

# New Brunswick Institute for Research, Data and Training

NB LMI Forum  
June 19, 2018



[unb.ca/nbirdt](http://unb.ca/nbirdt)



Secure data facility at UNBF in cooperation  
with GNB

Officially launched May 2015

Supported by:

Government of New Brunswick  
Canadian Institutes for Health Research  
NB Health Research Foundation  
Canada Foundation for Innovation



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# Purpose of NB-IRDT

Host person-level pseudonymized administrative data from multiple GNB departments

- Health records, social assistance, justice, training, education
- Linkable at the person level

Make those data available to researchers in a highly secure fashion

Conduct research to support GNB planning and policy development

Attract highly skilled researchers and develop research capacity in the province

# Governance

## Partnership Coordination Committee

- Provides high-level guidance and direction to the NB-IRDT's Strategic Directions Committee and the Director in ensuring the sustainability and continuing operation of NB-IRDT
- Membership: UNB VP-R (chair), Clerk of ECO, DMs of Health, PETL and SD, VPs of HHN and VHN, CEO of NBHRF

## Strategic Directions Committee

- Advises the Director in setting and implementing the strategic direction of NB-IRDT, and supports the Director and GNB partners in meeting NB-IRDT's goals
- Membership: NB-IRDT Chief Strategy Officer (chair), ADMs and Exec Directors of ECO and other GNB departments, Exec Dir NB-SPRN

# Respecting Privacy

Complies with relevant privacy legislation (PHIPAA, RTIPPA, Medicare Act)

Policies designed in partnership with GNB privacy and information security officers

Reviewed and approved by the Privacy Commissioner

Privacy Impact Assessments, Threat Risk Assessments conducted

Privacy principles enshrined in originating agreements and policies

# Recent achievements

## *An Act Respecting Research*

- Defines a clear legal authority for GNB to share all research-relevant data in a linkable form with NB-IRDT. Proclaimed into law May 2017

## UNB-GNB Memorandum of Understanding – February 27, 2018

- Commits GNB to the long term sustainability of NB-IRDT including integration of NB-IRDT into the GNB policy planning cycle

NB-IRDT cited in GNB Ministerial Letters

# Underway in 2018

- Comprehensive agreement to provide training to GNB employees and Training Survey
- Enhanced collaborations with nonprofit groups including Greater Fredericton Social Innovation and LivingSJ, in particular for program evaluation
- Expansion of NB-IRDT data access to facilities in Moncton and Saint John

# Underway in 2018

- Embedding NB-IRDT staff into GNB departments to facilitate data preparation and transfer
- Potential Collaborations with ELG, DTI and DJPS
- Socio-economic Impacts of Investments in Human Capital : EECD, PETL, SD, ECO



# Research primarily uses NB-IRDT data

- NB-IRDT houses administrative data from GNB departments and other partners
  - Anonymized but linkable at the person level
- May also make use of other data sources
  - Statistics Canada's Research Data Centre is across the hall
    - Contains Canada-wide data including: censuses, labour force surveys, Canadian Community Health Survey

# Benefits of Administrative Data for Research

- Long time period of consistently collected data
- Cheaper than conducting repeated surveys
  - Administrative data would be collected anyway
- NB-IRDT specific - Ability to link to other administrative datasets
- Large sample sizes of entire population
  - Allows for detailed analysis of subgroups

# 5-year Research Agreement with PETL

- PETL has contracted with the NB-IRDT to conduct research related to program evaluation and LMI
- Major first step is transfer of program data from PETL to NB-IRDT
  - Will be linked with existing NB-IRDT data
- 6 priority research areas agreed upon for Year 1

# Program Evaluation Projects 1 & 2

- Labour Market Training Programs – Profiles and Retention
  - To link TSD program data with medicare registry database
    - Having a valid medicare number is indicator of remaining in NB
  - Year 2 plan is to examine labour market outcomes using tax data
- GED and labour market success
  - Comparison of GED holders to high school diplomas
  - Uses GED data from PETL and survey data from Research Data Centre

# Program Evaluation Projects 3 & 4

- Profiles of low-skilled workers
  - Who are low-skilled workers in NB?
  - Comparison with other provinces
  - Using primarily RDC Census and survey data
- Immigrant Retention
  - Using landing records (IRCC) linked to medicare registry (for retention)
  - Compare immigration streams (e.g. family class, skilled worker, Atlantic Immigration Pilot)

# LMI Projects 5 & 6

- Sustaining and Growing NB's rural economy
  - Economic evaluation of government spending in rural areas
    - E.g. – extent to which local public services stem outmigration from rural areas
    - What amount of investment would be required to sustain or grow these areas
  - Medicare registry may be used for internal migration as well
- Profile of NB Businesses, Entrepreneurs & labour markets
  - Comparison of goods-based and service-based industries across province
  - Description of self-employed –using tax data