



**Digital Research
Alliance** of Canada

**Alliance de recherche
numérique** du Canada

As we approach the end of another year, we are excited to share some of the achievements made possible by your support. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season, and we look forward to working with the DRI community in the new year!

Highlights of 2023

- Welcomed new **primary and associate members**, a new **Board chair, vice-chair, and directors**, new **Researcher Council members** and new **Network of Experts members**.
- Received investments of up to \$228.3 million for 2023-25 from Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) to

advance **nine new digital research infrastructure (DRI) initiatives** that will directly benefit Canada's researchers.

- Developed a **new direction for our future state** that will become the foundation of our strategic plan for 2025-30.
- Launched the **Controlled Access Management for Research Data** initiative to support researchers, institutions and repositories who work with sensitive data.
- Launched **Lunaris**, our national platform for research data discovery, and enhanced **FRDR** and the **DMP Assistant** with new features to enable better data management.
- Launched our annual **Resource Allocation Competition** to grant researchers priority access to storage, compute and cloud resources.
- Built new partnerships with international peers, including **KISTI** and **CSC Finland**, to advance global DRI.
- Signed the **Amsterdam Declaration on Funding Research Software Sustainability** as part of our commitment to improving the RS ecosystem and the research it enables.
- Participated in national and international events, including **SC23** and **IDW2023**, to support the advanced research computing, research data management and research software communities.
- Led training programs, including **Cybersecurity Awareness Month**, to help members of the DRI community develop critical knowledge and skills.
- Conducted extensive research and analysis of the priorities and gaps in **cloud services** and **research software** to better serve the research community.
- Built on this research to develop strategic recommendations in the **National Cloud Strategy 2023** and **National Research Software Strategy 2023** that will increase the value of an integrated DRI ecosystem.



Our offices will be closed from December 25, 2023, to January 1, 2024.

News

Partners announced to collaborate in the Controlled Access Management for Research Data initiative

The Alliance is pleased to announce the [29 Partner Organizations participating in the Controlled Access Management for Research Data \(CAM\)](#) initiative. This work forms part of the Alliance's [DRI Investments for 2023-25](#), and will benefit

those who work with sensitive data. By working together on this important national initiative, Partner Organizations and the Alliance have a unique opportunity to address longstanding challenges faced by the research community.

CAM aims to enable researchers, institutions and repositories to manage controlled access to data through new software, tools and workflows. With these resources in place, Canadian research security will be strengthened, greater discovery will be supported and unnecessary data loss will be prevented.

Partner Organizations will co-develop and implement a Pilot Roadmap that will outline how CAM technologies will be piloted, and how workflows and training resources will be developed and tested. This initiative will also be supported by Funded Host Institutions, which will be announced at a later date.

The Alliance looks forward to supporting Partner Organizations and advancing this important work.

National strategies for research software and cloud computing

Members of the Alliance's National Research Software Strategy Working Group and National Cloud Strategy Working Group have published two new strategic documents to help shape future priorities in research software (RS) and cloud computing. The [National Research Software Strategy](#) builds on past RS foundations, leverages the strengths of past programs and addresses historic weaknesses. The [National Cloud Strategy](#) establishes a unified cloud computing adoption strategy and direction, and identifies high-level approaches and methodologies. The development of these strategies was a truly national effort—thank you to everyone who provided feedback and shared their

expertise.

Emerging trends in research

The Alliance recently published an [Emerging Trends in Research](#) report, which will help identify future opportunities and inform strategic priorities for 2025-30. Eight themes are represented: Big Data; compute and storage at scale; artificial intelligence; integrated DRI; equity diversity, inclusion, and accessibility; data security, open policies, and governance; and quantum. An additional section addresses key concerns on security and privacy, lack of DRI funding, highly-qualified personnel staffing levels, and services for humanities and social sciences.

Open textbook on research data management in Canada – now available in French

[La gestion des données de recherche dans le contexte canadien](#) (Kristi Thompson et al., eds.), is an open, peer-reviewed textbook for research data management (RDM) in Canada. The English version is also available:

[Research Data Management in the Canadian Context](#).

The Alliance was pleased to contribute to this work through financial support for the cover and participation of two of its staff. Lee Wilson, Director of Research Data Management, co-authored the chapter « Partage et réutilisation des données de recherche au Canada : pratiques et politiques », and Lina Harper, Curation Officer, co-authored « Planification de la gestion des données pour les processus de travail en science ouverte ». The timely publication aligns with the Tri-Agency Policy on Research Data Management, the growing demand for scholars and practitioners with expertise in RDM, and the necessity of teaching resources to develop RDM expertise.

Over 50 members of Canada's DRI community, including francophone and Indigenous members, were involved in the development of the textbook, making it a truly national, networked, collaborative and community-based initiative.

Quantum computing training for faculty, students and staff at all Canadian post-secondary institution

The Quantum Algorithm Institute (QAI) is offering a self-paced online course: [D-Wave Quantum Computing Training](#). The course is open to researchers in post-secondary institutions, including faculty, students and staff who want to learn the basics of quantum programming using D-Wave technology.

Events

Webinar Series: Open Education Resources in RDM

Stay tuned for information about an upcoming webinar series on open education resources in RDM. Potential topics include currently available OERs, and how to use, re-mix, attribute and license open educational materials.

Visit our [Training Calendar](#) for online and in-person training events offered by our advanced research computing regional partners.

Work With Us

If you would like to help us advance and invest in national DRI activities that will allow researchers to achieve scientific breakthrough and research excellence, please apply to our open positions today.

- [Middleware Developer](#)
- [Project Coordinator](#)

Become an Alliance Member

The Alliance is accepting applications to join its growing membership of over 100 Canadian post-secondary institutions and research organizations. Become part of a national, bilingual not-for-profit organization accelerating Canada's research future. We invite you to learn about Alliance membership and its benefits by emailing membership-adhesion@alliancecan.ca and visiting [Become a member](#).
