Rethinking a Canadian Geospatial Data Discovery Service

Mark Goodwin - Geospatial Metadata Coordinator, UBC
Paul Dante - Software Developer, UBC
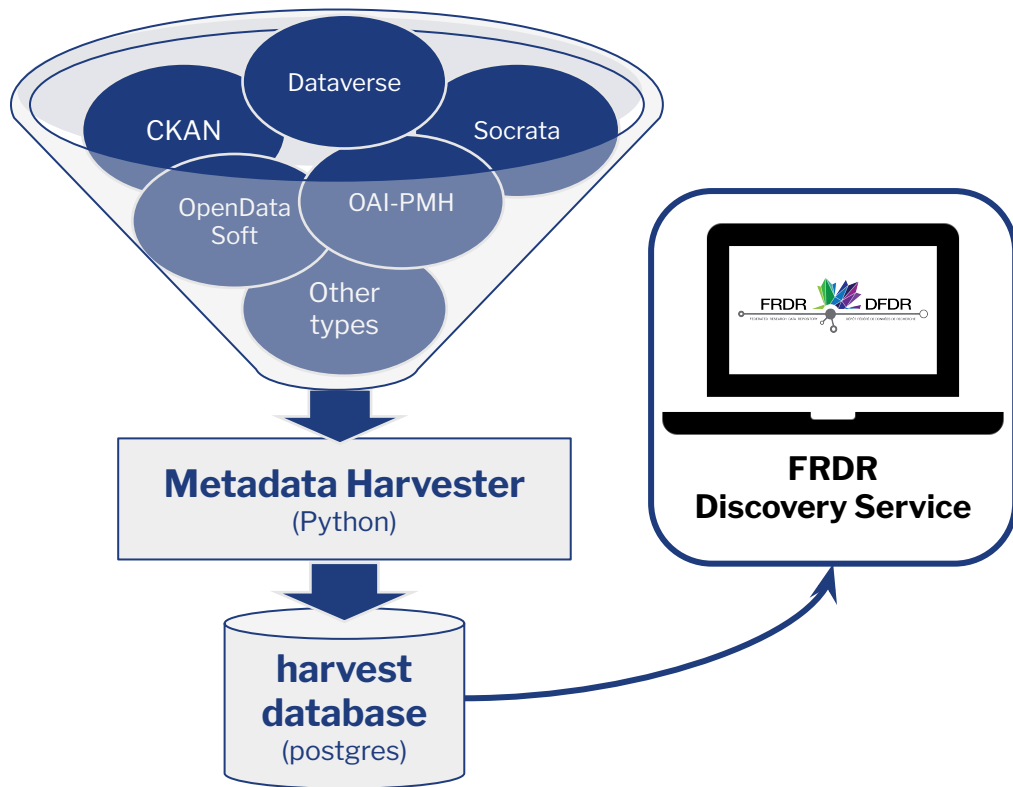Kelly Stathis - Discovery and Metadata Coordinator, Alliance

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Geospatial discovery using FRDR Map Search

In this presentation:

- Update on FRDR Map Search - powered by Geodisy
- Introduction to the FRDR Discovery Redesign Project

The FRDR Discovery Service

FRDR Map Search is a discovery tool that allows users to find FRDR indexed datasets visually, spatially, and quickly

- An adaptation of the open source [Geodisy](#) project
- Search results are driven by an interactive map
- Directly tied to FRDR's research data indexing
- Contains datasets that are geospatial in nature or simply associated with a location

FRDR Map Search

FRDR Map Search (re-)uses four main open-source software components

Geodisy: Metadata and data retrieval and processing

            +

GDAL: Geospatial file processing

            +

GeoServer: Server for publishing and distributing geospatial data

            +

GeoBlacklight: Geospatial discovery layer

New in FRDR Map Search: French Translation

- FRDR Map Search is now available in French

- This includes the entire interface, along with user guides and support documents

- The translation is also being provided to the open source software GeoBlacklight as a means to pay back the support from this community

New in FRDR Map Search: FRDR Harvester

Connected to FRDR harvester

- Results in expanded number of harvested repositories - more records (CKAN, Socrata, etc)

