

Monthly Update

Monthly Update to Federation Members

3rd November 2021



Digital Research
Alliance of Canada

Alliance de recherche
numérique du Canada





Welcome

Nizar Ladak, Chief Executive Officer

Land acknowledgment





Agenda

- **Welcome**
- **Funding Model**
- **Transition Plan Update**
- **Q&A**
- **Closing Remarks**



Funding Model

- ▶ The Alliance and CCF submitted a draft budget that funds the employment of 208 HQP. It was submitted for ISED's review on Friday Oct 29, 2021
- ▶ This model considers existing services and configurations. The new funding model will be developed during fiscal 22-23 and institutionalized as part of the next budget cycle.
- ▶ This model is the one that looks at national, regional, and local costs and the Alliance funds those at different rates.

Cost Match

- ▶ The 60/40 cost match needs to be on the entire funding envelope. There is flexibility from year to year, but over the life cycle of the envelope, the 60/40 cost match must be met.
- ▶ What is meant by cost-match?
- ▶ Do Provinces/Institutions actually transfer dollars to Alliance for head office costs?
- ▶ What qualifies as eligible cost-match?

Cost Match – In Government DRI Speak

Federal Government

- ▶ Federal Investment \$
- ▶ National services
 - ▶ Portage, RS, Architects, CCDB, MIT
- ▶ Alliance Head Office

Millions (60%)



Provincial/Institutional Match

- ▶ Provincial Investment \$
- ▶ Institutional salaries & expenses
 - SHARCNET, SFU, Uvic, Memorial, McGill, power costs, etc
- ▶ Regional Organization salaries & expenses
 - ACENET, Calcul Quebec, WestGrid,
- ▶ Services (National/Regional)

Millions (40%)

Common Questions

- ▶ Do Provinces/Institutions actually transfer dollars to Alliance for head office costs?

The Alliance Head Office is 100% ISED Funded. Dollars do not flow from regions or institutions to the Alliance bank account. However, Alliance head office costs are cost-matched through salaries and services that exist in Provinces and Institutions.

- ▶ What qualifies as eligible cost-match?

Development of a rigorous, evidence-based eligibility framework for services, investments and salaries in support of DRI (over FY 2022-23)



Transition Update

Brock Kahanyshyn, Vice President,
Operations & Security

OVERVIEW (recap from last month)

