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# Panel Discussion: Global Connections – Connecting registries and data standardization

Corporate Registers Forum (CRF), Maldives 2022

September 24, 2022

Canada

# Connecting Canada's Business Registries



## Objectives:

- Present Canada's journey of connecting business registries across the country as a successful example of connectivity.
- Share lessons learned.
- Discuss implications for a more global approach.



# Canada

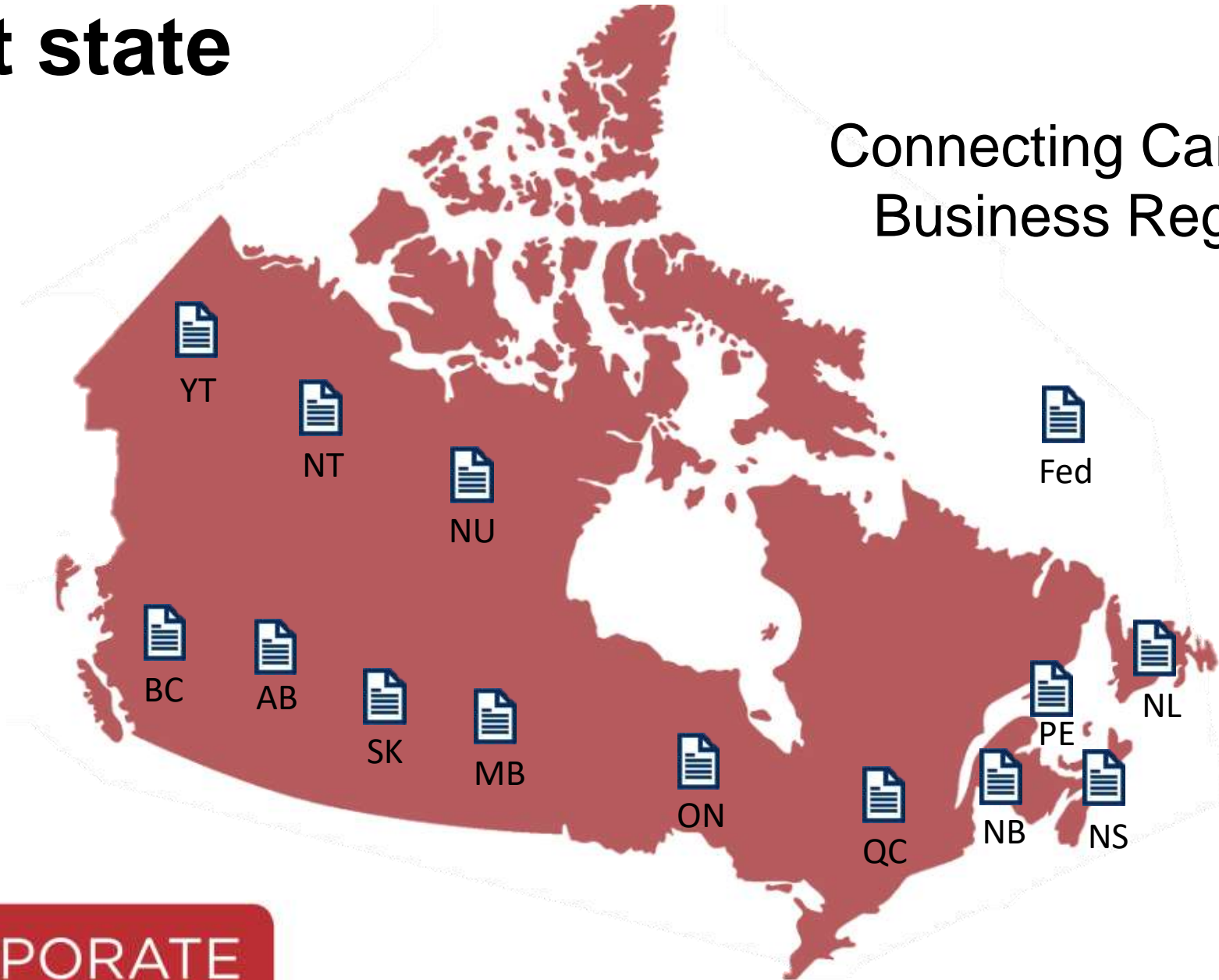
Canada is a federation made up of 10 provinces and 3 territories.



