

# National Framework for Action to Reduce the Harms Associated with Alcohol and Other Drugs and Substances in Canada

## Vision

ALL PEOPLE IN CANADA LIVE IN A SOCIETY FREE OF THE HARMS ASSOCIATED WITH ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS AND SUBSTANCES.

## Principles

Problematic substance use is a health issue	Problematic substance use is shaped by social and other factors	Successful responses to reduce the harms associated with alcohol and other drugs and substances reflect the full range of health promotion, prevention, treatment, enforcement and harm reduction approaches
Action is knowledge-based, Evidenced-informed and Evaluated for results	Human rights are respected	Responsibility, ownership, and accountability are understood and agreed upon by all
Strong partnerships are the foundation for success	Those most affected are meaningfully involved	Reducing the harms associated with alcohol and other drugs and substances creates healthier, safer communities

## Goals

To create supportive environments that promote health and resiliency of individuals, families and communities in order to prevent problematic use of alcohol and other drugs and substances	To reduce the harms associated with alcohol and other drugs and substances to individuals, families and communities across Canada
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## Priorities

<p><b>To address specific issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing awareness and understanding of problematic substance use</li> <li>Reducing alcohol-related harms</li> <li>Preventing problematic use of pharmaceuticals</li> <li>Addressing enforcement issues</li> <li>Addressing fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD)</li> </ul>	<p><b>To build supportive infrastructure:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustaining workforce development</li> <li>Improving quality, accessibility and range of options to treat harmful substance use including substance use disorders</li> <li>Implementing a national research agenda and facilitating knowledge transfer</li> <li>Modernizing legislative, regulatory and policy frameworks</li> </ul>	<p><b>To address the needs of key populations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focusing on children and youth</li> <li>Reaching out to Canada's north</li> <li>Supporting first nations, Inuit and Métis people in addressing their needs</li> <li>Responding to offender-related issues</li> </ul>
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