

Funders from Canada

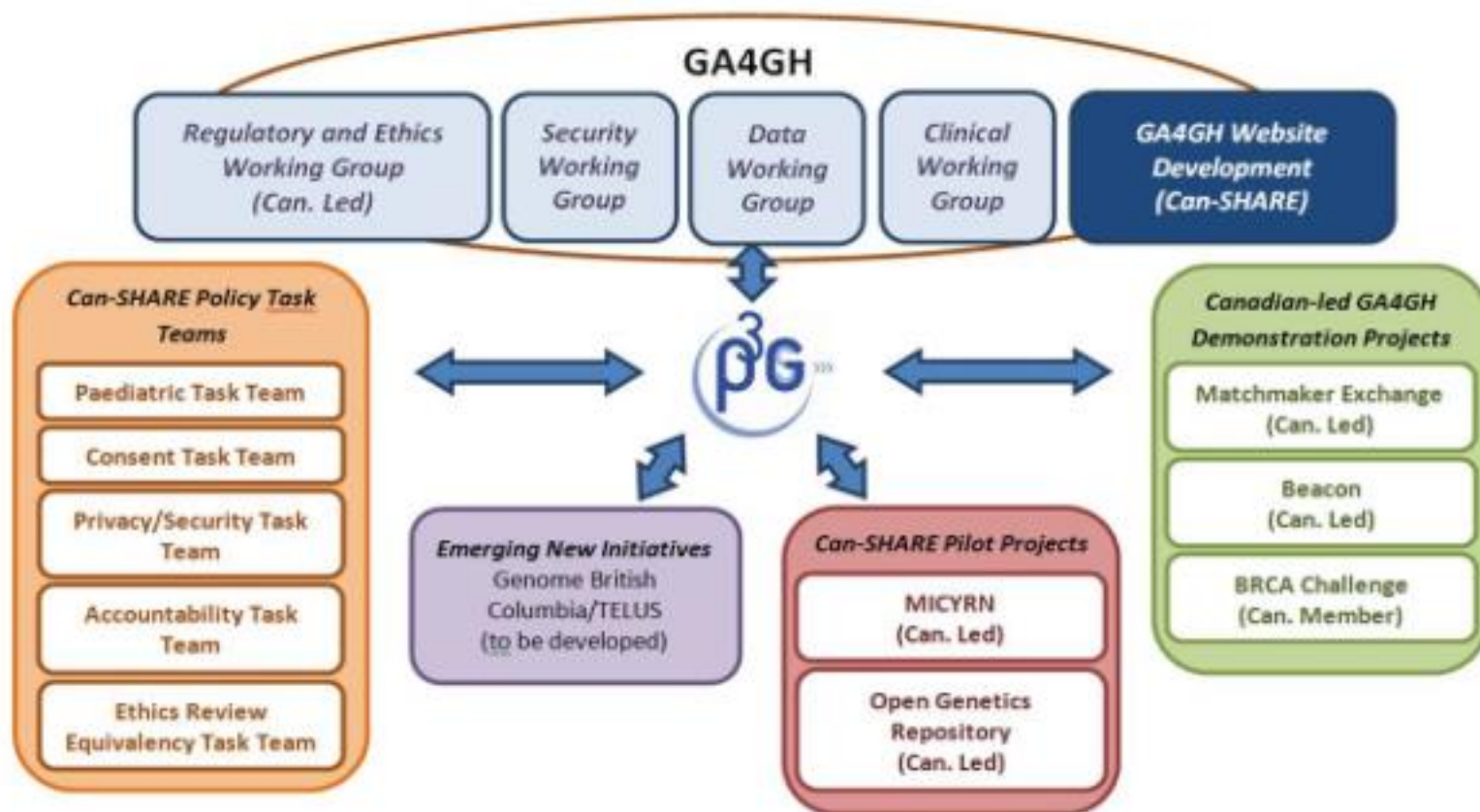
Canadian Institutes of Health Research

Genome Canada

Do you support data resources?

- Yes, PubMed Central Canada, a full-text manuscript repository. Contributions come from CIHR, National Research Council Canada, and the US Public Library of Medicine. Launched in 2009.
- Canada hosts the data portal for the International Human Epigenome Consortium (IHEC), which includes primary data for >2,100 human epigenomes. See this week's issue of Cell for details on what IHEC has achieved. Funding from CIHR and Genome Canada.

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Would internationally distributed funding be desirable?

- Yes, if it provided better stability and better sustainability of data resources.
- Canadian researchers, like researchers throughout the world, depend upon data resources but few are based in Canada.
- Canadians account for roughly 5% of the usage of major international data resources.

Where are the barriers?

- Canadian government funders like to fund activities in Canada, it will be more difficult to contribute to a global resource if very little of the funds are spent in Canada.
- Similar problems as elsewhere—often projects can attract more interest than infrastructure.

Potential positives to build on

- CIHR, Genome Canada, and other granting councils have issued a white paper about the importance of bioinformatics and the need to devote more resources to it.
- The Canadian Foundation for Innovation, which funds infrastructure, has recently expressed openness to consider a database of human genomic sequences as infrastructure.