

## LEARNING DISABILITIES ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

# ADHD RESOLUTION

### WHEREAS:

1. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is a neurobiological disorder defined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition, Text Revision (DSM-IV-TR) as a persistent pattern of interfering with an individual's capacity to self-regulate activity level (hyperactivity); inhibit behaviour (impulsivity); attend to the task at hand (inattention) in developmentally appropriate ways; symptoms must be impairing to the individual's functioning in at least TWO areas of the person's life, such as home, in the community, in the classroom, in the workplace, or in social settings and continue for at least 6 months; and there is clear evidence of interference with developmentally age appropriate social, academic, or occupational functioning.
2. ADHD is not a learning disability;
3. Learning disabilities and ADHD each may co-exist with various conditions including behavioral, and emotional disorders which interfere with a person's potential for learning;
4. At least one third of individuals with LD will meet the criteria for ADHD;
5. The high rate of co-morbidity between LD and ADHD complicates a person's learning disability and their potential for learning;
6. LDAC endorses servicing the ADHD community by its Provincial/Territorial Learning Disabilities Associations (LDAs) and the local chapters ;
7. Increasingly many of the Provincial/Territorial LDAs and the local chapters already deliver services to the ADHD community.

**THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT LDAC:**

1. Officially recognizes the significant rate of co-morbidity between LD and ADHD and that this co-morbidity complicates a person's learning disability and therefore a person's potential for learning; and
2. Accepts that the provision of services to people with ADHD strengthens and adds value to the support the LDAC, its Provincial/Territorial LDAs and local chapters provide to people with LD; and
3. Endorses the provision of services to individuals with ADHD as part of the overall program of services provided by its Provincial/Territorial LDAs and local chapters.