



Canadian Association of Chain Drug Stores  
Association canadienne des chaînes de pharmacies



## Backgrounder

### Canadian Association of Chain Drug Stores

CACDS is the national association that represents community pharmacies in Canada. The Retail Members of CACDS are traditional chain and banner drug stores, grocery chains and mass merchandisers with pharmacies. Together, CACDS members operate more than 6,500 stores that dispense almost 80 per cent of the nation's prescriptions each year.

CACDS members employ over half a million Canadians, including 80 per cent of the pharmacists practising in communities. Its Associate Members represent all supply categories and services in the retail pharmacy industry, including pharmaceuticals, health and wellness products, self-care medications and other consumer products.

CACDS' mission is to ensure a strong chain drug store sector which provides Canadian consumers with access to high quality products and health care services. The association achieves this by:

- Contributing to the development of innovative health care solutions;
- Promoting and enhancing the role and value of community pharmacy members and their pharmacists in the health care system;
- Ensuring that governments and regulators whose decisions affect the economic viability of community pharmacy understand the issues and make better use of the infrastructure available in member locations;
- Working with the supplier community to increase consumer satisfaction through greater efficiency and effectiveness of the supply chain; and
- Monitoring and informing members about industry-wide issues.

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