Statistics Canada's Research Data Centres:
A new RDC at the
University of Northern British Columbia

January 26, 2016

IDC Brown Bag Lunch Presentation

Partners and Contributors

Partners

- Northern Health

- Northern Medical Program

- UNBC

Special Thanks to

- Gail Curry

- Allan Wilson

- Bradley Dondale

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What is the RDC Program and Network?

- A partnership established in 2000 that includes:
  - Canadian universities
  - Major Granting Councils (SSHRC, CIHR, CFI)
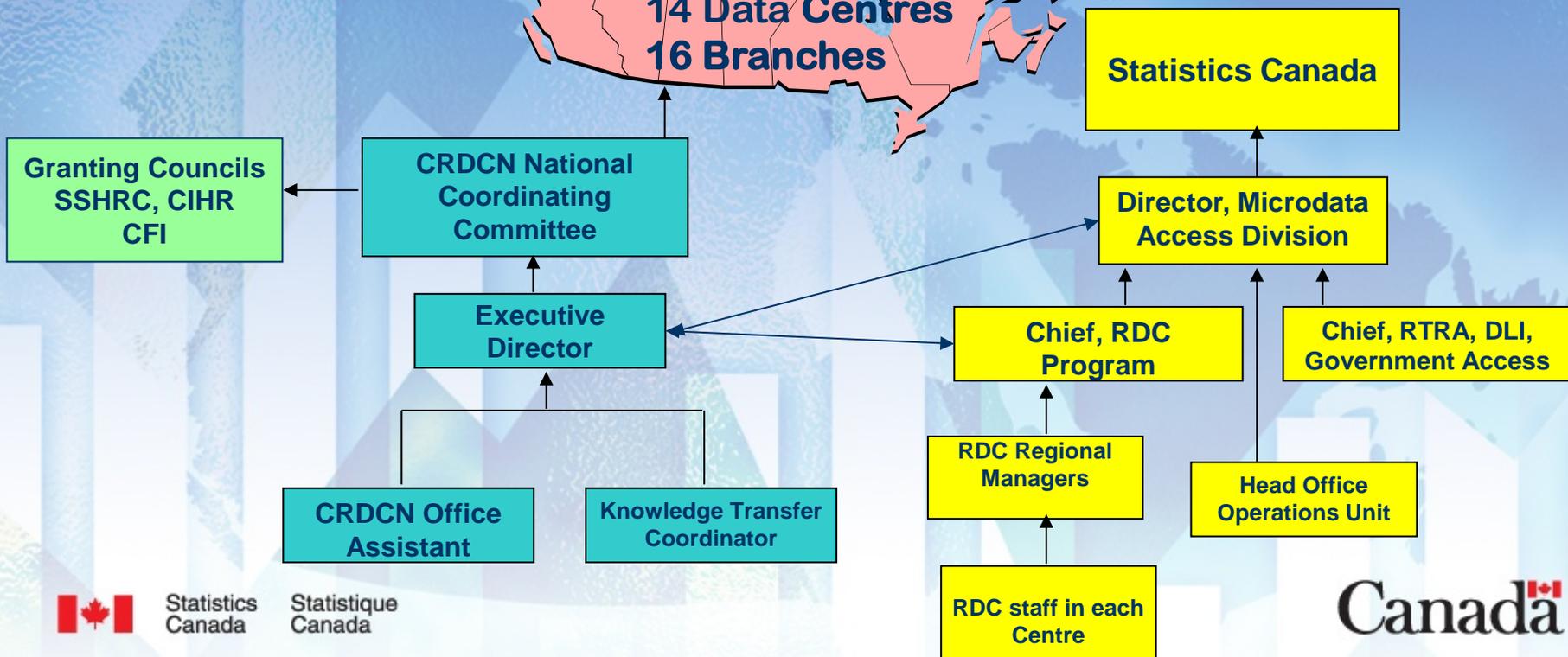 - Several provincial governments
  - Statistics Canada

