



RDM@McMaster: Initiating a Research Data Management Conversation

Jason Brodeur

McMaster University Library

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Research Data Management – What and why?

RDM@McMaster: Ongoing work

Where we can help

The road ahead

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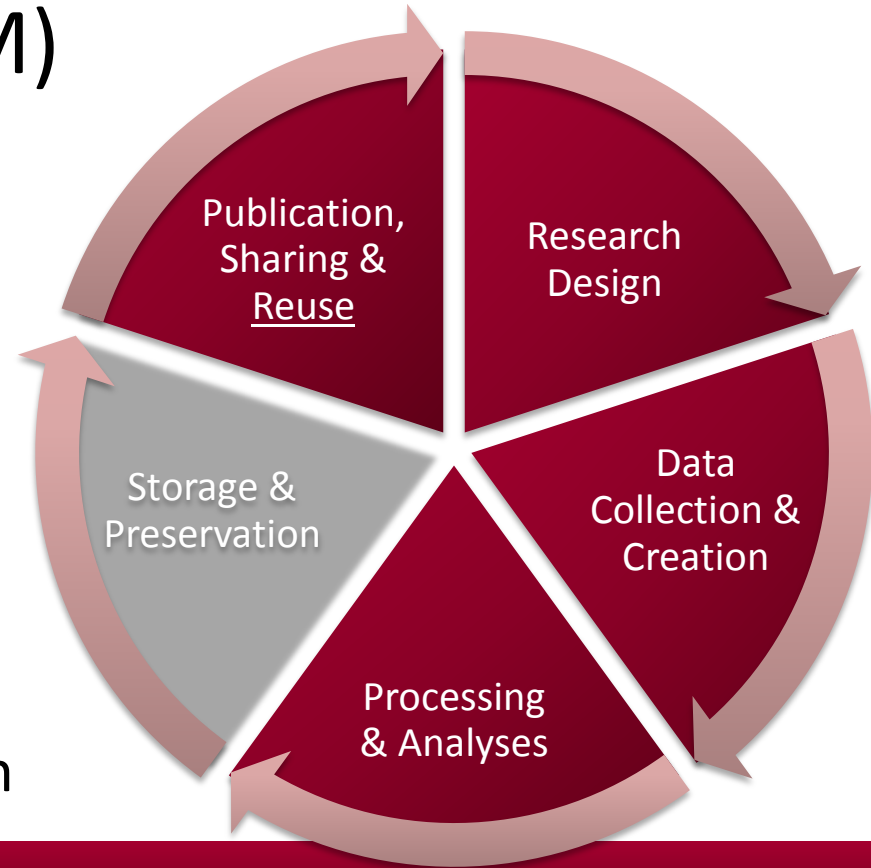
The Case For Data Re-use

- \$Bs invested in research yearly
- Large volumes of data produced
- Data has value not only in original use, but for re-use
- Reusing & integrating data improves ROI and is a public good

