



Strategic Plan 2025-2028

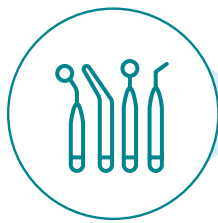
Time for **Change**
Time for **Collaboration**

 **CDAC**
Commission on Dental
Accreditation of Canada

About CDAC

The Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC) accredits oral health education programs and facilities in Canada. Accreditation in the health professions is the formal evaluation of an educational program, institution, or system against defined standards by an external body for the purposes of quality assurance and continuous enhancement.

 We bring together organizations representing:



**Oral Health
Care
Professionals**



Educators



Regulators



**Examining and
Credentialing
Bodies**

These organizations share common objectives to help new graduates prepare for entry to their professions and meet expectations for licensure and continuing safe practice.

In 1990, CDAC was established as a semi-autonomous commission operating within the Canadian Dental Association. In 2016, the World Health Organization and the World Federation of Medical Educators established guidelines for recognition of accreditors of health professional education programs. Foremost is the autonomy of the accreditation system to ensure the independence of its quality assessment from government, educational programs and the professions. Thus, CDAC in its pursuit of autonomy became an independent not-for-profit entity as of December 2022.



Development of CDAC's **First Strategic Plan**

Although our core mandate has not changed; as a newly independent organization, there is a need to define a robust, forward-thinking strategy to lead CDAC into its next phase of growth and development.

Our Board of Directors appointed a Strategic Planning Working Group (SPWG) to take the lead in developing CDAC's first strategic plan.

They worked diligently to ensure that the strategic direction was informed and inspired by the culmination of feedback from our key partners which we've received over the past year through various consultation processes.

Through the SPWG's efforts, we believe the result is a robust and vibrant plan. The plan will be responsive and relevant to our current and anticipated future operating environment and will enable a systems approach to support the delivery of safe, competent, and ethical oral health care for Canadians.

Vision

We are the recognized leader in the accreditation of oral health education.

Mission

We set standards and accredit oral health professional programs to promote quality education and practitioner readiness.



Integrity

We uphold ethical standards in all our processes and decisions, ensuring they are fair and free from undue influence.



Transparency

We are committed to being proactively open, clear, and accessible in every aspect of our work.



Values



Innovation

We foster new ideas and embrace creativity.



Accountability

We take responsibility for the work that we do.



Diversity

We strive to integrate equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility into our culture.

Strategic Priorities 2025-2028

To achieve our mission and reinforce our leadership in oral health accreditation, the strategic plan is built around four key pillars. Each guides our efforts and ensures we set the highest standards in our field.

1 Accreditation

To elevate the quality and impact of our accreditation services by implementing rigorous standards, being responsive to feedback and to changes in the accreditation landscape, and leveraging technology, partnerships, and research.

2 Framework

To strengthen the foundation of CDAC by enhancing governance and operational structures and processes.

3 Sustainability

To secure the long-term financial stability and operational resilience of CDAC by applying effective financial management and innovative people and resource management.

4 Partnership

To leverage the strengths of our collective partners by fostering collaboration, communication, and relationships.



1 Accreditation

To elevate the quality and impact of our accreditation services by implementing rigorous standards, being responsive to feedback and to changes in the accreditation landscape, and leveraging technology, partnerships, and research.

CDAC has provided accreditation services for oral health education programs for over three decades. We believe in the value of an independent authoritative process. Our standards must support innovation and adaptability. The benefits afforded to accredited programs include enhanced public confidence, quality assurance and continuous improvement. Elevating accreditation will increase confidence in CDAC and attract new partners and programs.



Key Result Areas:

- Incorporate technology to advance accreditation processes.
- Enhance accreditation resources.
- Implement comprehensive, evidence-informed and inclusive standards.
- Streamline the design and delivery of the accreditation process.
- Reduce the amount of time needed to grant initial accreditation to new programs.
- Expand accreditation services.



Key Performance Indicators:

1. Surveyor calibration and accreditation processes are defined.
2. Innovative technology has been implemented.
3. Modernized standards are universally adopted.
4. CDAC has internal accreditation capacity and expertise.

2 Framework

To strengthen the foundation of CDAC by enhancing governance and operational structures and processes.

CDAC has been the leading voice in oral health accreditation in Canada for over 30 years. Establishing a strong framework is essential to ensure CDAC's long-term stability, foster trust, and set clear, effective processes that will guide our operations. It is crucial to have robust governance and cultivate transparent and accountable practices in our work. Setting this foundation will enable us to effectively address future opportunities and challenges, achieve sustainable growth, ensure the long term success of CDAC and reinforce its reputation as the leader in oral health accreditation.



Key Result Areas:

- Implement progressive governance practices.
- Build trust in accreditation.
- Develop operational policies and procedures.
- Increase organizational transparency.



Key Performance Indicators:

1. CDAC governance model is defined and includes measurement of board attendance, training, and policy implementation.
2. CDAC organizational culture is defined by shared values and is supported by clear policies, processes and commitment to our vision and mission.
3. CDAC has modern and effective communications tools and systems in place.

3 Sustainability

To secure the long-term financial stability and operational resilience of CDAC by applying effective financial management and innovative people and resource management.

CDAC is a not-for-profit corporation that has an important role in assuring the quality of oral health education in Canada and assisting in its improvement. As an organization, we must maintain effective operations and attract and retain the best people to support high-quality accreditation work. Achieving sustainability allows us to expand our service offerings, find opportunities to grow our revenue and enhance our operational effectiveness.



Key Result Areas:

- Optimize operational efficiency.
- Improve financial management practices.
- Implement a comprehensive and clear funding model, alternate revenue sources and service agreements.
- Build internal capacity and expertise.



Key Performance Indicators:

1. Achieve a balanced year on year budget and revenue stability.
2. Accumulate an operational reserve.
3. A staff growth and development strategy is implemented with emphasis on staff retention and recruitment of top talent.
4. Operational plans are developed with shared responsibility and accountability by all staff.
5. CDAC service agreements are comprehensive, clear, and renewable.

4 Partnership

To leverage the strengths of our collective partners by fostering collaboration, communication, and relationships.

As a service provider, CDAC values and relies on its extensive network of partners, many of whom are also collaborators, supporters, and key funders of the organization. Leveraging the diverse network in our community will strengthen and improve the accreditation process and build trust. We also believe a systems approach will foster improved outcomes and contribute to CDAC's recognition as a leader in our space.



Key Result Areas:

- Develop effective internal and external communication pathways with partners.
- Increase community engagement, outreach, and collaboration.
- Create a collaborative network of partners engaged in advancing accreditation work across multiple disciplines.
- Actively undertake partner needs assessment to measure their satisfaction and engagement.



Key Performance Indicators:

1. Communication tools are implemented with measurable open and click rates to determine effectiveness and reach.
2. Active participation in CDAC events, forums, surveys, and outreach.
3. CDAC is called upon to participate in partner events.
4. CDAC has access to a broad interdisciplinary network of health profession accreditation partners.



To learn more please visit:
www.cda-adc.ca/cdacweb/en/

To contact us please email:
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