# Current state

Canada has 13 business registries and a federal database.

## Connecting Canada's Business Registries



# Consequences



## Productivity loss:

Businesses are **wasting valuable time** trying to manage their registrations across Canada.



## Fragmentation:

Canadian and international clients searching for business information **do not have one authoritative source** for verified and validated business information.



## For a client



## Integrity issues:

Errors between registries for the same business result in **confusion** and **loss of trust**.

# Consequences (continued)



## Non-compliance:

Outdated information results in **non-compliance** with provincial, territorial, or federal guidelines.



## Integrity issues:

Errors between registries result in **confusion** and bureaucratic **inefficiencies**.



## Lack of progress:

No significant advances have been made to address duplicative corporate registrations with multiple registries since the 1994 Agreement on Internal Trade.



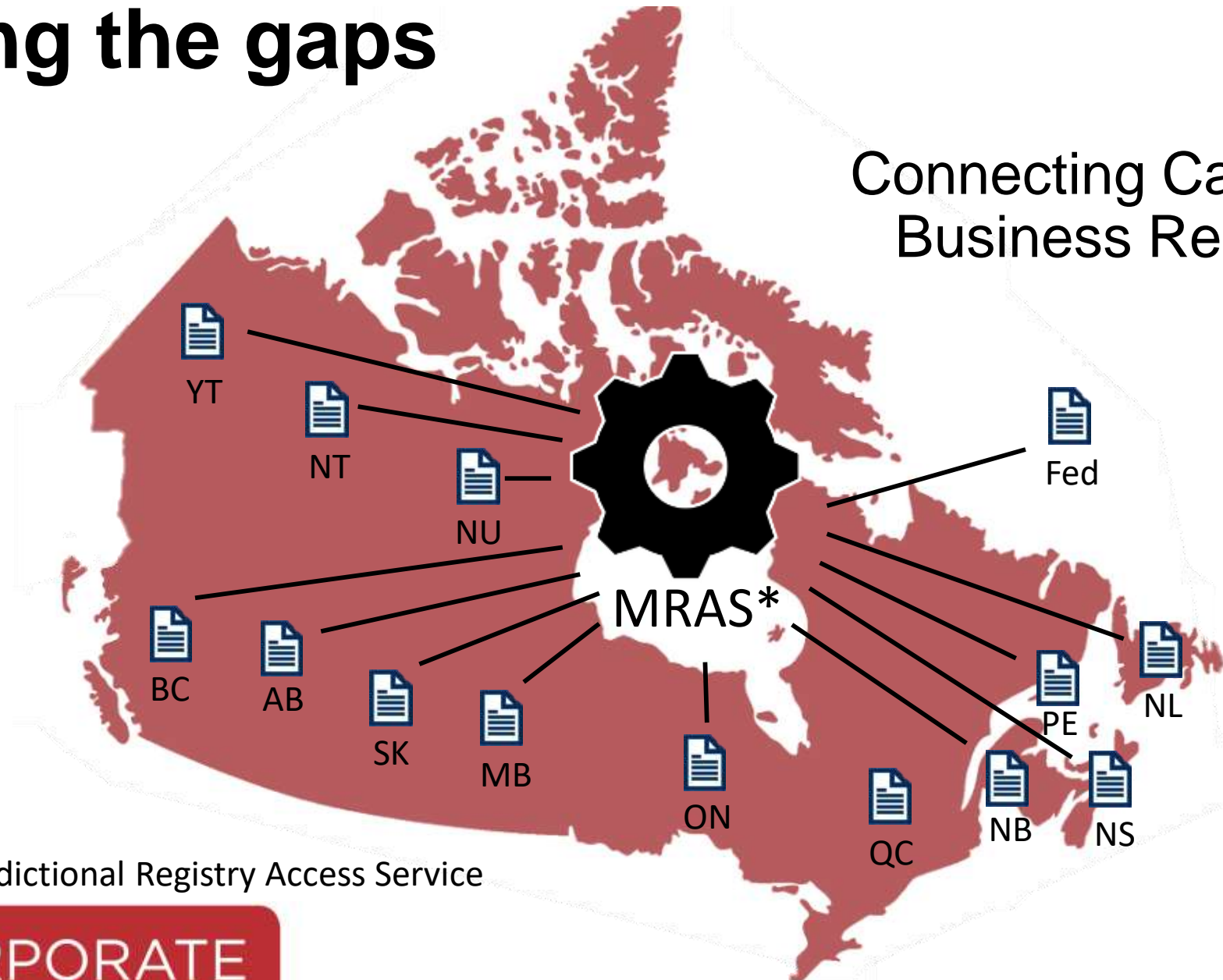
**From an internal  
trade perspective**