April 1st, 2022: WHAT WILL REMAIN

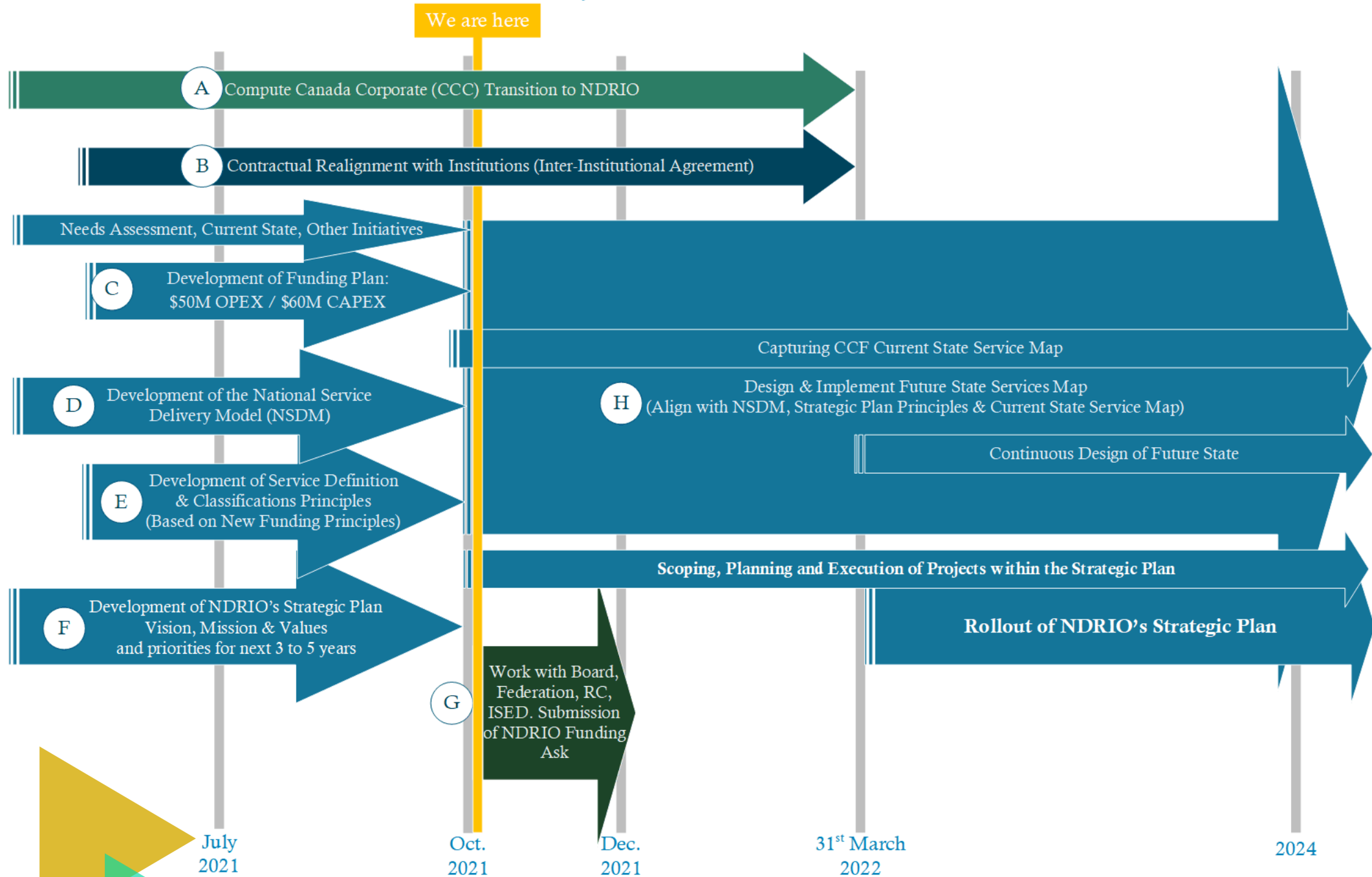
- All Host Site and Regional HQP/Members will remain employees of their institutions
- All Services currently offered by the Federation will continue to be delivered and supported
- The current 35 National Teams will remain in place. We will start assessments in 2022 to see how we can harmonize our National Teams with DRI (ARC, RDM and RS)
- Existing Compute Canada Federation governance and operational committees will remain in place:
 - The Alliance teammates would like to join these operational committees on or before April 2022 (e.g., Brock attending CoCTOs).
 - Terms of Reference (TORs) will be reviewed and updated to reflect the new environment.

APRIL 1st, 2022: WHAT WILL CHANGE

- Our DRI Funding Model will change:
 - The Alliance, Regions and Institutions are currently working together on what our funding allocations will look like for next fiscal year.
 - The current funding model will change as the CFI funding for our DRI ecosystem will end on the 31st of March 2022. The Alliance will assume funding responsibility starting April 2022.
 - The funding model can provide annual reoccurring funding for both operations and capital, up to:
 - \$52M Annual Operational funding plus Match from the Provincial, Regional and Local Layers
 - \$60M Annual Capital funding plus Match from the Provincial, Regional and Local Layers
- Certain staff from Compute Canada Corporate will receive offers to join the Alliance as staff or receive ongoing support of their existing secondments to ensure continuity of ops.
- With the Alliance's new role as a Funding provider, a new Infrastructure Investment Committee will be established to support investment requests and help prioritize investment spend that will be endorsed by the Alliance's Board.



DRI Ecosystem Timeline of Activities



Transition Activities – DRI Timeline of Activities

“A” Compute Canada Corporate Transition

- Knowledge transfer continuing between Compute Canada and the Alliance
- Alliance is actively engaged in CFI Grant Administration in preparation for transition
- Alliance involved with Compute Canada RAC 2022
- Discussions continuing with CCC staff who have been invited to join the Alliance (e.g., CCDB and MIT team members)
- An inventory of current tools is being produced by CCC. We are working on ensuring all current technology and collaboration tools will be transitioned over.

“C” Funding Plan

- The Alliance and CCF submitted a DRAFT budget that funds the employment of 208 HQP. It was submitted for ISED’s review on Friday Oct 29, 2021. This was an interim request by ISED.

