

Backgrounder

About the Canadian Diabetes Association (CDA)

The CDA is a registered charity that helps the more than nine million Canadians living with diabetes or prediabetes. Dr. Charles Best, co-discoverer of insulin, helped create the Diabetes Association of Ontario in the 1940s—which became CDA in 1953.

Why diabetes should matter to you

- **20** Canadians are diagnosed with diabetes every hour of every day
- **4.3 million** Canadians live with diabetes today—one million of whom do not even know it
- Diabetes is the cause of:
 - **30 per cent** of strokes
 - **40 per cent** of heart attacks
 - **50 per cent** of kidney failure requiring dialysis
 - **70 per cent** of all non-traumatic limb amputations
 - Vision loss and blindness
- Having diabetes can shorten a Canadian's lifespan by five to 15 years

How does the CDA help Canadians?

- The CDA's impact every year is:
 - **3.3 million** Canadians with diabetes benefit from our world-leading *Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Prevention and Management of Diabetes in Canada* used by all health-care professionals involved in the care of people with diabetes
 - **1.5 million** website visitors find helpful information
 - **135,000** attendees come to our **1,000** educational events
 - **More than 19,500** people have signed the Diabetes Charter for Canada, which sets out roles and responsibilities for everyone involved in the care of people living with diabetes
 - **18,000** people receive answers to their diabetes calls and emails
 - **1,600** children and youth with type 1 diabetes attend our **12** D-Camps across Canada (with the exception of Quebec)
 - **102** researchers find ways to prevent, better treat or cure diabetes—2015 will be the CDA's 40th research anniversary, with \$120 million invested to date
 - To advocate to governments, schools, workplaces and others on behalf of people with diabetes

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).