# Bridging the gaps

(1 of 4)

Connecting Canada's  
Business Registries

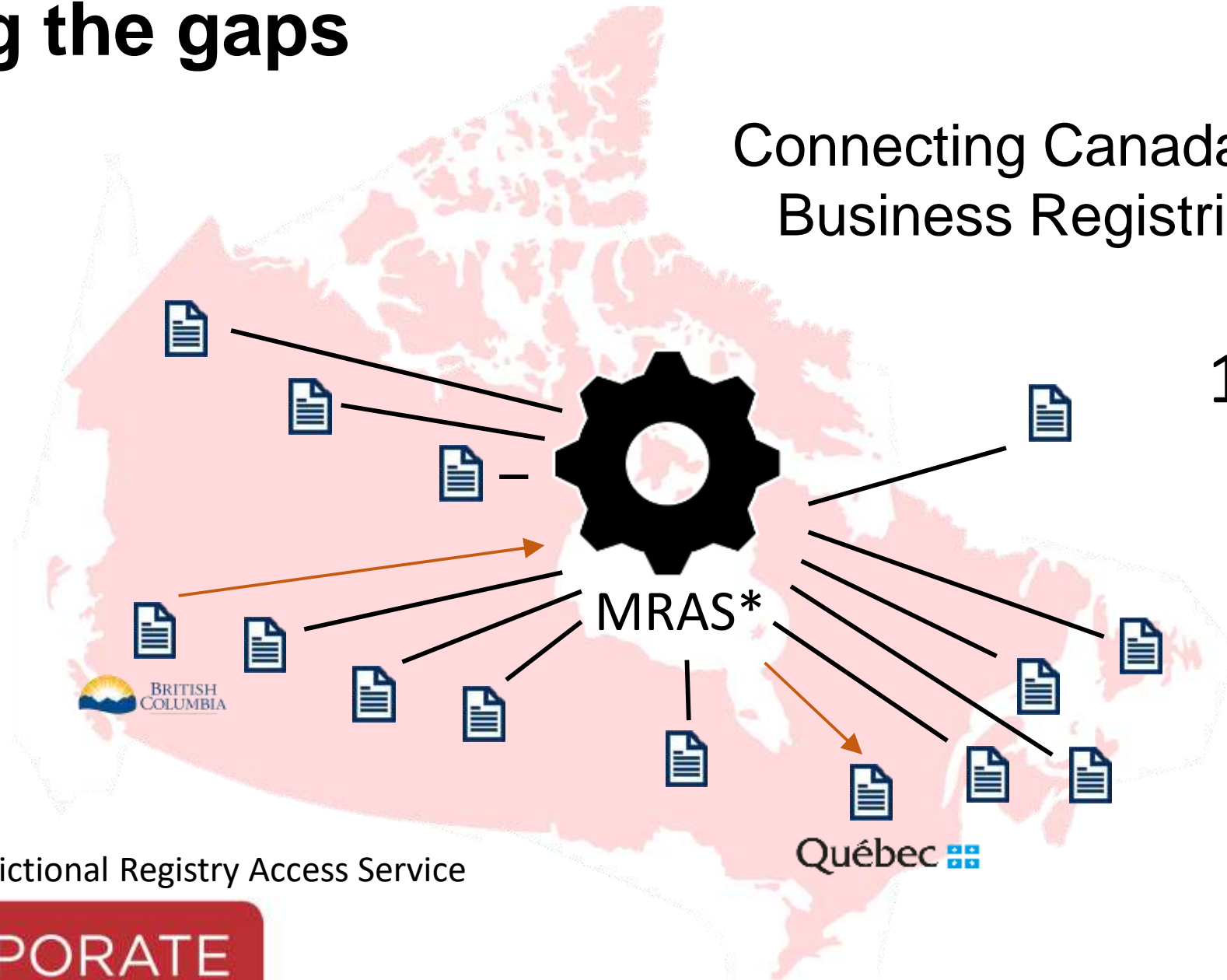


\*MRAS = Multi-jurisdictional Registry Access Service

# Bridging the gaps

(2 of 4)

## Connecting Canada's Business Registries



### 1 Extra-provincial