



Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA) Fact Sheet

About CCSA

Established by an Act of Parliament in 1988, CCSA is an arm's-length, not-for-profit organization supported by the Federal Government through Canada's Drug Strategy.

Headquartered in Ottawa, CCSA employs 28 full-time staff and a number of part-time associates dedicated to disseminating information, providing policy guidance, and sharing treatment knowledge and best practices related to substance abuse issues. CCSA works collaboratively with governments, researchers, enforcement agencies, treatment professionals and the private sector to achieve a balanced and holistic approach to addictions that will lead to a healthier and safer Canadian public.

CCSA's Mission and Mandate

CCSA is Canada's national addictions agency. Our mission is to provide objective, evidence-based information and advice to help reduce the health, social and economic harm associated with substance abuse and addictions.

Our core services:

- **Information and Reference Service** – Through its directories, searchable databases, bibliographies, extensive document collection, and reference enquiry service, CCSA provides a gateway to a wealth of addictions information.
- **Research and Policy** – CCSA compiles and analyzes evidence-based research to provide sound policy guidance and to promote informed public debate on critical substance abuse issues.
- **Training and Workforce Development** – CCSA provides leadership in workforce development by promoting best practices and training opportunities, and evaluating possibilities for standards-setting, certification and accreditation within the treatment field.

CCSA at-a-glance

Location:	75 Albert Street, Suite 300 Ottawa, ON, K1P 5E7
Year established:	1988
Web address:	http://www.ccsa.ca
Employees:	28
CEO:	Michel Perron
Chairman of the Board:	Chief Barry V. King, OOM

Highlights in CCSA's history

- 1987** Announcement of Canada's National Drug Strategy, "Action on Drug Abuse", with a commitment of \$210 million in new federal funding over five years.
- 1988** Legislation to create the CCSA passed with all-party support in Parliament. CCSA is established with \$2 million in annual funding.
- 1989** First meeting of CCSA Board of Directors is chaired by Dr. H. David Archibald.
Government of Canada announces appointment of first CEO, Jan Skirrow.
- 1990** CCSA launches *National Clearinghouse on Substance Abuse*, publishes its first issue of *Action News* and submits its first *Annual Report*.
- 1991** CCSA hosts first meeting of drug awareness organizers from across Canada; assumes role of national Drug Awareness Week coordinator.
- 1992** Canada's Drug Strategy (CDS) is renewed with commitment of \$270 million over five years. CCSA's funding is reduced from \$2 million to \$1.42 million.
- 1994** CCSA publishes first *Directory of Substance Abuse Treatment Services in Canada*.
- 1995** CCSA launches its website at www.ccsa.ca
- 1996** CCSA publishes the *International Guidelines for Estimating the Costs of Substance Abuse* and then releases Canada's first cost study, *The Costs of Substance Abuse in Canada*, based on these guidelines.
- 1997** Sunset of CDS second phase. CCSA's funding reduced to \$500,000.
- 1999** Michel Perron is appointed CEO.
- 2001** Health Minister Allan Rock announces the appointment of Chief Barry King as Chair of CCSA's Board of Directors.
- 2002** Health Minister Anne McLellan announces \$1.5 million in new funding for CCSA in each of the next three years as an interim step pending a new national drug strategy.
- 2003** Report of the Senate Special Committee on Illegal Drugs expresses strong support for CCSA's leadership in the addictions field, and CCSA is singled out for a leadership role in the report of the House of Commons Special Committee on Non-Medical Use of Drugs.
CCSA receives \$21.5 million funding commitment over five years as part of the renewal of Canada's Drug Strategy (CDS). Total CDS funding is \$245 million over five years.

2004 CCSA releases highlights from the *Canadian Addiction Survey (CAS)*, the first national survey dedicated to alcohol, cannabis and other drug use since *Canada's Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey (CADS)* in 1994.

CCSA launches the Canadian Substance Abuse Cost Study (CSACS), due to be released in 2005

2005 CCSA launches a new web resource for Canada's Northern Territories

CCSA releases *Optimizing Canada's Addiction Treatment Workforce*, a report that details the findings of the first-ever national survey of the substance abuse and addictions workforce in Canada.

CCSA releases the detailed report from the *Canadian Addiction Survey (CAS)*, the first national survey dedicated to alcohol, cannabis and other drug use since *Canada's Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey (CADS)* in 1994.

CCSA releases *Substance Abuse in Canada: Current Challenges and Choices*, a collaborative report which explores a series of key contemporary issues in substance abuse and the potential policy implications for Canada.

Issues of Substance, CCSA's first national conference on substance abuse and addiction, is held in Markham, ON.

For additional information about CCSA, please contact:

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