Statistics Canada
www.statcan.gc.ca

CRDC NETWORK
Universities, Centres & Branches
14 Data Centres
16 Branches

Granting Councils SSHRC, CIHR CFI

CRDCN National Coordinating Committee

Executive Director

CRDCN Office Assistant

Knowledge Transfer Coordinator

Statistics Canada

Director, Microdata Access Division

Chief, RDC Program

Chief, RTRA, DLI, Government Access

RDC Regional Managers

Head Office Operations Unit

RDC staff in each Centre

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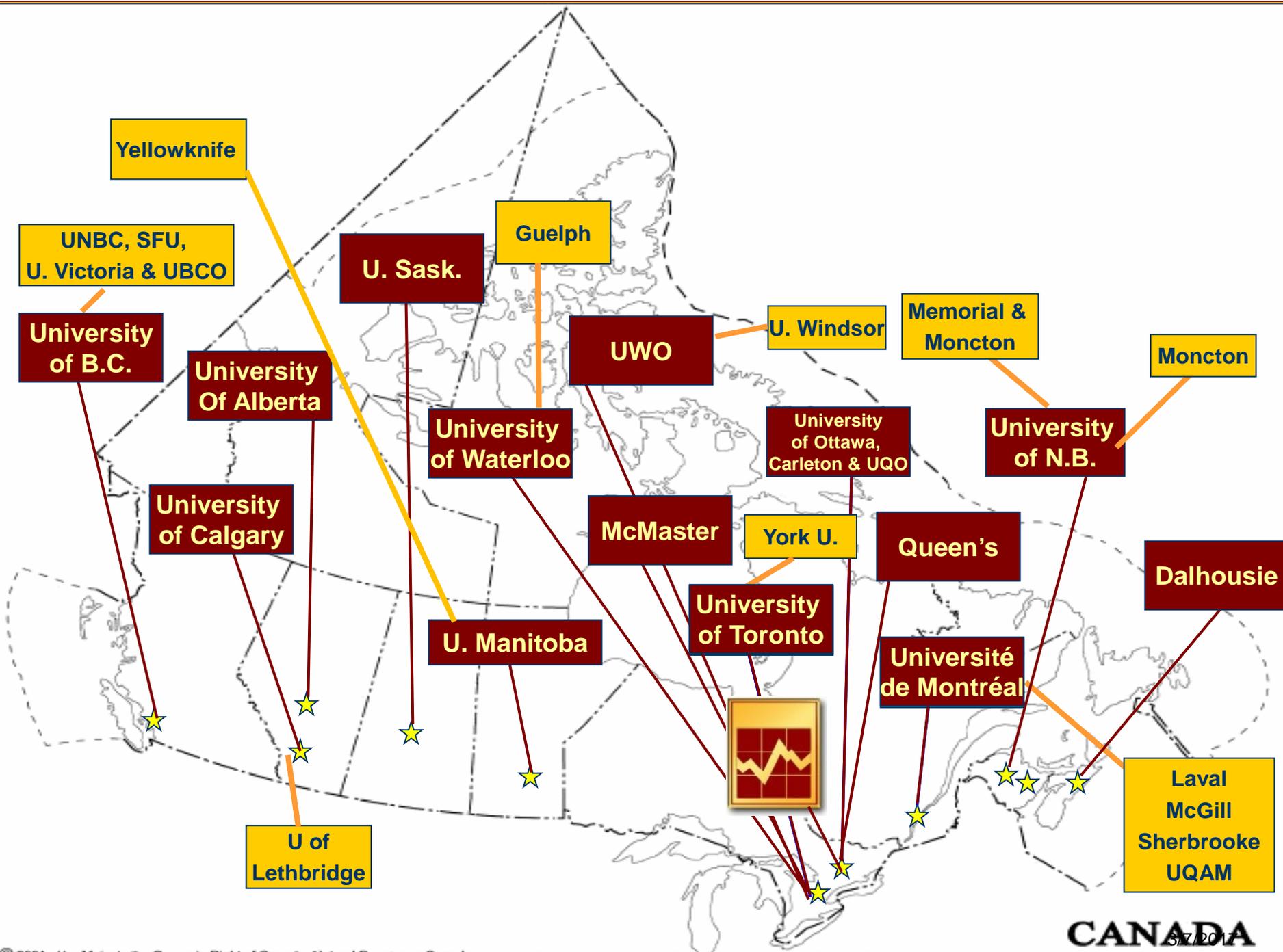
Canada

