

CCA REPORTS:

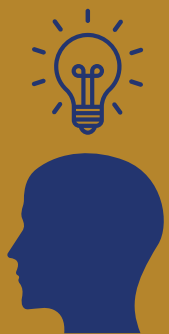
- Answer complex policy questions important to Canada.
- Are independent, credible, and objective.
- **Assess** and **synthesize evidence** from a wide range of disciplines and sources.



WHAT IS KNOWLEDGE

SYNTHESIS? Creating new insights by contextualizing and integrating different types of evidence within the larger body of knowledge on the topic.

WHAT DOES SYNTHESIS LOOK LIKE IN PRACTICE?



1. A reliable analysis of what is known about a topic
2. Developing new ways of framing concepts and generating insights
3. Interpreting complex and ambiguous evidence

THE EXPERT PANEL



Expert panels are the core of CCA's assessment process. These multidisciplinary groups are comprised of 8 to 15 experts who bring the diverse knowledge and experience required to answer the question. As authors of the assessment reports, expert panels deliberate to identify and analyze evidence, assess its quality, draw new inferences and insights, and respond to peer review.

WHAT COUNTS AS EVIDENCE?



All CCA assessments start with peer-reviewed sources (i.e., research published in reputable academic journals), but also draw on evidence from other sources as required. The CCA is often asked questions that require a broad, multidisciplinary range of evidence, and some questions require original data collection and/or unique analytical methods. While CCA assessments rely primarily on observable, measurable, and verifiable evidence, they also use a broad range of knowledge from traditional and non-traditional sources.

EXISTING EVIDENCE	ANALYTICAL METHODS	ORIGINAL DATA COLLECTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peer-reviewed literature• Government documents• Indigenous and local knowledge• Lived experience• News articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bibliometrics• Economic modelling• Ethical or legal analysis• GIS analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Calls for input• Expert, industry, and public opinion surveys• Expert workshops• Expert/practitioner interviews or presentations• Site visits



EVIDENCE, RATHER THAN ADVICE

CCA reports are designed to inform policy by providing decision makers with the best available evidence. Expert panels present what is known and what it means, and describe promising or best practices, but do not make policy recommendations.



DYK?

All CCA reports go through rigorous peer review, fact checking, and plagiarism checks. The CCA validates the quality of the evidence it uses via the expertise of panel members, experience of CCA staff, and peer review. CCA reports are freely available in English and French.