## **Health Data and Collaboration:**

# **Challenges and Opportunities**

Population Change and Lifecourse Strategic Knowledge Cluster

March 28, 2013

**OTTAWA** 









### Health Data Challenges

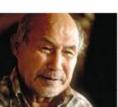
- The health sector is complex because it is fragmented and has multiple players:
  - Statistics Canada
  - Canadian Institute for Health Information
  - Public Health Agency of Canada
  - Health Canada
  - Provincial / Territorial Jurisdictions
  - First Nations & Inuit Communities
  - Canadian Institutes for Health Research and the Social Sciences and Humanity Research Council are funding multiple independent researchers





## Health Data Challenges

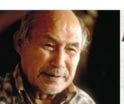
- The health sector covers a wide array of information:
  - Health Status;
  - Health Promotion and Disease Prevention;
  - Primary Care;
  - Ambulatory Care;
  - Acute care;
  - Long-term and continuing care;
  - Population health;
  - Population structures; and
  - Other types of information





## **Opportunities**

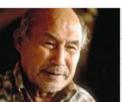
- There are very significant investments in information collection; for instance, the Federal Government invests annually over \$150M, which is easily matched by provincial / territorial investments;
- We see more and more investment in data dissemination: Federal Government Open Data strategy, Support for Data Research Centres, data merging between survey and administrative data, etc;
- Models and research questions are becoming more sophisticated;





### **Opportunities**

- Internally, the Federal Government is developing a health data strategy, which is geared at identifying:
  - Where we are data rich, poor, deficient?
  - What are the highest data priorities for each agencies?
  - What opportunities are likely to emerge in the near future?
  - How will we get ready for the transition to electronic health records?
- We were interested to get the view of the Cluster, in order to support academic research.





### **Opportunities**

- We would be interested in eventual collaborations with researchers affiliated to the Cluster on topics that are linked to some of our broad research areas:
  - Key trends in the population and its impact on the health care system;
  - How to improve the efficiency of the health care system;
  - Innovative ways to finance the health care system to be better able to respond to the changing health care needs.
- These collaborations could be through the hiring of students that would work at ARAD with the supervision of one of our researchers in collaboration with an academic researcher.