Mission of the RDC Program

1. To promote and facilitate quantitative research that will benefit all Canadians and enhance Canada's standing in the global community.

2. To provide secure access to Statistics Canada microdata to researchers across Canada.

3. To visibly protect the confidentiality of respondents of Statistics Canada surveys.

4. To disseminate research findings to the policy community and to the public on a wide range of social issues.

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What is a Research Data Centre?

- Secure environment in a setting that is removed from Statistics Canada premises

- Houses Statistics Canada confidential microdata files

- Managed by a Statistics Canada employee

- Operates under the provisions of the 'Statistics Act'

- Access limited to researchers with approved projects and "**sworn-in**" under the 'Statistics Act' as "deemed employees"

- All researchers have <u>direct access</u> to the microdata

3/7/2017

Yellowknife

UNBC, SFU,
U. Victoria & UBCO

University
of B.C.

U. Sask.

Guelph

UWO

U. Windsor

Memorial &
Moncton

Moncton

University
Of Alberta

University
of Waterloo

University
of Ottawa,
Carleton & UQO

University
of N.B.

University
of Calgary

McMaster

York U.

Queen's

Dalhousie

U. Manitoba

University
of Toronto

Université
de Montréal

Laval
McGill
Sherbrooke
UQAM

U of
Lethbridge

CANADA

Commonly used data sets in the RDC

- Canadian Community Health Survey

- General Social Survey

- Labour Force Survey

- Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada

- National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth

- Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

- Census & National Household Survey

- and many other household surveys

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Data: Recent Additions

- **Canadian Cancer Registry**
  - Census of all cancers since 1992
  - Information on date of Diagnosis and cause of death
  - Age, sex, and postal code

- **Longitudinal and International Study of Adults (LISA)**
  - At wave 1, integrated with Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC), (aka the International Study of Adults (ISA)).
  - Data is/will be linked to: the T1 File, T4 Files, Canada Pension Plan Files, and the T1 Family File.

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Data: Recent additions

- **Vital Statistics Data**
  - **Death Database - 1974 to 2011**
  - **Birth Database – 1974 to 2011**

- **2011 National Household Survey**

- **Canadian Health Measures Survey**
  - **Physical measurements**
  - **Blood and urine analyses**
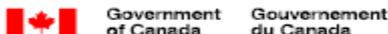 - **In home air and water quality measurements**

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Data: Recent data development

- **Extending the relevance of the longitudinal data**
  - Linking respondents to admin outcomes data over time.

- **1991 Canadian Census Cohort: mortality & cancer follow-up**
  - 1991 Census cohort followed up for cancer, mortality, and migration

- **Longitudinal Administrative Data (LAD)**

- **Census 2006 linked to hospital data**

Data: Recent data developments (Cont'd)

- **Canadian Community Health Survey linked to Mortality and Hospital Data**
  - To track risk factors (smoking, drinking, diet) with hospital use and mortality.
  - Linked to DAD, NACRS, Mortality

- **Uniform Crime Reporting Survey**
  - Survey of police departments. Incident-based crime, victim and accused data

- **Homicide Survey**
  - Survey of police departments. Incident-based data with victim and accused data.
  - Pilot underway

Information on data availability
http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/rdc/data

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Home > **The Research Data Centres Program**

Data sets and research tools

RDCs (The Research data centres) provide both short descriptions and detailed documentation about the **data sets** that are available for analysis in the RDC. The program also provides analytical and methodological research tools to assist researchers.

