

# Update on New Digital Research Infrastructure Organization (NDRIO)

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Recall the status report at the 2019 IPP AGM presenting the general plans to establish NDRIO

<http://heprcdocs.phys.uvic.ca/presentations/ipp-agm-sobie-2019.pdf>

SAP “White Paper” group++ met and wrote document summarizing our requirements and concerns.  
Sent by IPP/CINP Directors to ISED, U15, “Engage-DRI” around June 2019

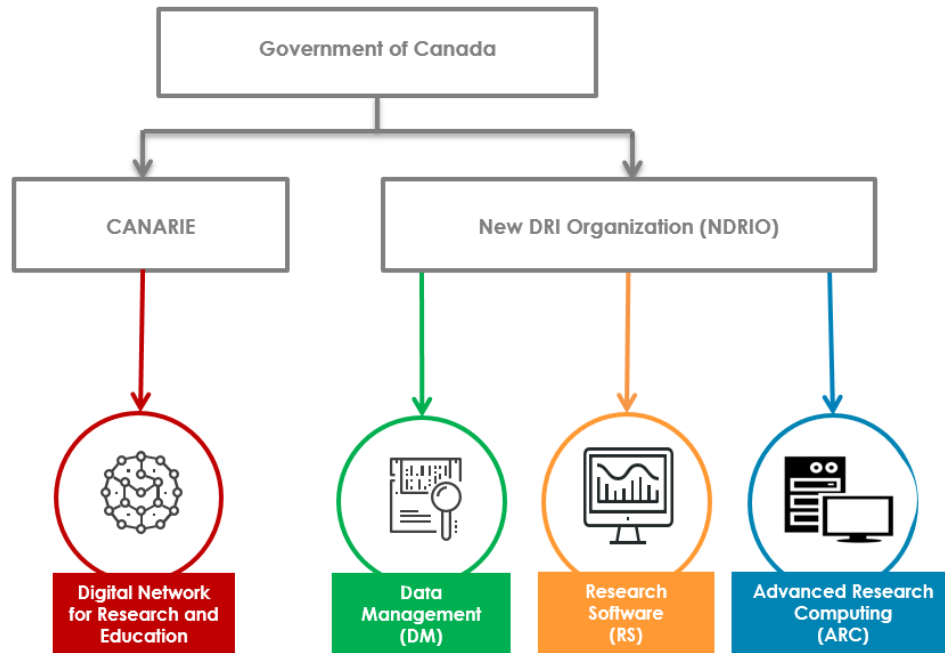
[https://particlephysics.ca/wp/wp-content/uploads/report\\_2019\\_DRI\\_Brief\\_ISED\\_IPP\\_CINP.pdf](https://particlephysics.ca/wp/wp-content/uploads/report_2019_DRI_Brief_ISED_IPP_CINP.pdf)

Presentations from the NDRIO Special Members meeting in March 2020

<https://engagedri.ca/special-members-meeting-presentations/>

*This talk will describe the current status of NDRIO and the bridging of existing Compute Canada resources  
(most news and status is prior to the Covid-19 pandemic)*

# Future National Structure of DRI Ecosystem



Transition period until March 31, 2022 to minimize disruption for regional and local partners, researchers, and Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP).

