



September 12, 2025

Ref: 309608

Dear Superintendents:

I am writing to express the Ministry of Education and Child Care support for the Canadian Student Alcohol & Drugs Survey (CSADS), to be administered on behalf of Health Canada to a sample of students in grades 7 to 12 during the 2025/2026 school year. CSADS, formerly the Canadian Student Alcohol, Tobacco & Drugs Survey and Youth Smoking Survey, has been conducted bi-annually for the past two decades across Canada.

CSADS covers topics such as youth alcohol and drug use and includes additional topics such as tobacco, bullying, school connectedness, and mental health. The data can be triangulated with data from the Ministry's Student Learning Survey and the McCreary Adolescent Health Survey to identify areas of concern and emerging trends. Each of these data sources will be made available to school districts on the Mental Health PowerBI Dashboard.

The survey will be administered by CCI Research Inc. on behalf of Health Canada during the 2025/2026 school year. A sample of 34 schools will be selected to participate, representative of the diversity across our province. The survey is voluntary, confidential, and not linked to individual students. Schools will receive aggregated results back in a report from CCI Research/Health Canada and a \$200 honorarium. Publicly reported information will also be in aggregated form and participating schools will not be identified.

If a school in your district is selected for participation in CSADS, we hope that you will assist CCI Research in securing board support by providing information to students, families, and school communities to ensure representative participation is obtained.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

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