How to Search this Site

To search only the Research Data Centres Program website, select the "Search" tool located on the top banner, then select the "Advanced Search" option and in the field "Include pages with all these words" type in the text url:rdc and add any key word. For example, "url:rdc census" which will result in all pages on the Research Data Centres Program website that contain the keyword "census".

Surveys available in the RDCs

The following data sets are currently available at the RDCs. For additional sources of data please refer to Statistics Canada **Products and Services**.

To read a short **description** about a specific survey used at the RDCs, click on the survey details.

To access **detailed documentation** on a specific survey used at the RDCs, click on the appropriate cycle or year. Many of the surveys below have multiple cycles. The links below will take you to the most recent cycle or wave released. Please select "Other reference period" in the "Definitions, Data Sources and Methods Pages" for links to documentation for the earlier cycles.

Record number	Survey name	Acronym
5108	**Aboriginal Children's Survey** ACS 2006	ACS
3250	**Aboriginal Peoples Survey** APS 1991 APS 2001 APS 2006 APS 2012	APS

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Information on applying for access
(http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/rdc/process)

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Home > The Research Data Centres Program

Application process and guidelines

Application process and guidelines are based on the affiliation of the Principal Investigator and the type of research being conducted at a Research Data Centre.

Based on the descriptions of the type of research project below, researchers may draft a proposal as part of their Research Data Centres (RDCs) Application.

Application process for academic researchers

Type of research – academic	Description
Faculty research (non-student)	A research project conducted by a faculty member or staff of a Canadian post-secondary institution. The research is not funded by a federal, provincial or territorial government department.
Masters or doctoral research (students)	A research project conducted by a student of a Canadian post-secondary institution. The project forms an integral part of thesis or dissertation work that is not funded by a federal, provincial or territorial government department.
Program of research (academic)	A series of academic projects linked by a common theme; often funded by a large research grant for a program of research
Academic course	A course designed to teach graduate level students methodology related to complex survey data analysis.
Unaffiliated academic research	These steps are designed for academic projects conducted by a researcher who works for an academic institution that is not a member of the **Canadian Research Data Centre Network (CRDCN)**.

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Access to the RDCs

- Project proposal submitted to SSHRC through an online application system.