## Budget 2018 \$527 million for DRI

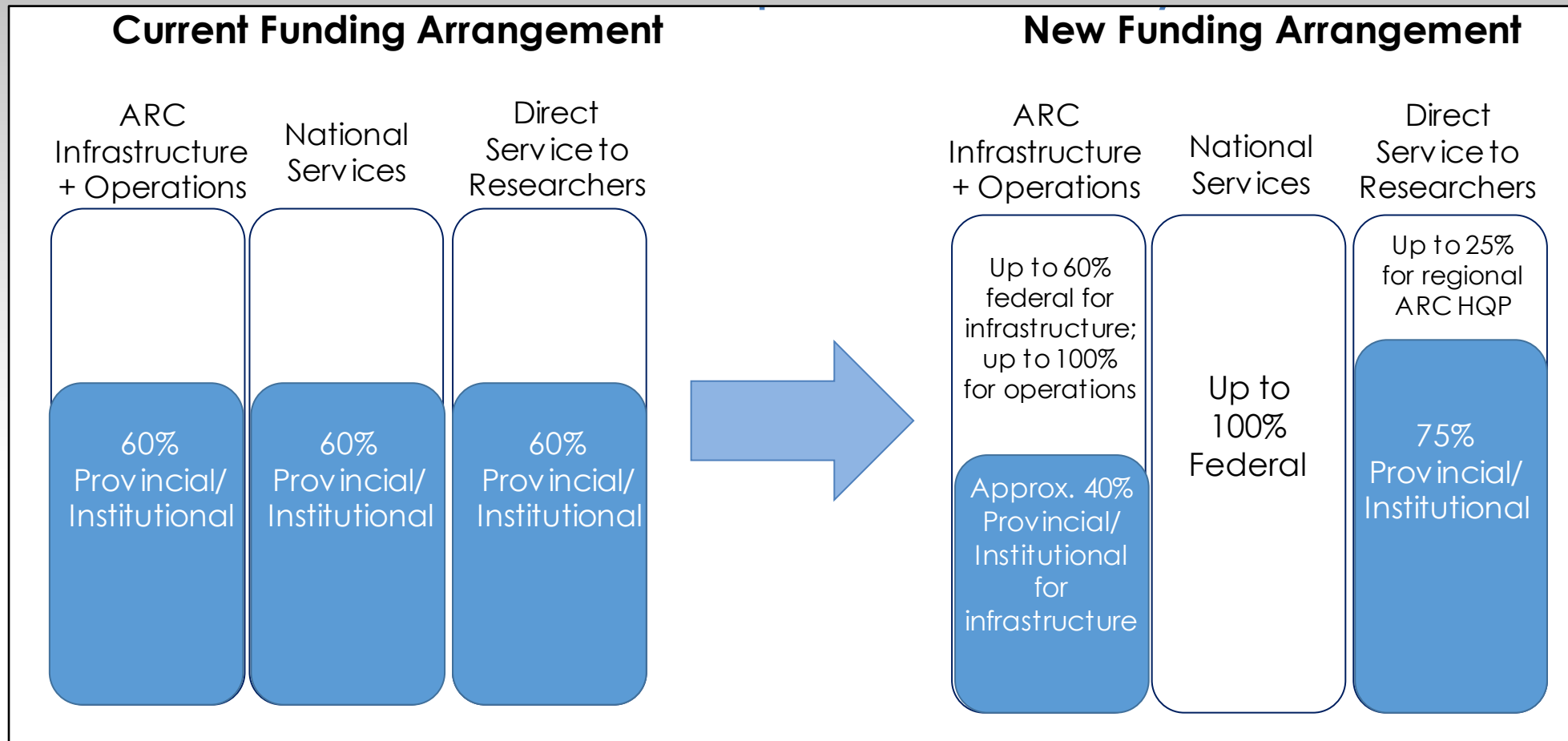
\$50M used for refresh of Compute Canada systems

\$145M for CANARIE with a new focus on cybersecurity

\$375M for NDRIO for the three activities (DM, RS, ARC)

Transition from period until March 2022  
(end of Compute Canada)

Federal government will fund 60% of overall DRI infrastructure with 40% from regional/institutional funds



# Special members meeting— March 2020

Primary (voting) members (51): <https://engagedri.ca/membership/primary-members/>

*Primary Membership is available to public post-secondary institutions, research hospitals and/or affiliated institutes that are eligible for Tri-Council grants.*

Associate (non-voting) members (85): <https://engagedri.ca/membership/associate-members/>

*Wide range of organizations including TRIUMF and IPP as well as CASCA, CANARIE and Compute Canada*

