



## **ABOUT THE COUNCIL: QUICK FACTS**

- The Council of Canadian Academies is an independent, not-for-profit organization that began operation in 2005.
- The Council supports independent, authoritative, and evidence-based expert assessments that inform public policy development in Canada.
- The Council's work encompasses many evidence-based disciplines, including the natural, social, and health sciences, as well as engineering and the humanities.
- The Council is comprised of a Board of Governors, a Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), and a Secretariat.
- The Council's founding Member Academies are: the Royal Society of Canada; the Canadian Academy of Engineering; and the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.
- Council assessments are conducted by multidisciplinary panels of experts from across Canada and abroad. These evidence-based assessments are typically descriptive and diagnostic, rather than prescriptive, in the presentation of findings. They tend to analyze emerging issues, identify gaps in knowledge, highlight Canadian strengths, and review international best practices.
- All assessment reports undergo a rigorous, formal report review process by expert peers in order to assure quality and objectivity.
- All assessment questions and resulting reports, regardless of source, must be approved by the Council's Board of Governors.
- An assessment is initiated in response to a question submitted by a sponsor (the official requester for the assessment).
- The Council can work with sponsors from the federal government, provincial governments, and other organizations or institutions interested in receiving independent, evidence-based authoritative assessments on issues of public interest.
- To protect the independence of the assessment process, sponsors do not participate in the assessment process, review drafts of the report, or propose any changes to the report before its publication.
- All final assessment reports are published and made available to the public free of charge in English and French.