canada | canada



Scholars Portal



More to come from Portage & others!



Questions?



portagenetwork.ca

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Portage

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