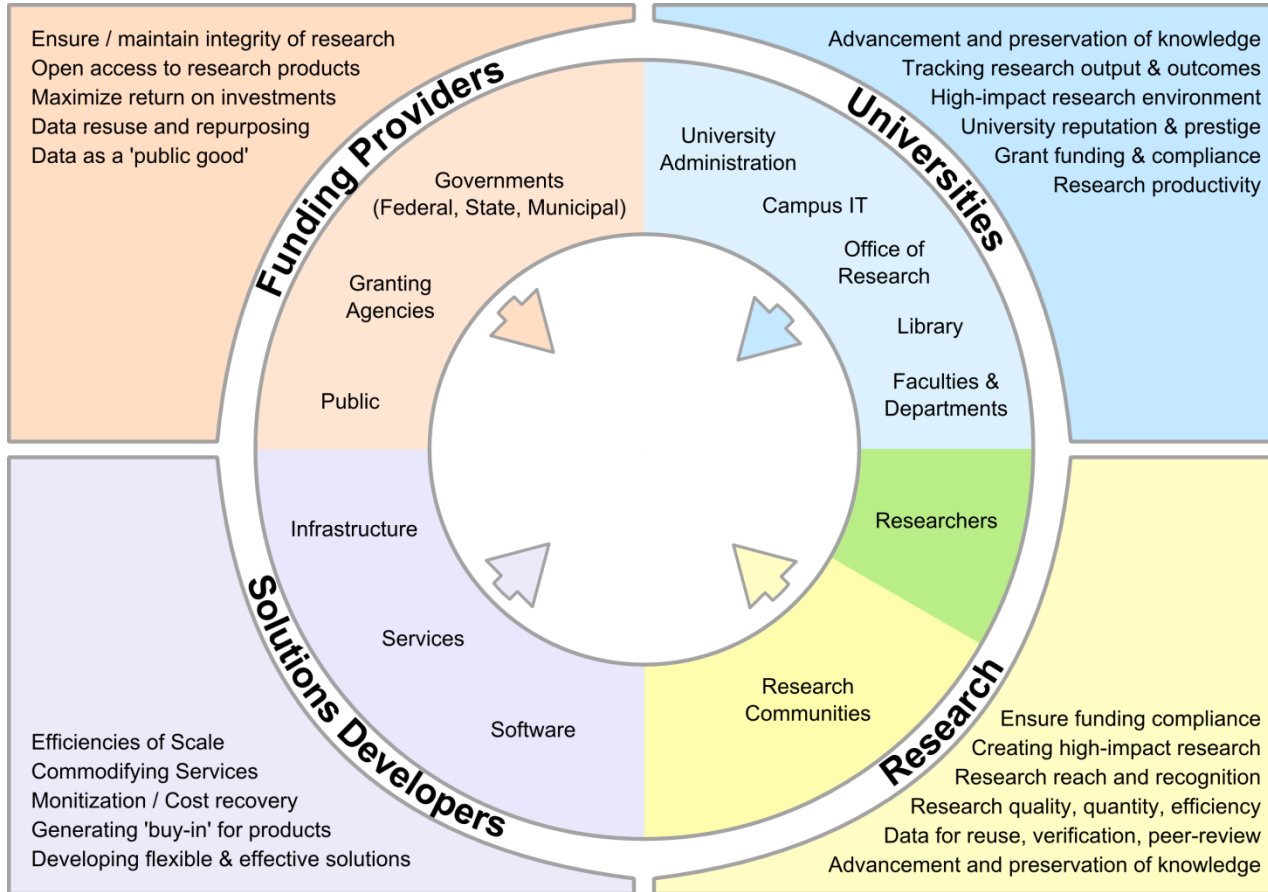


Research Data Management (RDM)

- The **active** organization and maintenance of data throughout its entire **lifecycle**.
- Application of best practices to ensure data **security**, **accessibility**, **usability**, and **integrity** throughout the project and after its completion



