



## CDPC Coalition Membership Criteria

- The applicant must be a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization and/or network operating primarily within Canada. Organizations may operate nationally, regionally, provincially, territorially, or within one or several communities. Organizations may work internationally as long as a significant and primary focus of their work is in Canada. Applicants must be independent entities, and not chapters or sub-sections of a larger body.
- Applications from organizations that represent—or receive the majority of their funding from—industries for alcohol, cannabis, tobacco, pharmaceuticals or other drugs will be reviewed by the CDPC Steering Committee. If there is potential for an organization’s views to be adversely impacted by vested interests, and that this could undermine the work of the Coalition, then the application will be rejected.
- The applicant organization must have an interest in drug policy in Canada and may operate in a field relevant to drug policy (e.g. harm reduction, human rights, Indigenous issues, public health, criminal justice, race issues, gender issues, healthcare, etc.).
- Organizations that increase the geographical, language, and thematic diversity of the Coalition are encouraged to apply.
- The applicant must agree not to bring CDPC into disrepute.
- The applicant must agree to disseminate non-confidential information it receives from CDPC to the relevant stakeholders with whom it is in contact whenever appropriate.
- The applicant must fully support and embrace CDPC’s Vision and Mission:

*Our Vision: the Canadian Drug Policy Coalition envisions a safe, healthy and just Canada in which drug policy and institutional practice is based on evidence, human rights, social inclusion and public health.*

*The mission of the Canadian Drug Policy Coalition is to facilitate improvement in Canadian and international drug policy and legislation by:*

- *producing and advancing constructive policy recommendations;*
  - *building sustainable, mutually enhancing partnerships;*
  - *assembling and disseminating clear information and analysis; and*
  - *fostering productive dialogue and action within civil society.*
- Applicants must also support the following five Policy Principles:
    1. Drug policies should be developed through a structured and objective assessment of priorities and evidence.

2. All activities should be undertaken in full compliance with international human rights law.
3. Drug policies should focus on reducing the harmful consequences rather than the scale of drug use and markets.
4. Policy and activities should seek to promote the social inclusion of marginalized groups, and not focus on punitive measures towards them.
5. Governments should build open and constructive relationships with civil society in the discussion and delivery of their strategies.

**All applications for membership must be approved by the current CDPC Steering Committee.**