NSERC and CFI are not members

Main focus of the meeting was to vote on the Board of Directors

<https://engagedri.ca/about-engage-dri/board-of-directors/>

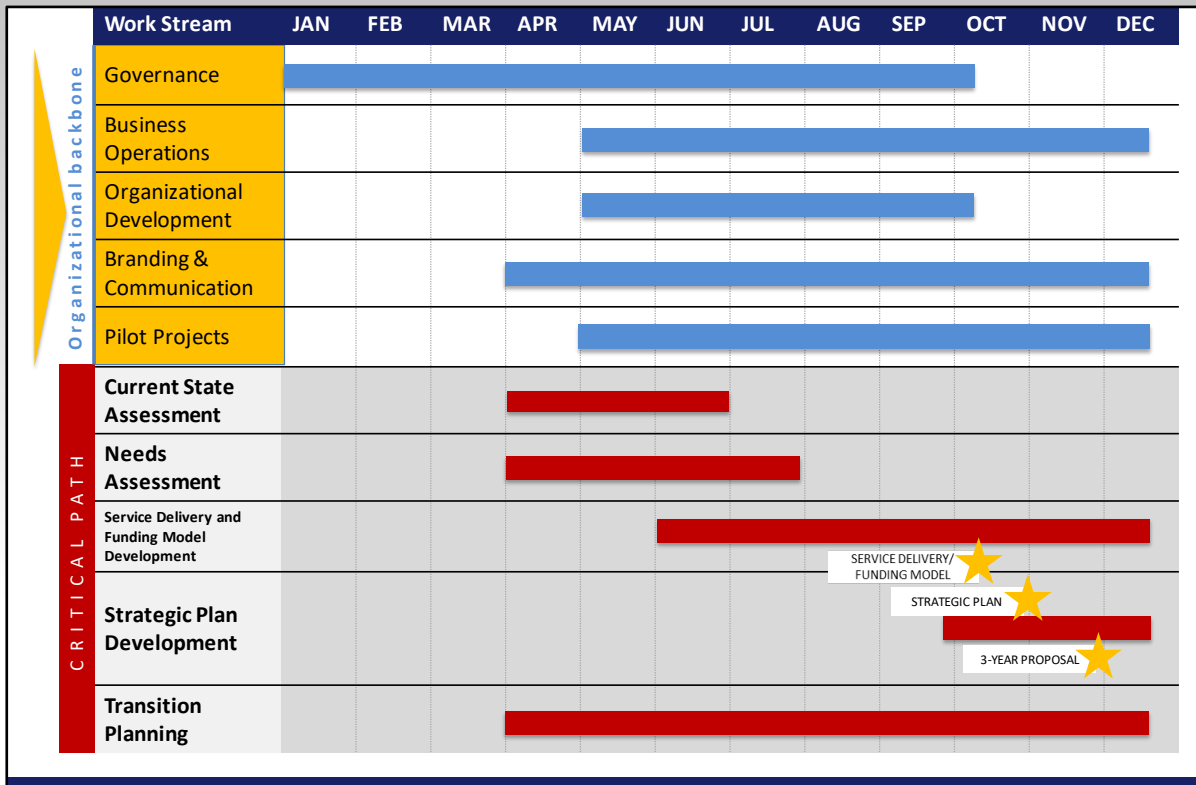
*A slate of candidates was presented and the primary members voted on the slate*

The meeting also discuss the plans and activities for 2020

*Primarily governance, how to manage the transition period, and strategic planning*

See the Corporate Plan (March 2020) <https://engagedri.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/NDRIO-Corporate-Plan-2020-211.pdf>

# Pre-pandemic NDRIIO schedule



## Key Deliverables for 2020

- ★ Revamped integrated Service Delivery and Funding Model for DRI in Canada
- ★ Strategic Plan for NDRIIO
- ★ 3-Year Funding Proposal to ISED to support the new mission of NDRIIO

Currently searching for a CEO and Analysts (posted May 1)

# Researcher Council

## Needs Assessment

CRITICAL PATH  
APR to JUL 2020

### PRIME ACCOUNTABILITY

● interim      ● permanent

### ACTIVITIES

- Establish leadership of Researcher Council
- Create Technical Working Groups to survey, analyze and report on DRI needs under the guidance of Researcher Council
- Conduct global benchmarking/external environmental scan of DRI service models
- Engage researcher community to understand current and future needs related to ARC, DM and RS

### ENGAGEMENT



Researcher  
Community  
Engagement



Board  
Engagement



Institutional  
Engagement

As of March 2020

*The scope/membership of the Researcher Council was not defined.*

*IPP/CINP should be proactive in ensuring it is represented on this committee.*

*No news on Research Council (June 2020)*

# Ongoing activities

(mid-pandemic)

NDRIO has an interim management team

*Posting for CEO and system analysts May 2020*

NDRIO and Compute Canada are currently looking at the existing infrastructure at the host sites

*Some hardware coming off maintenance agreements in 2021*

There is a need to determine bridge funding since the ISED agreement ends March 31, 2021 and the MSI2 agreement ends March 31, 2022.

Compute Canada is working on a services description

CANARIE and the interim-NDRIO team are working to transition of research software, research data management, and research data Canada (plan is due Jan 2021 with transition by March 2021).

# Observations and Summary

## **Observations:**

ISED said there still needs to be matching funds but it is reduced to 40% from 60%.

*It keeps the provinces and institutions in the mix (problem area for Compute Canada)*

ISED said no funds will flow to the researchers (NDRIO is not a "funding agency")

*e.g. "software support" does not help fund project-specific software developer (IPP/CINP requested direct-funding support)*

Specialized centres will still have to get separate funding from CFI or elsewhere

*e.g. ATLAS Tier-1 and Belle II Raw Data Centre*

## **Summary**

Ambitious time scale and plan with no full time staff in a complicated world

*IPP/CINP are following the developments and engaged with the proponents*