registration

A real-time transaction that allows a business to retrieve its core information from its home jurisdiction and use it to register in another jurisdiction.

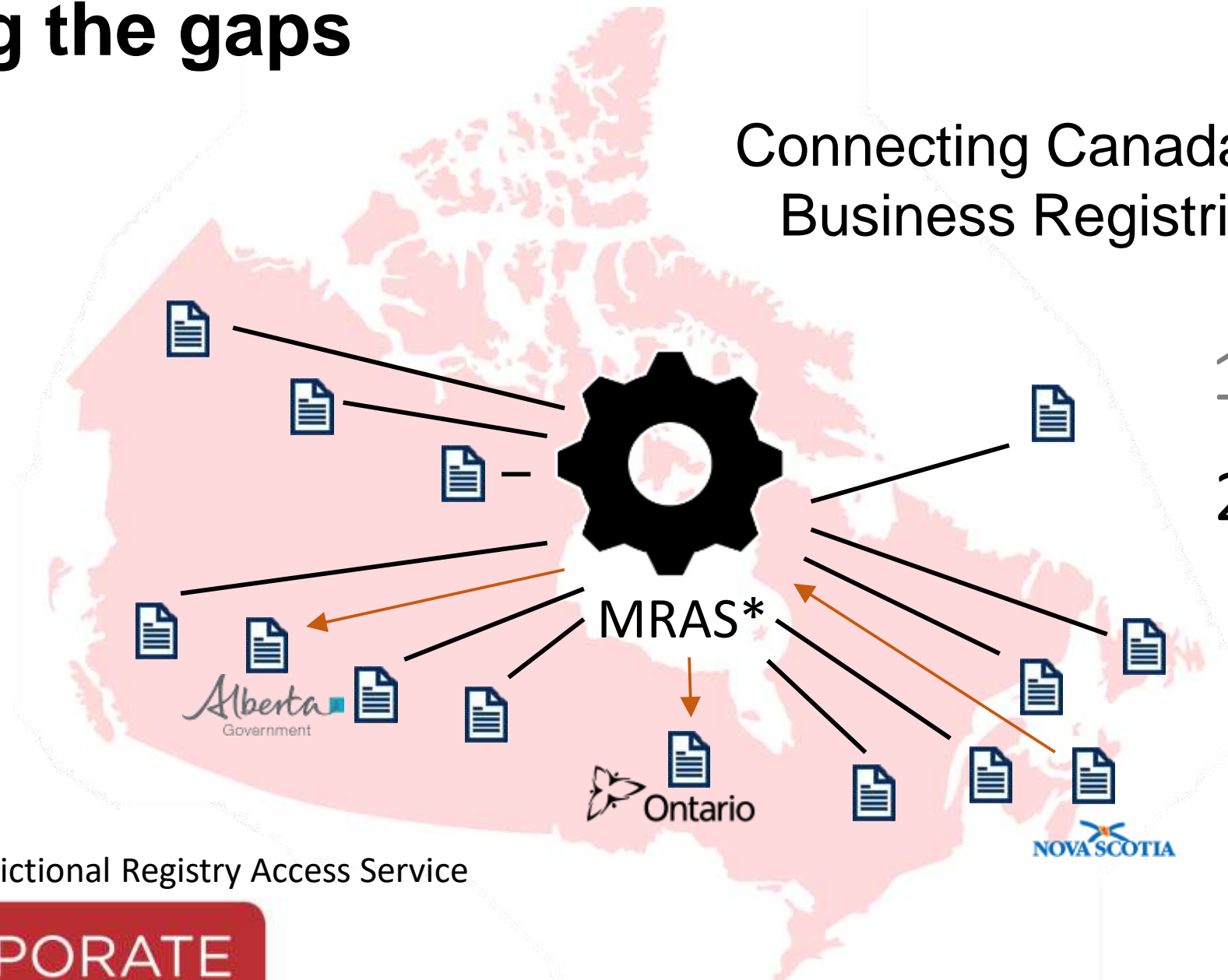
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# Bridging the gaps

