Liaison Program Overview

May 2006
Background

Through an environmental scan process and consultations with key stakeholders, CADTH learned that a general awareness about the organization, and its products or services was lacking; as was a high level of understanding about using evidence-based information to support decisions about health technologies.

CADTH was faced with the challenge of ensuring its information reached its stakeholders and that they understood how to use it.
The Liaison Program was established in 2004.

**PROGRAM VISION**

To build communities across Canada that actively support the use of evidence-based information in decisions about health technologies.
Liaison Program Goals

• To create stronger linkages between CADTH and the jurisdictions at the local level.

• To build active networks.

• To enhance CADTH’s relevance and impact on decision making through increased uptake and utilization of evidence-based information.
Liaison Officers are hired in collaboration with each Ministry of Health. The position is tailored to ensure it meets the needs of CADTH, while also having an excellent understanding of local health technology priorities and issues.
The goal is to have all provinces and territories represented by a Liaison Officer.
Increase Receptor Capacity

- Connect decision makers to evidence-based information.
- Support the dissemination, uptake, and utilization of CADTH products and services.
  - Facilitate Requests to the Health Technology Inquiry Service (HTIS).
- Provide input for HTA and COMPUS topic identification.
- Contribute to knowledge transfer activities.
- Provide feedback for CADTH service and product development.

Liaison Officers support and encourage the use of evidence in decisions about drugs, health care devices, and systems.

Liaison Officers support CADTH’s program development and quality improvement initiatives.

Liaison Officers provide the jurisdictional perspective needed to develop messages and products to reach the intended audience.

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Create Stronger Linkages

- Meet regularly with CADTH Board Members and Advisory Committee Members.
- Provide primary contact in the jurisdictions for resources and information.
- Facilitate two-way communications between CADTH and jurisdictions.

Liaison Officers are the face of CADTH in the jurisdictions.

The strategic direction, priorities, and work plans of the Liaison Officer are developed in collaboration with the Board and Committee members.

Through regular contact with both groups, Liaison Officers are able to clarify local needs and priorities, and help shape CADTH’s products and services to meet those needs.
Raise Awareness About CADTH

- Build active networks with key stakeholders
- Speaking engagements
- Poster displays and exhibits
- Workshops
- Special events
- Newsletter articles

These activities:
- increase awareness about CADTH
- increase CADTH’s awareness about local needs and priorities
- identify potential assessment topics
- support program development and quality improvement.
Provide an Interface Between CADTH and Stakeholders

Liaison Officers facilitate the exchange, uptake, and utilization of CADTH’s information to support decisions about health technologies.

Liaison Officers keep CADTH informed of local needs, issues, and priorities to ensure its products and services remain relevant to meet stakeholder needs.

Liaison Officers provide the local link to CADTH’s programs and services.

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