“D” National Service Delivery Model

- The National Service Delivery Framework is completed, and we are starting to take the first steps to prepare for the implementation.

“E” Development of Service Definitions & Classification Principles

- We have created the initial classification principles based on our discussions in the Service Layer Definition & Classification working group and continue to work on this.

Transition Activities – DRI Timeline of Activities

“F” Development of the Alliance’s Strategic Plan

- Strategic Plan (Vision, Mission, & Strategic Directions) is completed.

“G” Alliance Funding Ask

- We have started working on the Funding Ask.

“H” Design and Implement Future State Services Map

- Starting April 2022, we will begin the development of Service Level Agreements and/or agreed-upon commitments for both the National Hosting Services and National Services.



Transition Activities – Federation Leadership Committees

Council of CTOs. (CoCTOs)	Alliance is participating bi-weekly Over the past two months	General discussions.
Cybersecurity Steering and Advisory Committee (CSAC)	Alliance is participating over past several months.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special meeting end-of-November to review Terms of Reference (TOR) to determine what in the TOR is required to be changed for April 1st.
Science Leadership Council (SLC)	Alliance has been invited to attend.	Taking first steps in participating in the SLC. We will need to determine alignment of governance structure between SLC and the Alliance's Researcher Council.
Technology Leadership Council (TLC)	Alliance attended October meeting.	Start review Terms of Reference (TOR) to determine what is required to be changed for April 1 st .
Communications Working Group	Alliance is participating with the chair rotating.	Start review Terms of Reference (TOR) to determine what is required to be changed for April 1 st .
Directors of Finance Committee	Alliance is attending meetings	We will need to review TOR. Alliance CFO to chair committee 1 st April.
Executive Management Committee (EMC)	Alliance to attend first meeting 10 th of November.	We will be reviewing TOR. How will the EMC align with new Investment Committee? Starting review on when will Alliance/Nizar take on the Chair.

Transition Activities – Federation Operational Committees

Account Renewal Coordination	Access policies reviewed by Alliance, Regions and Host Sites; all agree policies should remain the same for 2022/23	Alliance will further engage in the process this Fall
Grant Administration Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CC will manage the consultation process for the applications submitted in June 2021.• Alliance will be responsible for applications submitted this fall.• Alliance will be responsible for “pre-consults” requested prior to next call in Mid-February 2022.• Contributed System Policy has been posted on Alliance/NDRIO Website. <p>https://engagedri.ca/latest/renewed-policy-guidance-on-integrated-hardware-contributed-systems-now-available</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working with CTOs and Site Leads on a Hosting Price Schedule.• Reviewing the Contribution Policy with CTOs and Site Leads.• The Alliance will be calling a meeting with Regions and Host Sites to confirm business flow on the Grant Administration process. Intention is to follow a similar process that Compute Canada currently follows.• The Alliance and Compute Canada are working together on transitioning this process to the Alliance.

Transition Activities – Federation Operational Committees

National Security Council (NSC)	The Alliance continues to participate in the NSC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Currently planning transition to have this Council chaired by the Alliance.• Plan to review the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the NSC when we meet to review the TOR for CSAC at the end of November 2021
RAC Administrative Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alliance is participating in current meetings.• Compute Canada continues to oversee the RAC process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning transition of RAC Service to the Alliance for fiscal year-end; March 2022.• CCDB is being retained. Working with the CCDB support teams, in 2022 we will review, and address identified issues related to the stability and utility of the database.



Transition Activities – New Committees/Working Groups

Architect Committee	Will be starting the exercise soon on creating the Terms of Reference (TOR) and structure for this committee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This committee will be the lead in reviewing, validating and approving of solutions for prioritization and investment.
Investment Governance Committee	We have started to plan the Investment Governance structure (including the creation of an Infrastructure Investment Committee) and how it will integrate into both the strategic and operating governance structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This committee will lead in identifying and prioritizing funding requests coming from both operational needs and strategic opportunities as investments in the DRI ecosystem.
Bi-Monthly CTOs, Team Leads & Alliance Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Started the engagement to determine and review required/critical operational needs (hardware failures, Lifecycle,...)• Reviewing the Contribution Agreement.• Currently developing a Hosting Pricing Schedule.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• These operational needs will be evaluated with our strategic plan and will become part of our corporate plan for 2022-2023.