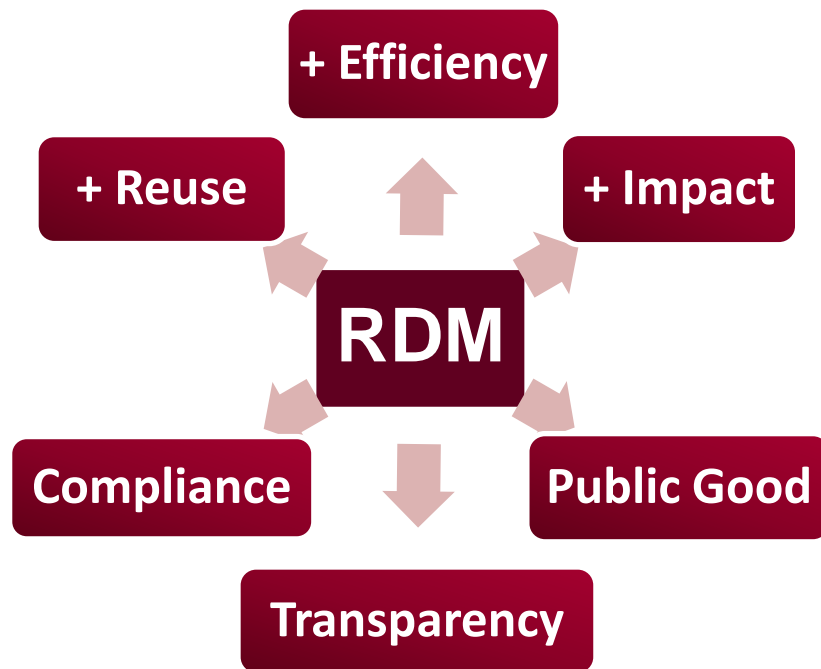
RDM Stakeholders



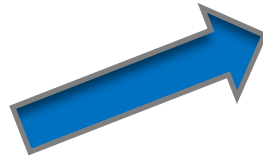
Why RDM?

**Rewards for RDM practices
are manifold:**

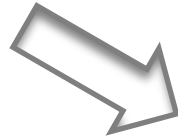
- Granting Agencies
- Researchers
- Universities
- Research Output
- The Public



The Emerging Landscape



Capitalizing on Big Data: Toward a Policy Framework for Advancing Digital Scholarship in Canada



Prerequisites:

- Infrastructure (hard & soft)
- Capacity
- Standards

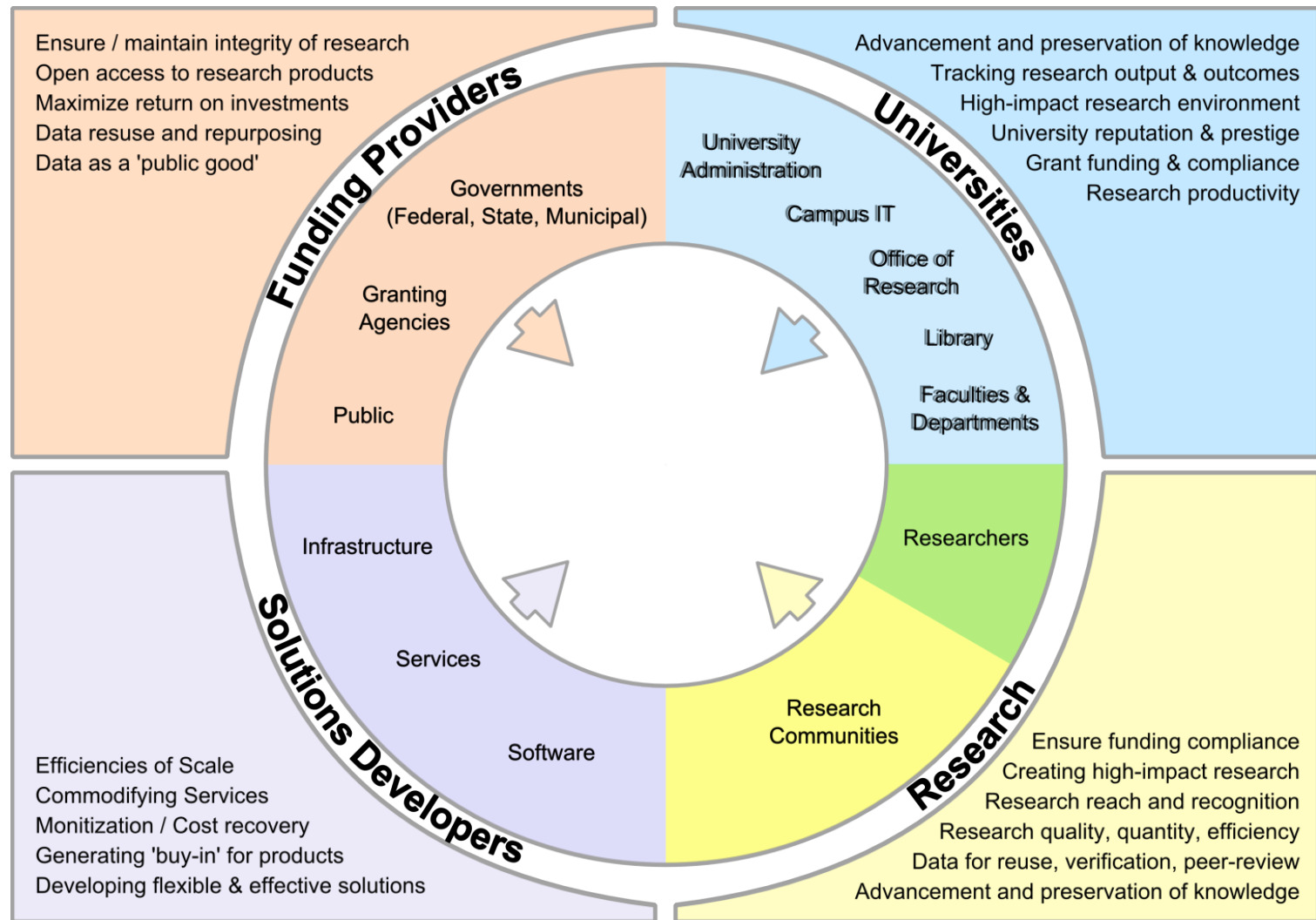
RDM in Canada: Identified Challenges

- Hard & soft infrastructure requirements.
- Centralized vs. decentralized.
- Disciplinary differences in data norms, cultures and requirements.
- **Managing sensitive / confidential data.**
- How to monitor compliance?
- Stewardship vs. ownership.
- What data to keep? How long? Who decides?
- Canada-wide protocols & standards.
- Training requirements.
- Who provides RDM services? Who pays for it?



ONGOING WORK


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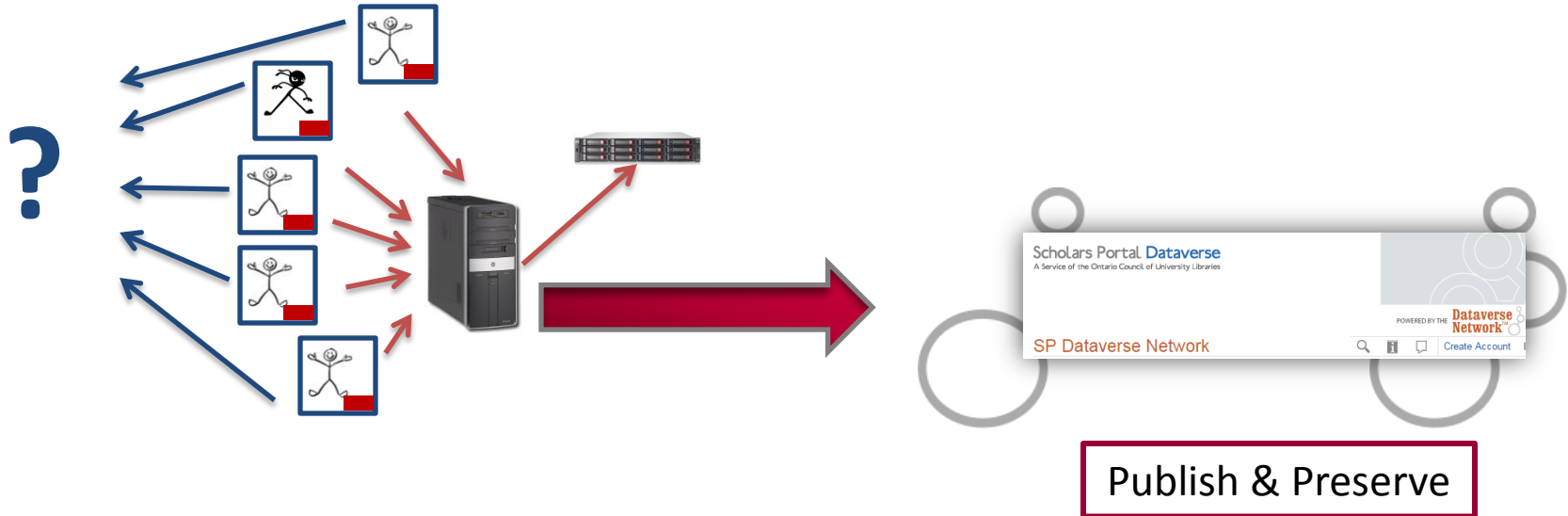