- Improved backup system to decrease downtime in cases of system failures

The FRDR Discovery Redesign Project
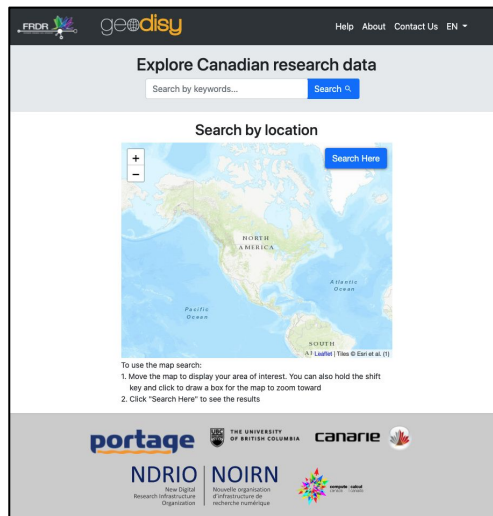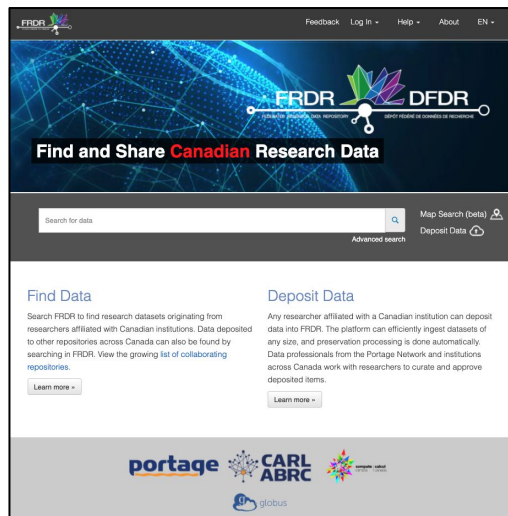
Redesign Project: Goals

The FRDR Discovery Service Redesign project seeks to **overhaul the existing FRDR interface to meet evolving user needs.**

- Integrate the existing FRDR Discovery Service platform with FRDR Map Search, ensuring a seamless experience that combines text- and map-based searching for users
- Expand the capabilities of FRDR's search, through mechanisms including filters and advanced search
- Build a foundation upon which FRDR can better leverage persistent identifiers and controlled vocabularies, including ORCID, ROR, and FAST
- Respond to diverse community needs for discovery of Canadian research data

Redesign Project: Process

Completed:

- Environmental scan

- Established working group

- User research - including in-progress user survey (go to frdr-dfdr.ca if you would like to fill it out!)

- Initial prototype development

- Initial usability testing

  - We're looking for more participants! Submit your interest here: FRDR User Testing // L'essai par les utilisateurs du DFDR

Redesign Project: Process

In progress:

- Design modules with working group
  - Module 1: Record pages
  - Module 2: Search results page
  - Module 3: Home search, browse page, & repo list
  - Module 4: Filters and metadata display
  - Module 5: Linking and enriching research data
  - Module 6: Keyword and map search functionality/algorithm
  - Module 7: API functionality
  - Module 8: Analytics

- Development work for alpha version, which will be used for further usability testing

Redesign Project: Challenges

Challenges

- User research - existing users and potential users

- Testing prototype without functional map search (needed to do this to confirm overall flow before further development)

- Incorporating geospatial search into a database in which not all records are geospatial

  - There are many models for dedicated geospatial search, but few for hybrid. Research Data Australia offers a hybrid and we have collaborated with their team.

The FRDR Discovery Redesign Project

We're interested in hearing from you! What map-based features would you like to see prioritized in a redesigned FRDR discovery interface?

Go to https://www.menti.com and enter code **6024 9659**

Or use this link: https://www.menti.com/go4w6cmqz2

Some examples...

Search by place name

Enter a place name...

Move map here

+

−

?

