

Setting *the world standard*

The need has never been greater

Diabetes is a serious problem that costs our entire planet. Most people don't realize that it is not only the world's 4th leading cause of death, diabetes is increasing daily and now affects an estimated 246 million people globally. The situation is so grave that the Association worked with the International Diabetes Federation to secure a UN resolution declaring diabetes a global epidemic.

In Canada, the diabetes population is projected to rise to three million over the next four years. An additional 7 million people worldwide are diagnosed with the disease each year. An estimated 1 in 3 children born in North America in 2000 or later will develop diabetes in their lifetime. And over 350 million will have diabetes within this generation – that's more than the entire population of the United States.

We provide the hope

Despite the rise in diabetes, there is growing and much needed hope in the form of the Canadian Diabetes Association. We are a thriving organization, supported by an extensive network of distinguished experts and infield volunteers. We have a presence from coast to coast, and a reputation that spans the world. And that's not all.

We have a heritage of innovation

Our proud Canadian legacy of breakthrough discoveries has continued ever since the day insulin was first discovered by Dr. Frederick Banting and the co-founder of our Association, Dr. Charles Best. Based on years of expertise and evidence, we have developed *Clinical Practice Guidelines* that serve as the global gold standard for diabetes management and prevention the disease and its complications.



"The Canadian Diabetes Association funding of promising young researchers and established investigators through personnel and research grants makes a huge impact to the diabetes research initiative in Canada and continues to promote, nurture and support Canadian researchers and enable them to be highly innovative and competitive at the international level."

– Peter Light, PhD

BEHIND THE NUMBERS

For millions of Canadians, a diagnosis of diabetes changes the way their lives unfold. Diabetes has the potential to cause them very serious health complications. It can also seriously affect their economic security as they struggle to pay the high cost of medications and supplies out of their own pockets.

"I have to pay almost \$300 a month for diabetes supplies. I didn't ask for this disease and I don't understand why more can't be done for low income people with it."

– Betty S., type 2 diabetes, Nova Scotia



Rebuilding lives

"The camp was a life-changing place for our daughter. She seems more confident with her diabetes. Thanks for everything!"

– Parent of camper

In the struggle against this global epidemic, our expertise is recognized around the world. The Canadian Diabetes Association: setting the world standard.

We support promising discoveries through research

The Association is committed to setting the research agenda in Canada. Our funding program ensures world class researchers are on the front line of diabetes advances today and will remain at the forefront of diabetes breakthroughs into the future.

We help improve lives every day

We touch lives in the most personal ways. The healthcare professionals and diabetes experts that comprise our professional sections deliver the latest diabetes information to medical centres and hospitals across Canada. And we support thousands of educators, healthcare professionals, family members and caregivers through our community education programs, forums and resources.

These achievements provide knowledge, support, understanding and hope to over two million Canadians with diabetes. We are there for them when they need help most.

We are the voice of diabetes in Canada

The power of our collective voice takes on the advocacy burden for the individual. We use our influence within all levels of government to help those with diabetes tell their stories and get the support and care they require and deserve.

Uniquely in the world of diabetes, the Association actively monitors what Canadian governments have done and are doing. Our work in this area conclusively proved that the greatest challenge for those with diabetes remains affordability and access to required medications, devices and supplies.

These efforts are leading governments to fund much needed policies that truly benefit people with diabetes. We are the voice of a great cause.

We need to do more

No one is doing more than we are in the battle to stop this global threat and improve the daily lives of those with diabetes. But it is not enough. As diabetes continues to wreak ever more damage, we must intensify our efforts in every direction. We must provide more funding to help Canadian scientists and clinicians on the front line of diabetes research and treatment. And we must speak with an ever louder voice to make governments awaken to the dreadful power of this growing epidemic.

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