(3 of 4)

## Connecting Canada's Business Registries



**1** Extra-provincial registration

**2** Change notifications

Changes made by a business in one jurisdiction are communicated to the other jurisdictions in which the business is registered to operate.

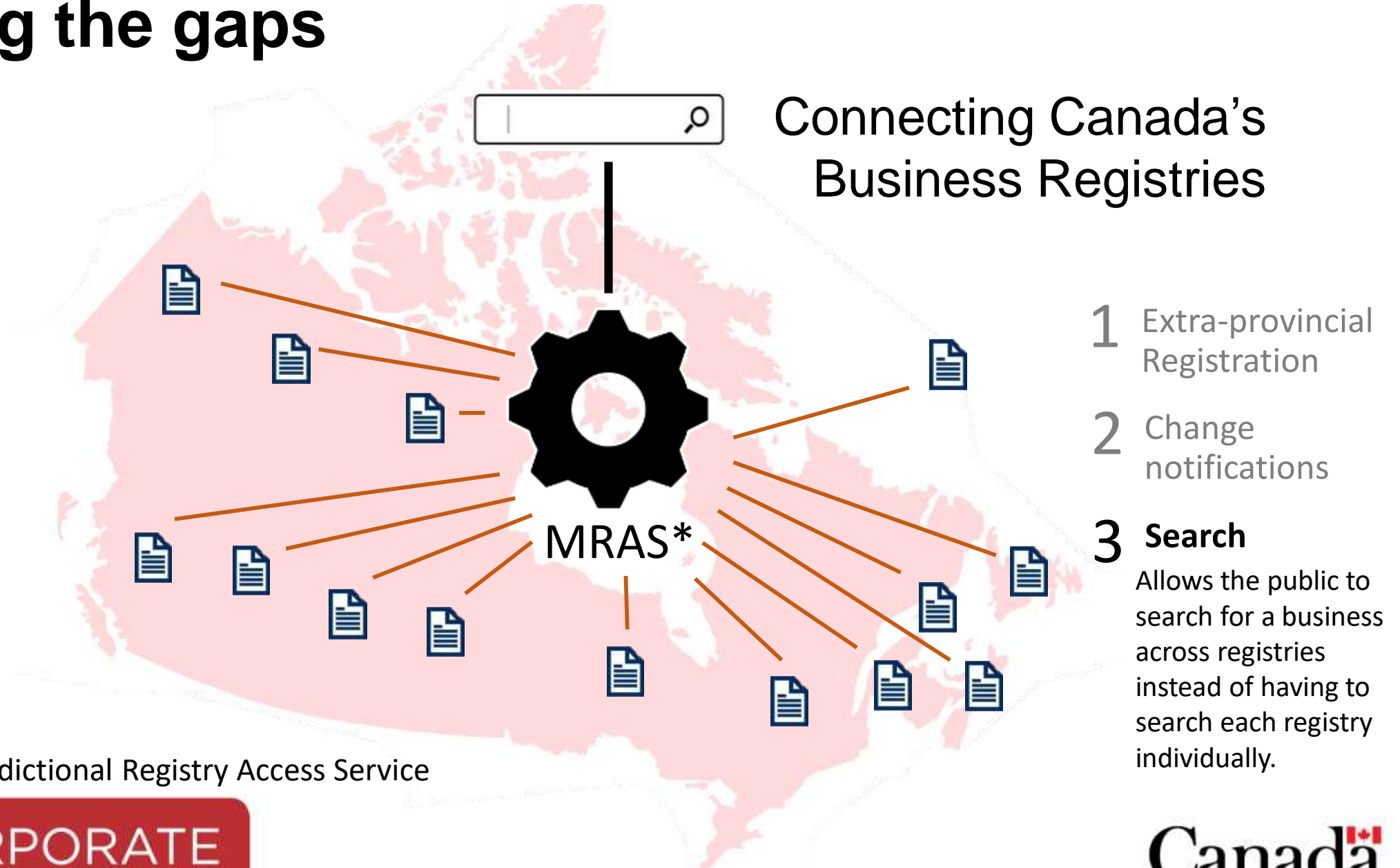
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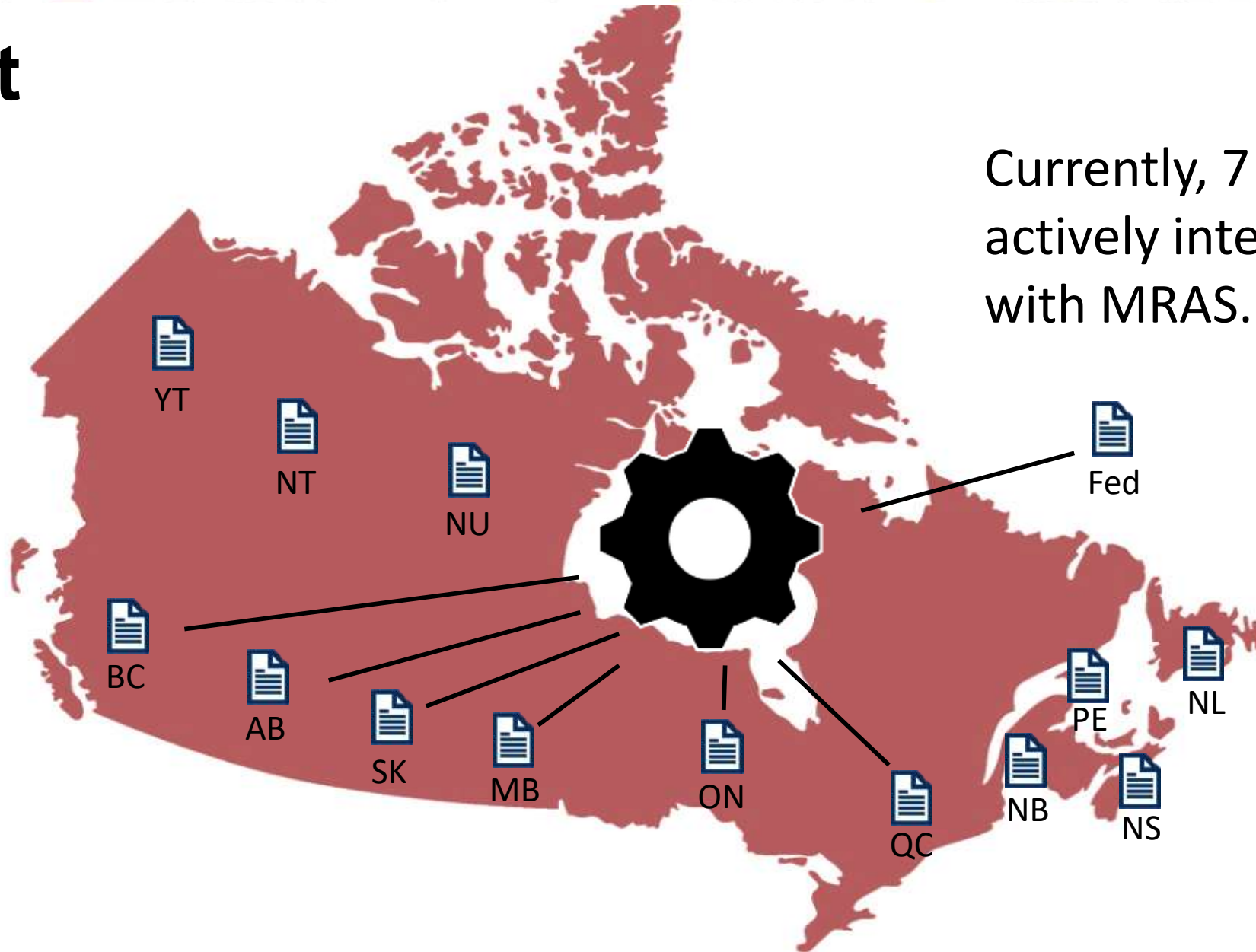
# Bridging the gaps

