

The 2011 Canadian Research Data Summit: “Mapping the Data Landscape

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In September 2011, the Research Data Strategy Working Group (RDSWG) hosted the “Canadian Research Data Summit” in Ottawa, Canada. The Summit subtitle was “Mapping the Data Landscape” reflecting the objective of developing a national approach for managing Canada’s research data.

Participation was by invitation and includes representatives and decision makers from Canada’s governments, universities and key science projects, as well as invited Canadian and international speakers..

The proceedings were designed to communicate to decision makers that in order for Canada to remain competitive, urgent action is required - research data policies need clarification, data repositories require upgrading, scientists need training, and an entity is required to ensure that data stewardship activities across Canada become better coordinated.

A report of the Summit titled “Mapping the Data Landscape: Report of the 2011 Canadian Research Data Summit was placed online for comment in early 2012 and a number of activities are underway to address the key recommendation and maintain the momentum.