

FNDGS: Data Governance Centre Core Functions

Overview of the core functions and schematic (framework)

The diagram below articulates the proposed core functions for the eleven Data Governance Centers and the environment with which they will have to operate. It should be noted that these core functions and the framework are:

- Leveraged from the UN's *Handbook of Statistical Organizations* with adaptations.
- Preliminary and subject to further analyses and engagement with stakeholders.

Each Data Governance Center is expected to perform the same core functions with some variation in focus between the national Data Governance Center and the regional Centres; these differences are expected to be mainly in terms of relative perspective and emphasis.

As shown below, the Data Governance Centers are evolving in a broad, diverse, and relatively complex environment with multiple data sources, data fields and data users.

Each Data Governance Center is organized around the following core functions:

1. Governance
2. Data Policy, Standards and Methods
3. Data Collection and Relationship with Respondents and Data Providers
4. Analysis and Research
5. Data Dissemination, Users' Support and Training
6. Data Centers (Hubs)

A brief description of each core function and the key components of their environment is provided below.



Data Governance Centres (11)

National & Regional

1
Governance

1.1
Board of Directors

1.2
Office of the CEO (or Chief Data Officer)

1.3
Corporate Services

2
Data Policies, Standards, & Methods
(approved by the CEO and Board)

Economic

3

Data Collection & Relationship with Respondents & Data Holders

4

Analysis & Research

5

Data Dissemination, User Support, & Education/ Training

Environment

6
Data Centres
(data hubs' infrastructure & management)

1.2.1 National Council of First Nations Data Governance Centres (a mechanism for alignment between CEOs)

PRIMARY DATA LANDSCAPE

First Nations:

- Communities/Nations
- Households
- Institutions & organizations
- Businesses

SECONDARY DATA LANDSCAPE

- Administrative data & other existing data holdings
- User-generated data

DATA FIELD LANDSCAPE

Diagram A - Schematic of proposed core functions of the data governance centres

Illustrating the universe of the data governance centres and their proposed six core functions and key relationships

USER LANDSCAPE

- Right holders (Bands, tribal councils, communities, Nations)
- Other First Nations organizations (e.g. AFN, FNFMB, research organizations/individuals)
- Non-Indigenous users & organizations (e.g. F/T/P governments, academic organizations)

Demographic Health Education Social

Land, Water, & Resources Housing & Infrastructure Identities, Languages, & Cultures

The following provides a brief description of each core function.

Governance:

To ensure primarily that:

- Rights holders and data users more broadly have a trusted (independent, credible, relevant and integrated) network of regional and national First Nations Data Governance Centers that serve data and statistical priority needs, including with respect to the protection at all time of the rights of respondents for inform consent, privacy and confidentiality.
- Data Governance Centers deliver their mandate in cost-effective; and funds entrusted are used with economy, efficiency and probity and in a responsible manner
- The strategy is implemented as per approved plans.
- Accountabilities are exercised, results achieved, and expenditures are reported in a transparent manner.
- It is composed of the following key sub-components:
 - **Distinct boards of directors**
 - **Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and supporting staff**
 - **Corporate services.**

Data Policies, Standards and Methods:

To ensure primarily that:

- Appropriate legal frameworks, policies, standards and methods guiding the work of all other core functions are developed, approved, implemented and their compliance monitored and reported. This core function directly supports the establishment and maintenance of trusted, independent, credible, reliable, relevant and integrated Data Governance Centers, including with respect to statistical standards and methods, and the protection of data.

Data collection and Relationships with Respondents and Data Providers:

To ensure primarily that:

- Relevant First Nations data are collected and acquired consistent with OCAP® principles and the principles of proportionality and necessity. This includes the acquisition, review, and organization of primary and secondary data, including with respect to data repatriation as directed by rights holders);
- Effective day-to-day relationships with respondents (surveys) and/or data providers (secondary data holdings for data sharing and/or possession)

Research & Analysis:

To ensure primarily that:

- The review and production of unbiased statistical analysis prior to publication and/or dissemination in manner that is meaningful to, and easy to understand by data users.
- The development and implementation of new measures, metrics and methods, closing gaps with respect to data, statistical metrics and methods

Data Dissemination, Users' Support and Training:

To ensure primarily that:

- Data, statistics and related publications are provided to data users in a timely, transparent, and convenient manner

- Data users are empowered with the information and evidence they need in an effective and responsive manner
- Data users have seamless access to service points for data inquiries and support needs, regardless of their location; this including delivering training and providing guidance.
- Responsive and effective communications with data users, responding to inquiries and providing support.

Data Centers (Data Hubs):

To ensure primarily that:

- Data users have access to micro data for discovery and analysis through data hubs supported by modern technologies, in compliance with OCAP® principles.

Finally, below are key characteristics of the environment within which Data Governance Centers will be operating:

A. The Data User Land (The data users and their needs)

It includes a broad and diverse set of data users:

- Rights holders first and foremost i.e. First Nations' governments, bands, communities and nations whether Indian Act-based or self-governing nations.
- Other First Nations' organizations which have an advocacy, political, policy-making or service delivery role are also expected to be important data users. They include the AFN, PTOs, tribal councils and other First Nations organizations such as those created under the *First National Fiscal Management Act* (FNFMB, FNFA and FNFC), the National Council for Reconciliation and the National Indigenous Economic Development Board.
- Non-indigenous organizations at the federal, provincial and territorial (F/P/T) government levels; as well as academic organizations, non-for-profit organizations, private sector organizations, the public, and international organizations.

B. The Data Field Land (The types and nature of data)

As articulated in the Strategy, the scope of the Data Governance Centers is a comprehensive one, encompassing multiple data fields.

- Demographic, social, health, economic, and environmental data, including housing, child and family services, education, employment and revenues, lands, resources and water as well as languages and traditional cultures.

C. The Data Source Land (The primary and secondary data)

- The data sources include *primary data* (survey data) and *secondary data* (administrative data, data from previous surveys, and user-generated data from the web or the social media) that can be used for statistical purposes.
- Given survey programs are more mature as they have been in existence for several years, it is expected that a key focus of the Data Governance Centers will be on the acquisition of secondary data.