

AUCC


Speaking for Canada's Universities

Association of Universities
and Colleges of Canada




Association des universités
et collèges du Canada

The **Voice** of CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES



The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada has represented the interests of Canadian universities since 1911. Through our services as a membership organization, we provide a strong collective voice for our member institutions and deliver leadership in the development of public policy on higher education and university research. AUCC represents about 90 public and private not-for-profit universities and university-degree level colleges across Canada.

Canada's UNIVERSITIES. Our STRENGTH. Our FUTURE.



Universities have a central role in the success of Canada's economy and society. Our competitiveness, productivity and quality of life depend on the knowledge and skills of a highly-educated population, and thus on the ability to offer learning opportunities in research-enriched and internationalized universities. AUCC is helping to shape the dialogue on higher education, ensuring recognition of the importance of a university education to Canada's present and future prosperity.

AUCC represents public and private not-for-profit universities and university-degree level colleges that offer undergraduate, graduate and professional programs. Membership in AUCC is well recognized in Canada and abroad, and signifies a high standard on many levels for member institutions.

As a non-governmental, not-for-profit organization, AUCC is led by a strong Board of Directors, made up of 12 university presidents and the CEO of the association, and informed by the policy discussions of members in standing advisory committees and other forums. Member institutions are represented by their executive heads in the workings of AUCC, with the association's activities being coordinated by our Secretariat, located in Ottawa.

AUCC develops relationships with governments, industry and the public to raise the profile of higher education. We provide information and advocacy on the contributions of Canadian universities to economic growth, cultural richness and vital communities in Canada and around the world.



What we do

Delivering value for members is the essence of all AUCC activities, which can be grouped into three main areas: advocacy for higher education and research, member services, and program initiatives at both the national and international level.

Advocacy

AUCC's advocacy activities with the federal government seek to position higher education as a key priority on the national public agenda. Our objectives are to see that Canada's universities are internationally competitive by ensuring that:

- Universities have the capacity to offer a research-enriched and internationalized high-quality education to a growing number of students.
- Canadian universities have the resources to conduct top-tier research and to attract and retain the faculty, researchers and graduate students required for Canada to compete in a knowledge economy.
- No qualified individual is denied access to higher education because of financial circumstances.



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Membership services

Analyzing and reporting trends

As the trusted source of information on Canadian higher education, AUCC provides members and others with current and relevant data to aid their decision-making and activities. We monitor and analyze trends in higher education, and report to the Canadian public on issues like enrolment, research, knowledge transfer, funding, and international education.

A forum encouraging dialogue

We provide our member institutions and their leaders with a unified voice and a forum for collective action. Bi-annual meetings are coordinated and hosted by AUCC for university executive heads, providing opportunities to discuss issues of common concern and share information. Similarly, a seminar for new university presidents is offered regularly, where participants can share experiences and discuss key issues that confront presidents early in their mandate. Separate workshops are also offered throughout the year on a range of educational issues, such as international research collaboration and preparing students for a global future.





Program initiatives

Through our program initiatives, we continue to strengthen our activities and take on new responsibilities in support of our priorities, and provide opportunities and services for our members.

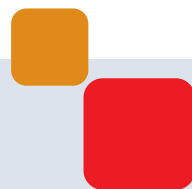
An information resource

We provide valuable information on a range of subjects relating to higher education in Canada. AUCC produces the *Directory of Canadian Universities* and the *Universities Telephone Directory*, two vital resources that deliver program information and contact listings for Canadian universities each year. We also publish *University Affairs*, Canada's magazine on higher education and the most relied-upon source of news, information, and academic career opportunities for universities. Through these publications, research materials, Web content and responses to general inquiries, we deliver university facts and information as an authoritative and trusted source.

Scholarships and international programs

As part of our services, AUCC offers reputable and cost-effective management of scholarship programs, with more than 40 years of experience in the field. We administer approximately 180 scholarships as well as a number of fellowship, internship and exchange programs on behalf of governments, foundations and private sector companies.

AUCC engages in international cooperation worldwide in more than 100 countries. We are proud of our ongoing involvement with organizations like the Canadian International Development Agency on programs such as the University Partnerships in Cooperation and Development Program (or UPCD). We administer a number of other projects in fields such as education and governance on behalf of governments, corporations and multilateral development banks.





