



**borealis** The Canadian Dataverse Repository  
Le dépôt Dataverse canadien

## Introducing Borealis, the Canadian Dataverse Repository / le dépôt Dataverse canadien

May 31, 2022

*[For Immediate Release]*

We are pleased to announce that [Scholars Portal Dataverse](#) is becoming **Borealis, the Canadian Dataverse Repository / le dépôt Dataverse canadien**. The new name evokes connections to the Canadian landscape and reflects the growth into a national service used by more than 60 academic libraries and research institutions across Canada. This change is planned to go live on June 23 at [borealisdata.ca](https://borealisdata.ca).

As a bilingual, multi-disciplinary, secure, Canadian research data repository, Borealis provides a platform for discovery, management, sharing, and preservation of Canadian research data, and supports Canadian researchers seeking to comply with [Tri-Agency Research Data Management Policy](#) requirements and recommendations for data deposit and sharing. To date, Borealis features over 8000 datasets and over 10 million downloads.

Since 2012, Scholars Portal has hosted the Dataverse repository on behalf of the Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL). In 2019, Scholars Portal [launched a bilingual interface](#) with the support of the Université de Montréal, and [extended the service to Quebec universities](#) via agreements between the Bureau de coopération interuniversitaire (BCI) and the University of Toronto Libraries. A shared vision for a national Dataverse service was inspired by the Dataverse North Working Group and led to partnerships with other regional academic library consortia, the Council of Atlantic Academic Libraries (CAAL) and Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries (COPPUL), to extend the service across Canada. Governance of Borealis now includes representation from participating regional academic library consortia and the service receives community support and funding for operational costs from the [Digital Research Alliance of Canada](#) (the Alliance). Expansion of the service to other research organizations will continue this year.

“We are thrilled to debut as Borealis,” said Kate Davis, Interim Director of Scholars Portal. “This new name is the culmination of a collaborative effort with representatives from the four regional library consortia, the Digital Research Alliance of Canada, and members of the research data community, to develop a name that reflects the new identity of the service and our commitment to bilingualism.”

.....

“This national repository service was possible thanks to enthusiastic and efficient cooperation between university libraries who strive in offering reliable and sustainable services to Canadian researchers,” said Stéphanie Gagnon, Director of Libraries at the Université de Montréal and chair of the BCI Library Sub-committee. “We are proud to have negotiated the first regional agreement with Scholars Portal and the University of Toronto Libraries and we are convinced that this important piece of infrastructure now called Borealis will continue to develop.”

.....

“The Alliance is pleased to support the evolution of Borealis as a national repository service supporting a broad community of researchers,” said Lee Wilson, Director of Research Data Management for the Digital Research Alliance of Canada. “Research Data Management is a key component of our digital research infrastructure, and having a widely available platform like Borealis will help support critical research efforts across Canada. The Alliance looks forward to our ongoing collaboration with Borealis.”

.....

“This is a positive development and much needed resource for research libraries across Canada,” said Larry Alford, University Chief Librarian of the University of Toronto. “Having a centralized national and bilingual repository will strengthen research offerings at academic libraries and keep our community up to date with the latest datasets, boosting the value we bring to our institutions.”

The new website will launch on June 23 at [borealisdata.ca](http://borealisdata.ca). More details about the name change and new website can be found at our [blog post](#). For the most up-to-date news, follow us on Twitter at [BorealisData](#).

###

#### ABOUT BOREALIS

Borealis is a bilingual, multi-disciplinary, secure, Canadian research data repository, supported by academic libraries and research institutions across Canada. Borealis supports discovery, management, sharing, and preservation of Canadian research data. The service is supported by the Digital Research Alliance of Canada and provided collaboratively through the University of Toronto Libraries, and participating regional library consortia: [Bureau de Coopération Interuniversitaire \(BCI\)](#), [Council of Atlantic Academic Libraries \(CAAL\)](#), [Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries \(COPPUL\)](#), and [Ontario Council of University Libraries \(OCUL\)](#).

#### ABOUT DATAVERSE SOFTWARE

The open-source [Dataverse software](#) is developed by the [Institute of Quantitative Social Science \(IQSS\)](#), Harvard University, and community contributors from around the world.

For questions or feedback please [contact the Borealis team](#).

For media enquiries please contact Kate Davis, Interim Director of Scholars Portal [sidneykate.davis@utoronto.ca](mailto:sidneykate.davis@utoronto.ca).