Search

NORTH AMERICA

Pacific Ocean
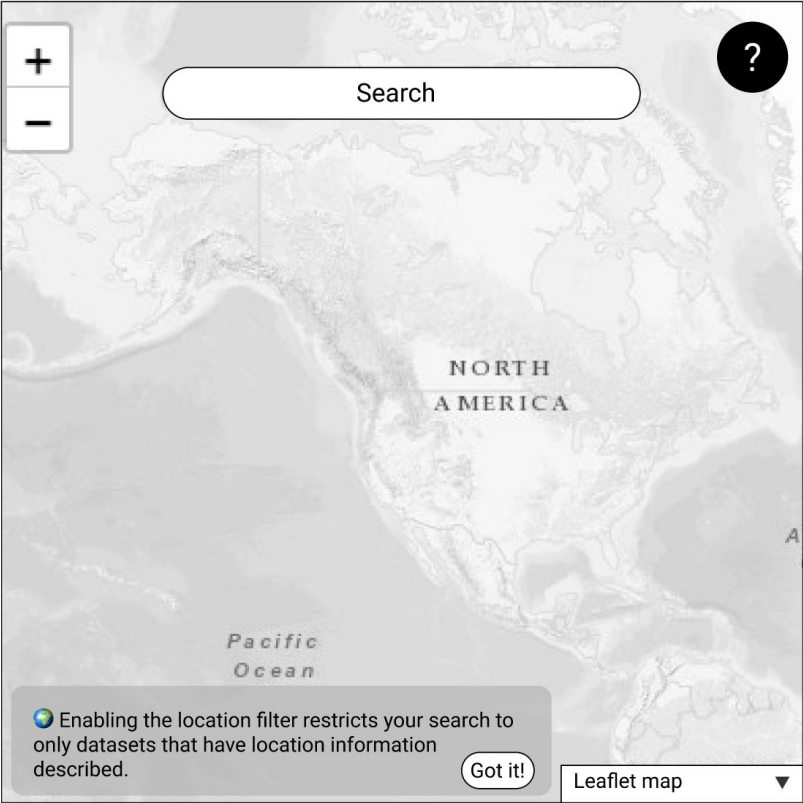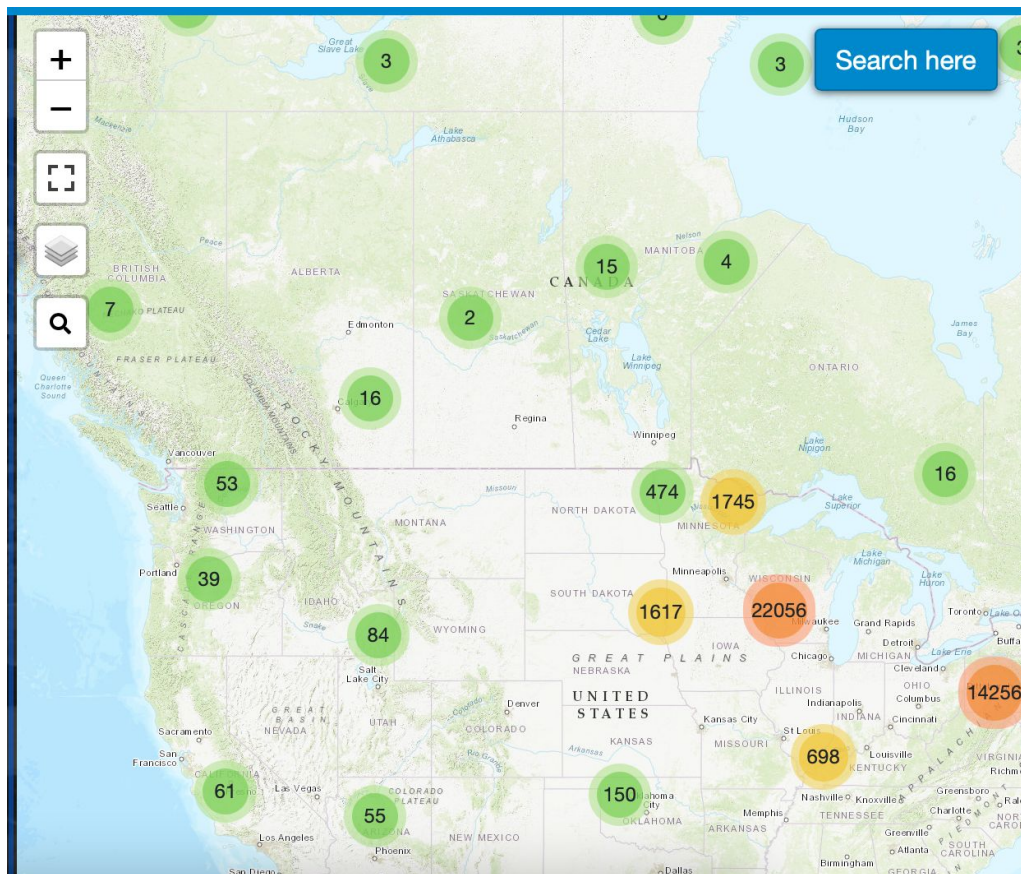
🌐 Enabling the location filter restricts your search to only datasets that have location information described.

Got it!

Leaflet map ▼

Clustering to preview dataset locations

Big Ten Geoportal: https://geo.btaa.org

The FRDR Discovery Redesign Project

What features would you like to see prioritized in a redesigned FRDR map search?

- **Search by place name**
- **Clustering** to preview dataset locations
- Links to **related publications** in other repositories
- **Metadata export** (eg. ISO 19139, DDI, DC)
- Something else?

Go to https://www.menti.com and enter code **6024 9659**

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Thanks! Questions?

Paul Dante, Software Developer, UBC
paul.dante@ubc.ca

Mark Goodwin, Geospatial Metadata Coordinator, UBC
mark.goodwin@ubc.ca

Kelly Stathis, Discovery and Metadata Coordinator, Alliance
kelly.stathis@engagedri.ca