



Knowledge Shaping Action: CCSA releases 2004-2005 Annual Report

Ottawa, October 18, 2005—The Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA), Canada’s national addictions agency, today released its 2004-2005 annual report, *Knowledge Shaping Action*. The annual report was tabled earlier in Parliament by Health Minister Ujjal Dosanjh, in compliance with CCSA’s founding legislation.

The 2004-2005 annual report focuses on CCSA’s achievements in gathering and sharing new knowledge and the Centre’s pivotal role in enhancing networks and partnerships. These activities enabled CCSA to reach important goals and milestones that contributed to the development of a proposed National Framework for Action on Substance Use and Abuse.

CCSA’s priorities in 2004-2005 included heading up a partnership that produced the first comprehensive study of alcohol and drug use in Canada since 1994 (the Canadian Addiction Survey); designing and implementing the first-ever survey of the education and training needs of Canada’s substance abuse treatment specialists; and publishing a milestone report on the policy implications of several current substance abuse issues. A new section, Progress on Goals, provides a quick snapshot of CCSA activities and how their outcomes align with the Centre’s overall goals.

“The past year has been a time of consolidation and stabilization following a period of rapid growth and adjustment sparked by the renewal of Canada’s Drug Strategy,” said Chief Barry King, Chair of CCSA’s Board of Directors. “As CCSA staff rose to new challenges on the operational side, the Board continued to focus its attention on governance issues by monitoring and evaluating the results of changes instituted over the past two years to ensure greater transparency and accountability to Canadians.”

“The process of generating and transferring knowledge on substance abuse must respond dynamically to our continually changing needs,” said Michel Perron, CCSA’s Chief Executive Officer. “One of the milestones in this process is the Issues of Substance conference that CCSA will host in Toronto/Markham on Nov. 13 to 16. This national conference is the first of its type in many years and will showcase a wealth of Canadian insight and good practice in prevention, treatment, harm reduction and enforcement.”

The 2004-2005 annual report, *Knowledge Shaping Action*, is available on CCSA’s website at www.ccsa.ca. Printed copies are available by contacting CCSA.



About CCSA – <http://www.ccsa.ca>

CCSA is Canada's national addictions agency. It was established by an Act of Parliament in 1988 to provide a national focus for efforts to reduce the health, social and economic harm associated with substance abuse and addictions.

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