Understanding RDM Needs

1. RDM needs are variable across disciplines & researchers
 - Data volume, types, requirements
 - No “one-size-fits-all”
2. Preparedness & engagement for RDM ranges widely
 - Dedicated DM operations  “DIY-RDM”
 - Norms and culture are **very important**

Developing Solutions

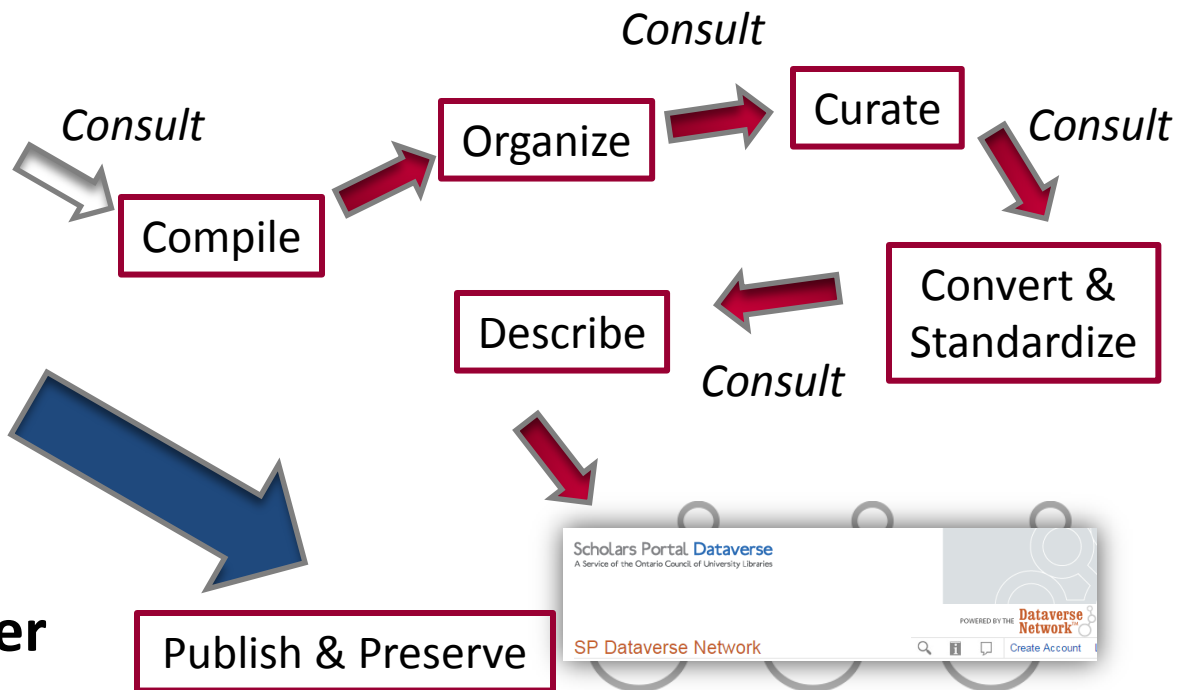
The Mid-Career Researcher



Developing Solutions



(The original Dropbox)



The Late Career Researcher

Building Capacity & Culture

RDM workshops in development:

- Introduction to research data management
- Research data management planning
- Data management best practices
- Data organization, storage & preservation
- Domain-specific RDM activities
- Data description & publishing