- Proposal evaluation by SSHRC peer review and Statistics Canada

- Applications that are part of SSHRC or CIHR grants forgo the SSHRC peer review. Applications are still reviewed by Statistics Canada.
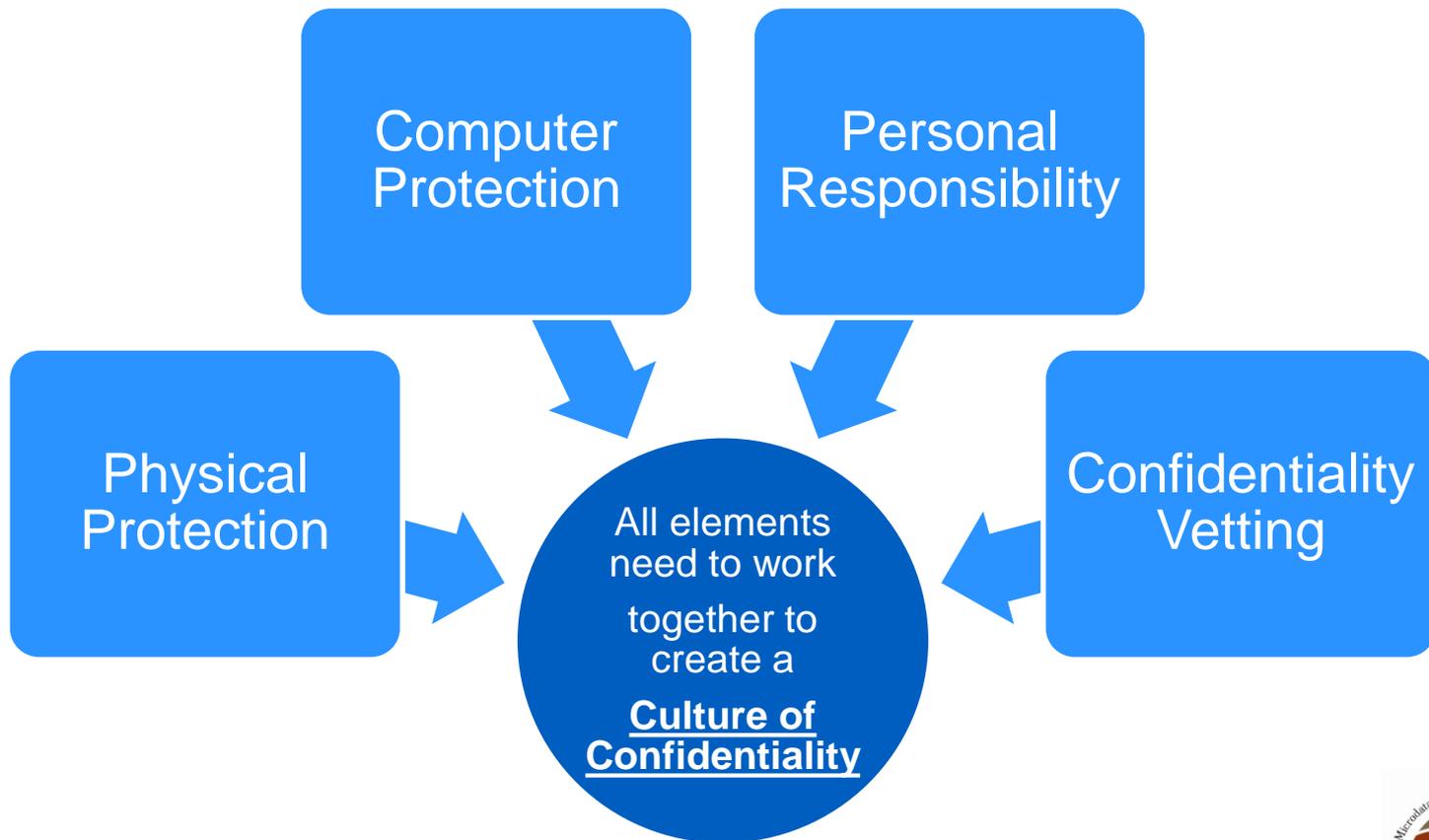
Access to the RDCs

- Case for RDC access
  - Is access to confidential microdata necessary?
  - Will the data support the analysis?
  - Does the project have scientific merit?
  - Does (do) the researcher(s) have the expertise to conduct this research?

- Proposal must be made for specific projects

Access to the RDCs

- Security check - enhanced reliability status

- Orientation session and "oath of office"

- Researcher agrees to provide a public manuscript to Statistics Canada, such as:

  - Thesis/dissertation

  - Peer-reviewed journal article

  - Book or chapter

  - RDC working paper

A Culture of Confidentiality

Computer Protection

Personal Responsibility

Physical Protection

Confidentiality Vetting

All elements need to work together to create a **Culture of Confidentiality**

Fees?

- No fees for unfunded research projects conducted by faculty and students at Canadian universities that are part of the RDC network
  - UNBC is a member
- No fees for research projects funded by SSHRC or CIHR grants.
- Fees may apply for other situations (e.g. contracts for government/NGOs). See http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/rdc/process

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Questions? Who to contact

Websites

http://www.statcan.gc.ca/rdc-cdr/index-eng.htm

www.rdc-cdr.ca

https://library.unbc.ca/collections/data-statistics/rdc

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