Transition Activities – Knowledge Transfer – Documents to Alliance

Operations Coordination Committees: Administrative Coordination Committees, Communications Working Group (CWG), Executive Management Committee (incl national host site admin leads), Finance Committee ✓

Leadership Coordination Committees: Council of Chief Technology Officers (CoCTOs), Cybersecurity Steering and Advisory Council (CSAC), Science Leadership Council (SLC), Technology Leadership Council (TLC) ✓

Operation Coordination Committees: Grant Administration Committee, National Security Council (NSC) ✓

Operations Delivery: CCF Policy Development & Review, Access to CCF Resources and Services Policy, Policies, Privacy and Data Protection Policy, Terms of Use, Infrastructure and Service Change Approval Change Approval Process (Change Approval Board – CAB) ✓

Licenses and Services: Google Workspace, Slack Overview, Bananatag, Eventbrite, MailChimp, Meltwater, Translation Services Overview, Vimeo, YouTube, Atlassian, Carpentries, Cloudflare, Globus Connect Services (GCS), Lucidchart, MathWorks (MatLab), SirtFi, CCV, SmartSheet. ✓

Training & Team-Building: All-in Leadership Meeting, CCF Events Calendar, Newsletters, Staff-to-Staff (S2S) Webinar, TECC Overview, Virtual Team-Building Events. ✓

Transition Activities – Knowledge Transfer – Documents to Alliance

Software & Data Analytics Support: Data Analytics National Team, Middleware Infrastructure National Team, User Support, CCF Status Page, National Training Calendar, User Communications, Stakeholder Communication, CC Website , Members' Dashboard, Twitter, Internal (CCF Teams) Communications, CCF Teams Newsletters, CCF Virtual Team Updates, Reporting CC Annual Report, CFI Annual MSI Performance Report, Quarterly National Host Site Key Performance Indicators Report for ISED ✓

Resource Access Program: Account Management, Compute Canada Database (CCDB) Operations, CCDB Overview, Rapid Access Service (RAS), Resource Allocation Competitions (RAC), Default Access ✓

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- Alliance received the remaining knowledge documents last week and is current reviewing.
 - Compute Canada is currently working on the best way to transition Google Workspace to the Alliance.
 - Compute Canada is currently working on how to allow the Alliance to “hold” the Compute Canada Internet domain names.
 - The Alliance has budgeted for software licenses held/paid by Compute Canada.

Update on Research Data Management (RDM)

Research Data Management

Two outreach events held last week:

- Curation Expert Group Virtual Meetup – Tri-Agency Guidance on Depositing Existing Data in Public Repositories - 48 people in attendance; Excellent engagement
- Putting the Tri-Agency Policy into Practice: Workshopping Your Institutional Research Data Management Strategy - 4-day webinar/workshop series. Attendance ~350 people per day.

Major projects underway:

- FRDR Sensitive Data Repository Pilot
 - Meetings being held with Calcul Quebec and AceNet
- FRDR Discovery System Redesign
 - Working Group established to shepherd this work
 - User Experience testing underway
 - Development team exploring feasibility of GeoBlacklight as our technology platform
 - RFP has gone out for a UX Design firm to review an alpha version of the platform in early 2022, twinned with broader Alliance website project
- Two funded initiatives
 - CoreTrustSeal Repository Certification Pilot
 - COVID-19 Data Curation Pilot

Update on Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity

Some Recent Successes:

- The Incident Management Team developed and presented to CSAC the Process & Dashboard for reporting the Results Metrics for Incidents.
- The NSC approved the Risk Assessment Procedure developed by the Governance & Policy working group.

Recent Successes with the Cybersecurity Medium Term Action Plan (MTAP):

- The Security Monitoring and Auditing Working Group, 4 months ahead of schedule, completed and presented the National Monitoring Architecture to CSAC.
- The Incident Management Working Group, 2 months ahead of schedule, completed the MTAP Incident Handling Plan, and the Root Cause Analysis procedure was complete 3 months before the schedule completion date.
- The Policy and Governance Working Group, completed ahead of schedule the investigation for automated discovery options, allowing for the ability to distinguish critical systems from non-critical systems. Also developed a plan for the implementation of an automated asset inventory process as part of the Asset Management Portfolio.



Q&A



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Alliance** of Canada

Accelerating Canada's
Research Future.

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