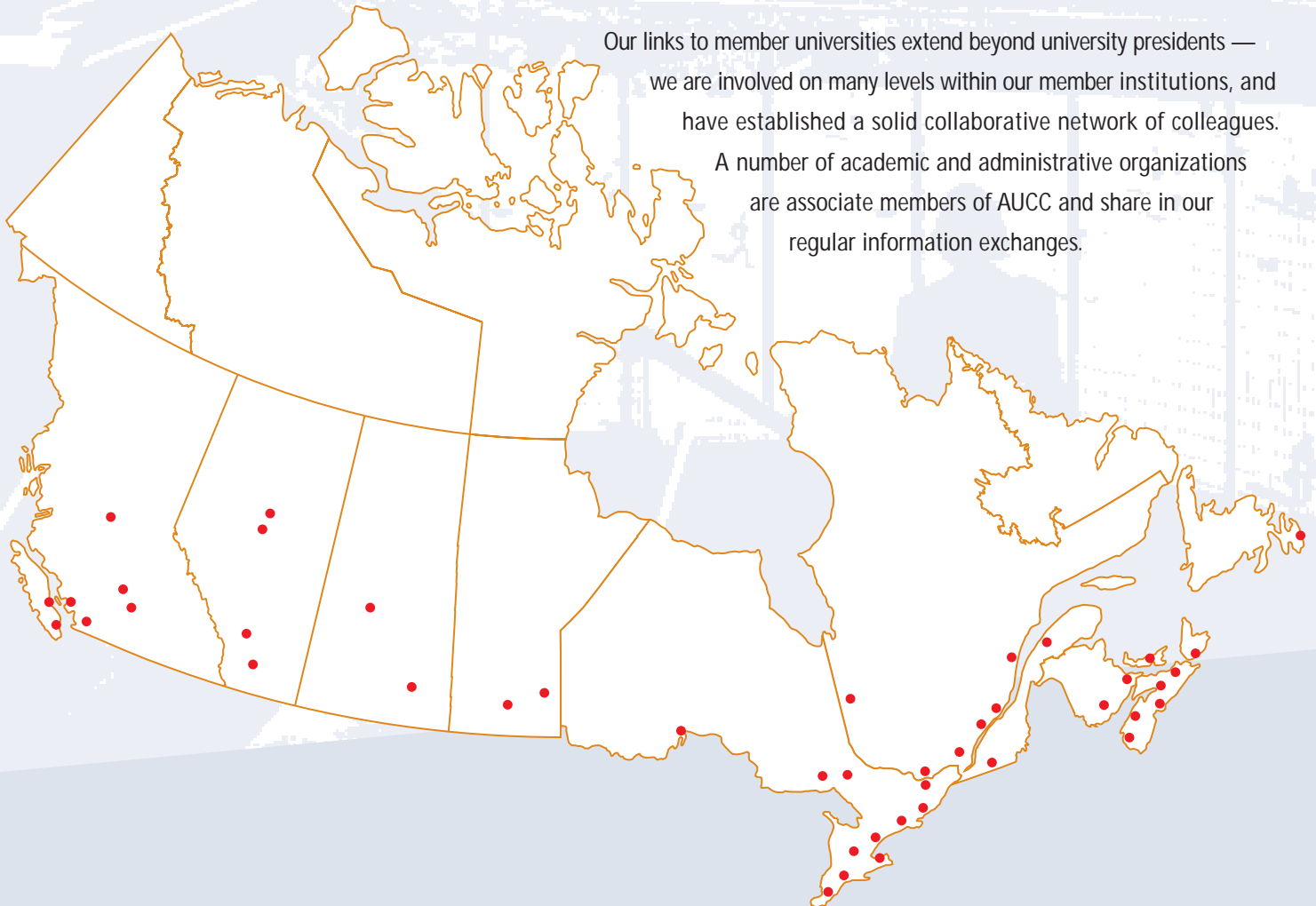
Our members from coast to coast

AUCC has its roots in a meeting of university presidents held in 1911. Recognizing the need for a national organization to exchange information and discuss common problems among universities, the presidents met again in 1915 and became a formalized group two years later, described then as “the voice and conscience of Canada’s institutions of higher learning.”

AUCC members meet a set of criteria for institutional membership that considers academic freedom, depth of program offerings, and a commitment to scholarship and research. With no system of institutional accreditation in Canada, membership in AUCC, combined with the appropriate provincial legislation, is seen as a mark of quality higher education and stands in lieu of formal institutional accreditation.

Our links to member universities extend beyond university presidents — we are involved on many levels within our member institutions, and have established a solid collaborative network of colleagues.

A number of academic and administrative organizations are associate members of AUCC and share in our regular information exchanges.





A Leader in Higher Education

AUCC is working to ensure that higher education is recognized as strategically important to Canada's competitiveness in a global knowledge economy. Through our advocacy initiatives and activities, AUCC provides a voice for higher education, helping Canada and its people develop the knowledge and skills needed to realize a prosperous future and strong global standing.

For more information on the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, visit our Web site at www.aucc.ca

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