



Canadian Centre
on Substance Abuse

Centre canadien de lutte contre
l'alcoolisme et les toxicomanies

Concrete Progress, Real Need: CCSA releases 2005-2006 Annual Report

Ottawa, October 5, 2006—The Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA), Canada's national addictions agency, today released its 2005-2006 annual report, *Concrete Progress, Real Need*. The annual report was tabled earlier in Parliament by federal Health Minister Tony Clement, in compliance with CCSA's founding legislation.

The annual report highlights some of the key successes CCSA achieved in 2005–2006 in partnership with nearly 100 government departments, independent agencies, and non-governmental and private-sector organizations in North America, Europe and the Caribbean. Building partnerships—the theme of the 2005-2006 report—is one of three core activities flowing from CCSA's legislated mandate, along with transferring knowledge, and developing and informing policy.

CCSA's key achievements last year included its first-ever national conference, *Issues of Substance*, which provided a premier educational and networking opportunity for more than 435 substance abuse professionals from across Canada. CCSA also released *The Costs of Substance Abuse in Canada 2002*, the result of a three-year research project to update the Centre's milestone 1996 report on the economic impact of tobacco, alcohol and illegal drugs on Canadian society. The study received the support of nearly a dozen federal and provincial partners.

"CCSA staff have earned the trust of our partners through their dedication to addressing the problems associated with substance abuse in Canada," said Chief Barry King, Chair of CCSA's Board of Directors. "At the same time, the Board continues to serve all Canadians through its commitment to accountability and sound governance."

"The past year has seen some real progress, but also some sobering realities," said Michel Perron, CCSA's Chief Executive Officer. "The increased impact of substance abuse revealed in our economic cost study points to the fact that much work remains to be done and all of us must continue to re-examine Canada's approach to substance abuse."

CCSA's 2005-2006 annual report, *Concrete Progress, Real Need*, is available on the Centre's website at www.ccsa.ca. Printed copies are available by contacting CCSA.

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About CCSA:

CCSA is Canada's national addictions agency and is supported by Health Canada through Canada's Drug Strategy. Established by an Act of Parliament in 1988, CCSA provides objective, evidence-based information and advice aimed at reducing the health, social and economic harm associated with substance abuse and addictions.

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