(4 of 4)



\*MRAS = Multi-jurisdictional Registry Access Service

# Pilot



Currently, 7 partners are actively interoperating with MRAS.

- 5 offering streamlined registration services.
- 6 relying on automated change notifications.
- 7 participating in unified search, representing over 97% of business corporations in Canada.



# Co-development

- 2016 Proof of concept.
- 2017 Working prototype.
- 2018 Launch of beta search service.
- 2020 Pilot Phase 1: streamlined registration and automated notifications.
- 2021 Pilot Phase 2: adding business registries.
- 2022+ Production: continuing to add business registries.

# Results



## **Reduced burden**

“Expanding my business is easy when they have my information.”

## **Trusted information**

“I can verify the business I want to work with in one quick search.”

## **Global visibility**

“Finding a business operating in Canada is fast and easy.”

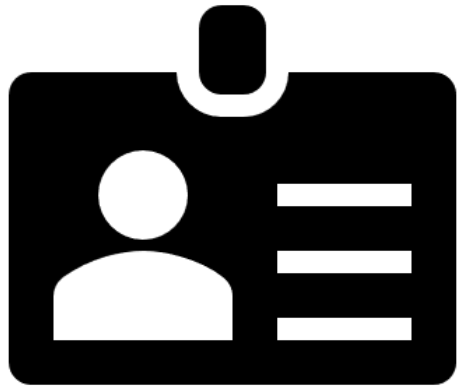
# Lessons learned

- **Engagement:** Establish vision together.
- **Guardrails:** Ground rules to support the exploration of a solution.
- **Design thinking and Agile methodology:** Enable the development and testing of client-driven solutions.
- **Communication:** Communication, communication, communication



# Thank you

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## Contact information:

Hantz Prosper

Director General, Corporations Canada

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada,  
Government of Canada



[hantz.prosper@ised-isde.gc.ca](mailto:hantz.prosper@ised-isde.gc.ca)



+1 613 219 4551