Facilitating Stakeholder Engagement through a Collective Impact Framework Model: Working Towards a National Autism Strategy

Jonathan Lai¹, Adelina Nielsen¹, Stephanie Côté¹, Jennifer Zwicker²

Canadian Autism Spectrum Disorder Alliance¹, Kids Brain Health Network²





1. Develop a common agenda (2007-present)

A vision where all Autistics have full and equal access to the resources they require to achieve their full potential.

The creation of the Canadian ASD Alliance (CASDA) in 2007, a non-for-profit organization working to support the development of a National Autism Strategy.

2. Foster an understanding of progress through shared measures (2014-present)

What are the gaps in services for Autistic children, youth, and adults from coast to coast?

- National Needs Assessment Survey (2014)
- Canadian Autism Partnership Project (2015-2016)
- Blueprint for a National Autism Strategy (2019)
- COVID-19 Data Coordination Project (2020)

READY

WILLING & ABLE

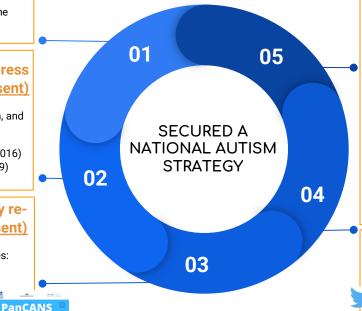
3. Facilitate mutually reinforcing activities (2014-present)

Survey

CASDA partners with various organizations on initiatives:

- Ready, Willing, & Able (2014-now)
- Research on unique needs of autism, policy opportunities, sector collaboration.
- Pan-Canadian Autism Pandemic Needs Report (2020)

USING A COLLECTIVE IMPACT APPROACH, WE ACCOMPLISHED THE FOLLOWING GOAL:



(Based on Kania & Kramer, 2011)

5. Lay the groundwork to move the work forward (2020-present)

On December 2019, the Federal government announced its commitment to a National Autism Strategy.

CASDA and Kids Brain Health Network (KBHN) partnered to develop **policy briefs** through an open call for public engagement and lived experience on the following issues:



- Access & Affordability
- Employment
- 3. Governance & Research
- Housing
- Information

Recommendations will be delivered to the Federal government, and a second set of policy working groups will be engaged to create briefs on other areas (i.e. mental health).

Other upcoming CASDA actions:

- Create a Learning Health System to engage partners
- Create an Equity Series, a platform for first-voice Autistic people and stakeholders that experience intersectionality

4. Engage in continuous communications (2007-present)

- Social media updates, biweekly member newsletters and webinars: @ASDalliance
- Members of alliance involved in committees
- Annual Autism Leadership Summits (2009-present)