

The Canadian Centre for Accreditation

The Canadian Centre for Accreditation will be a not-for-profit, federally incorporated charity offering accreditation to community-based health and social service organizations in Canada.

We will offer organizational standards of excellence in Governance, Leadership, Management and six program areas:

Family Counseling
Mentoring
Community Health services
Children's Mental Health
Credit Counseling
Child welfare

Our mission will be to provide excellence and leadership in accreditation by assuring quality and continuous improvement in community-based health and social services.

We believe that effective organizations strengthen healthy and resilient communities.

Project Partners

Community Organizational Health Inc./ Santé des organismes communautaires inc. (COHI)

Family Service Ontario/ Services à la Famille—Ontario (FSO)

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada (BBBSC)

Children's Mental Health Ontario/ Santé Mentale pour Enfants Ontario (CMHO)

Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies (OACAS)

Ontario Association of Credit Counseling Services (OACCS)



CANADIAN CENTRE FOR ACCREDITATION

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CANADIAN CENTRE FOR ACCREDITATION

Accreditation of Canadian Community Based Organizations



This Project is Funded by

THE ONTARIO
TRILLIUM
FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION
TRILLIUM
DE L'ONTARIO

The Project

Funded by the **Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF)**, this ambitious 3-year project is a unique collaboration. In response to the increasing expectation that the voluntary sector demonstrate accountability to funders and to the public, the project focuses on enhancing quality and capacity in community-based organizations through accreditation.

Our goal is to streamline six accreditation processes into one overarching and independent third-party system. The result will be more effective and efficient services in participating organizations.



The project was started in August of 2009 by a Coalition of agencies with in-house accreditation programs. It is envisaged to end with the official launch of the **Canadian Centre for Accreditation** in 2012.

Project Partners—The Coalition

The project draws on the strengths and experience of the Coalition partners to maximize the credibility and quality of the accreditation program itself, recognizing the power of collabora-



tion and shared knowledge for the benefit of member organizations, clients, partners and funders.

The initiative will combine existing programs to meet the quality assurance and accountability needs of a broad spectrum of community-based organizations whose approach and values-base are not addressed by other accrediting organizations.

The six partners are truly community-based associations, representing a range of voluntary sectors and seeking to develop an accreditation system that is applicable to all Canadian community-based, not-for-profit organizations. There is great potential and interest in bringing other sectors into the Canadian Centre for Accreditation system once operational.

Accreditation

Accreditation creates a culture of reflection, quality assurance, evaluation and ongoing learning that ultimately results in improved services and programs for clients and the com-

munity. It seeks to enhance organizational outcomes and allow organizations to better meet funder and legislative requirements.

The benefits extend beyond the participating organizations: accreditation also sends a clear message to the public that the organization is committed to meeting standards of service and accountability.

It positions not-for-profits for stability, for long-term success and viability, and for assuming leadership within their communities and beyond.



Meeting accreditation standards demon-

strates competence in the key areas of organization functioning such as governance, financial oversight, risk management, and human resources management in addition to the multitude of sector-specific standards focused on quality of service.

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