

Backgrounder

About the Canadian Diabetes Association (CDA)

The CDA's mission is to lead the fight against diabetes by helping people with diabetes live healthy lives while we work to find a cure.

We deliver our mission by providing people with diabetes and health care professionals with education and services; advocating on behalf of people with diabetes; supporting research; and translating research into practical applications.

Our heritage

Our heritage of excellence and leadership started with our co-founder Dr. Charles Best. In the late 1940s, the Diabetic Association of Ontario was formed by Dr. Best, the co-discoverer of insulin, with the intent to serve the needs of the growing number of Canadians with diabetes.

It soon became clear, as the provinces and territories formed their own associations, that combining resources would help the provincial branches serve their membership more effectively. This culminated in the formation of the Canadian Diabetes Association in 1953.

Today, the CDA has 23 regional offices and more than 30 active branches and chapters across Canada. **Our value-driven culture is committed to excellence, partnership, innovation, integrity and respect.**

Our scope

In the ongoing worldwide struggle to fight diabetes, experts, researchers and our members look to us for our expertise. Here's why:

- Our programs, education and services support people living with diabetes in their daily fight against the disease.
- Our *Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Prevention and Management of Diabetes in Canada* represent the best and most current evidence-based clinical practice data for health care professionals.
- Our advocacy efforts have led governments to develop policies that respect the rights of people living with diabetes and access treatments they need to live healthy lives.
- Our funding ensures Canadian researchers remain at the forefront of diabetes breakthroughs; we provided more than \$7 million to world-class diabetes research over the last year.
- Using our *Guidelines* and practical tools, our extensive network of health care professionals and diabetes experts bring diabetes information to patients across Canada.

For more information on the CDA, please visit diabetes.ca, join us on [facebook.com/CanadianDiabetesAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/CanadianDiabetesAssociation), follow us on Twitter @DiabetesAssoc, or call 1-800-BANTING (226-8464).