WHERE WE CAN HELP

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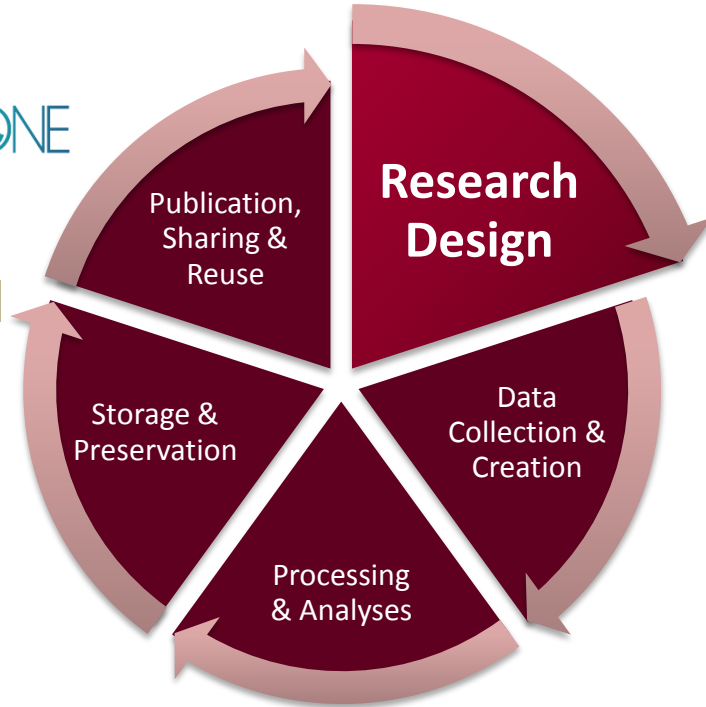
It All Starts With a Plan...

Research Data Management Plan

- Interview- or template-driven
- Details all RDM activities

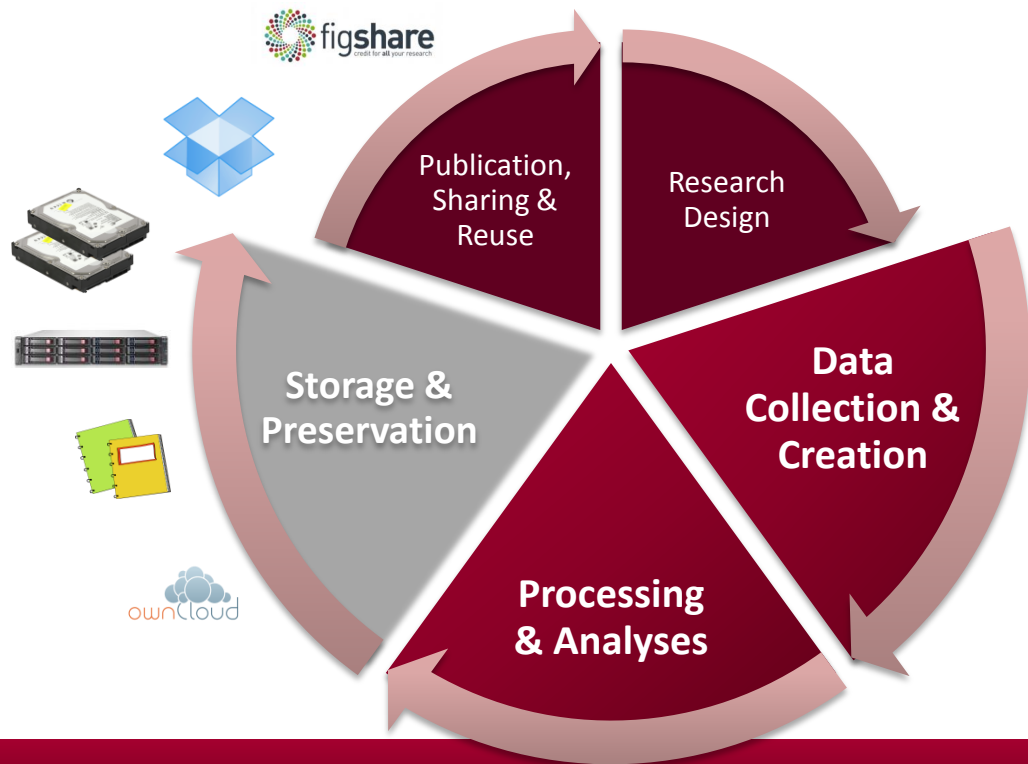
A Good RDM Plan:

- Ensures compliance
- Organizes research activities
- Identifies support requirements
- Begins conversations; Builds a culture



The Squishy Middle

- Variability of researcher needs and capabilities
- Importance of ongoing stewardship
- Need for technical and systematic solutions



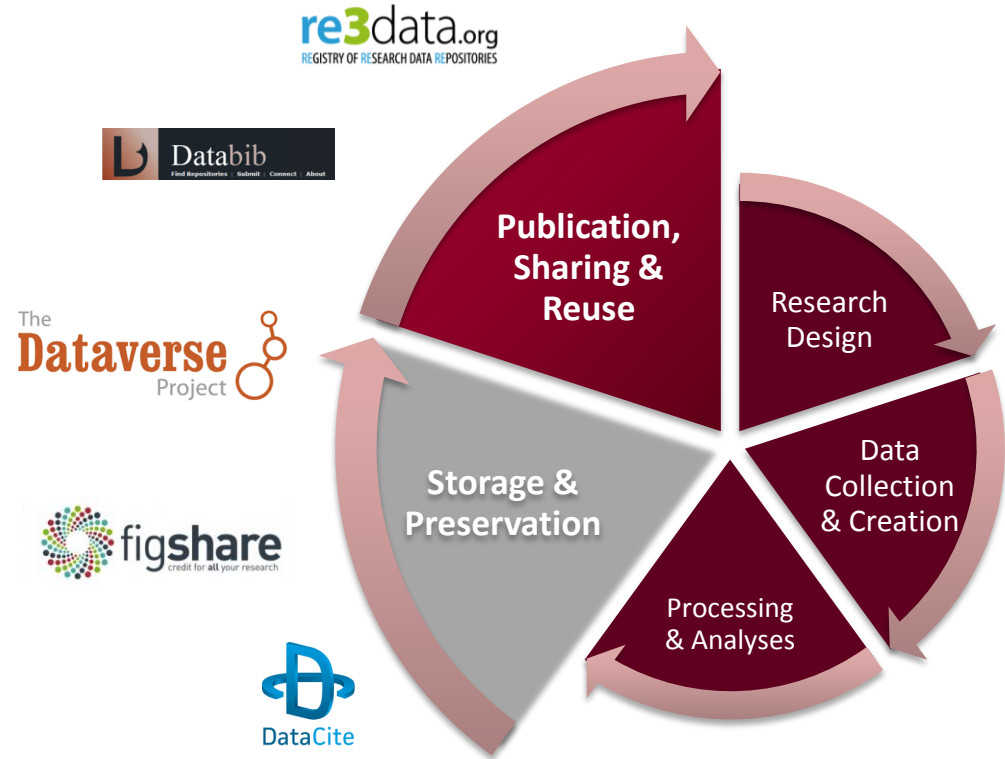
Closing the Cycle

Data Description

- Metadata standards

Data Depositories:

- Institutional
- Federated
- Commercial
- Discipline-specific





THE ROAD AHEAD

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The Road Ahead

Next Steps:

- Continue and extend the RDM conversation across campus
- Build partnerships with selected stakeholders to develop services, tools and training
- Coordinate McMaster's RDM interests/needs internally and externally

Thank You!

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Check us out:
library.mcmaster.ca/rdm

Contact us:
rdmgt@mcmaster.ca
brodeujj@mcmaster.ca

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