



# ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN DEANS OF EDUCATION GENERAL ACCORD

## *Overview*

The Association of Canadian Deans of Education developed the General Accord to represent the agreement of the signatories to work together in advancing education in Canada based on the goals, values, and principles articulated here.

## *Vision*

The General Accord affords recognition and review, exchange and transaction, reciprocity and respect among its members. Consistent with accords in other professions, members exchange information, explore principles to guide the advancement of the education professions, and examine institutional processes, policies, and procedures for their education programs. They also support research in teacher education by initiating research studies on issues of relevance to professional educators in Canada.

## *Principles*

The General Accord:

- Is open to deans, directors, and chairs of faculties, schools, colleges, and departments of education situated within Canadian universities and university-colleges that are publicly funded or are members of Universities Canada.
- Respects the diversity of programs that have been developed to serve a diverse Canadian population. It supports important local and regional characteristics of initial teacher education and education more broadly.
- Recognizes institutional autonomy, regional differences, and provincial prerogative over educational policy and practice.



**ACDE**

[www.acde-acde.ca](http://www.acde-acde.ca)  
Association of Canadian Deans of Education

## Goals

Education is the cornerstone of human development. To support that notion, ACDE expresses its commitment to pan-Canadian leadership in professional and teacher education, educational research, and policy in universities and university-colleges. The ACDE General Accord establishes the following as goals:

- to identify and address national issues in education especially those involving initial teacher education;
- to develop a robust, focused, and informed national consciousness about education;
- to engage representatives of provincial and federal governments, Indigenous communities, agencies, national and provincial teachers' associations, and educational research groups in dialogue about the development of pan-Canadian principles for initial teacher education, graduate education, and continuing professional education, among other areas;
- to encourage national, provincial, and regional alliances among faculties, schools, colleges, and departments of education, in order to influence education policy;
- to promote the funding, recognition, and dissemination of educational research, particularly as it pertains to teacher education and teaching practices in schools;
- to foster pan-Canadian recognition of initial teacher education programs, while respecting institutional autonomy and differentiated programs that take into account regional and cultural diversity;
- to facilitate pan-Canadian mobility of university students and teachers;
- to support thoughtful, considered, and deliberate innovation to improve and strengthen the preparation of educators nationally;
- to affirm the essential collaboration between university and school system grounded in the scholarship of teaching and learning; and
- to create inter- and intra-provincial linkages and strengthen partnerships around teacher education, graduate education, and continuing professional education programs.