

## STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: 2015-2018

**PEAC Mission**  
**To assure the quality of physiotherapy education  
in Canada through accreditation.**

**PEAC Vision**  
**PEAC is recognized for excellence in  
physiotherapy education accreditation.**

**Accreditation** is both a process and a condition.

Accreditation is a **process** of quality assurance, through which accredited status is granted to an educational institution or program of study by responsible authorities. It means that standards of education established by professional authorities have been met.

The **condition** or state of being accredited provides a credential to the public and regulators, assuring that a program has accepted and is fulfilling its commitment to educational quality.

### Values

Physiotherapy Education Accreditation Canada believes that accreditation of physiotherapy<sup>1</sup> education programs is a valuable and integral component of the profession. To provide a fair, equitable and valuable program PEAC operates with the following values of being:

Respectful,  
Collaborative,  
Accountable,  
Quality Focused,  
Equitable, and  
Professional.

### Statement of Purpose

PEAC assures quality Canadian education standards for physiotherapists, and physiotherapist assistants and occupational therapist assistants by:

1. Developing, implementing, and assessing current, relevant, effective accreditation standards that are evidence informed and reflect contemporary and future education, practice and regulatory requirements;
2. Involving stakeholders in all aspects of the accreditation process, and ensuring their awareness of the purpose of accreditation and their roles and responsibilities as stakeholders;
3. Operating accreditation programs that are fair, transparent, evidence-informed, and that reflect contemporary education practice, and regulatory environments;
4. Promoting quality and encouraging innovation in education that reflects and addresses emerging trends;
5. Initiating and maintaining effective national and international linkages and partnerships to promote Canadian physiotherapy accreditation and to learn of trends and practices in education and accreditation; and
6. Maintaining effective and efficient operations for PEAC and its programs, ensuring financial sustainability and responsible stewardship.

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<sup>1</sup> In this document, the terms physical therapy and physiotherapy are used synonymously, as are physical therapist and physiotherapist.



STRATEGIC			OPERATIONAL		
Medium Term Outcomes (Results over term of Strategic Plan)	Key Strategic Direction	Indicators	Activities to attain Outcome	When	By Whom
1. PEAC promotes the involvement and participation of its stakeholders and partners. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stakeholders have opportunities to provide their perspectives to PEAC discussions.</li> </ul>	<b>Involvement of Stakeholders</b>  <b>Accreditation Process</b>  <b>National and International Partnerships</b>  <b>Governance and Stewardship</b>  <b>Accreditation Standards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stakeholders invited to contribute to all discussions about any proposed substantive changes in accreditation review practices</li> <li>Stakeholders are included in environmental scanning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key stakeholder list maintained current at least annually</li> <li>Formal consultation takes place related to any substantive changes in standards or process (eg. Accreditation cycle, Disclosure policy)</li> <li>Offer webinars for stakeholders on targeted topics</li> </ul>	Annually  As required  As identified	Executive Director  Executive Director/ Standards Development Working Group/ Accreditation Committee of CCPUP/ NPAG Executive Director/ President of PEAC
2. Stakeholders are well-informed about the accreditation review process	<b>Accreditation Process</b>  <b>Involvement of Stakeholders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programs are well-prepared for accreditation review</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PEAC and PRT evaluate preparedness on a scale of 1-4 – incorporate into post-review survey</li> <li>PEAC monitors the number of communications via email/telephone as a program prepares for accreditation</li> </ul>	Following every full accreditation  In the months prior to an accreditation review	Executive Director/ PRT  Executive Director
3. PEAC standards and evaluative criteria reflect best practice, and are effective in ensuring programs prepare students for entry-level practice	<b>Accreditation Standards</b>  <b>Accreditation Process</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Periodic, meaningful environmental scan to determine best practices and review of efficacy and fairness of standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask each program, after successful completion of review, to identify any aspects of the standards which require revision in the post-review survey</li> <li>Comparison of accreditation standards against most recent analysis of practice (identification of expanding scope, etc.)</li> <li>Monitor success rates of Canadian graduates on the Physiotherapy Competency Exam each year</li> </ul>	Following every full accreditation  Following completion of each Analysis of Practice  Annually	Education programs  Executive Director/ ad-hoc committee  Alliance/Executive Director
4. Standards and evaluative criteria are consistently interpreted by programs, PRT members and PEAC's Accreditation Committee.	<b>Accreditation Standards</b>  <b>Accreditation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accreditation review discussions do not dwell on questions of interpretation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PEAC to note in Accreditation Committee minutes, time spent on understanding intention of standards or criteria</li> </ul>	During each meeting	PEAC Staff

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	Process		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify inconsistencies in interpretation of standards and criteria by program/PRT/Accreditation Committee</li> <li>Modify/provide more detailed explanatory notes in Standards to ensure consistency</li> </ul>	<p>Annually – and retrospective analysis for 2012 Standards</p> <p>As required based on identification of inconsistencies</p>	<p>PEAC Staff</p> <p>PEAC Accreditation Committee/Staff</p>
5. The accreditation review process is efficient for education programs and Peer Review Teams (PRT) and PEAC.	Accreditation Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing review of feedback from the programs and teams with a view to improving efficiency (time/cost) of the reviews if possible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include a question in the post-review surveys regarding about opportunities for improvement in the efficiencies of the review</li> </ul>	Following each accreditation review	PRT/ Education Programs/ PEAC Staff
6. The PEAC website is effective as the primary communication tool/information source about physiotherapy accreditation for stakeholders, partners and the public.	Accreditation Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of website hits are monitored in relation to number of telephone calls or written inquiries in a targeted period</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued attention to ensuring clarity and completeness of info on website</li> <li>Use of google analytics to record website hits</li> <li>Periodic audit (specific short timeframe) to identify context of inquiries</li> </ul>	<p>Website updates on an ongoing basis</p> <p>Annual summary of Google analytics results One tracking period in each year</p>	PEAC Staff
7. PEAC remains current with evolving technology, while balancing efficiency with cost.	<p>Accreditation Process</p> <p>Governance and Stewardship</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cost benefit analysis is undertaken when programs, Board or Committees request access to new technology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Board to consider requests for access or activity to determine whether there is a prima facie case to suggest that it might improve efficiency. If it meets the test, PEAC staff to prepare business case for Board decision</li> </ul>	Upon receipt of request	Board of Directors/ PEAC Staff
8. PEAC identifies opportunities to promote dissemination of best-practices and innovation in education.	<p>Quality and Innovation in Education</p> <p>Involvement of Stakeholders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Good ideas" identified by accreditation team, committee or Board are shared amongst programs</li> <li>Comments/commendations are included in every PRT report.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform all programs of the process of identifying good ideas, and re-inform each program prior to review</li> <li>When good ideas are identified by PEAC, include a commendation in the AR &amp; SR, and encourage sharing with colleagues</li> <li>Include identified good ideas in discussions within the Accreditation Community of</li> </ul>	<p>Annually to all programs Before and after each program's full accreditation review After each full accreditation review</p> <p>Regularly once CoP is established</p>	<p>Executive Director/ Chair of Accreditation Committee/ President of PEAC</p> <p>Executive Director/President of PEAC</p> <p>Executive Director</p>

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			Practice created by CCPUP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider sharing identified good ideas with Executive Director of CCPUP for circulation to CCPUP members</li> </ul>	Discuss with Executive Director of CCPUP and/or CCPUP Executive Committee	Executive Director
9. PEAC engages in regular environmental scanning to identify and respond to emerging trends in education and accreditation.	<b>Quality and Innovation in Education</b>  <b>National and International Partnerships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PEAC has links with other accreditors to share information regarding trends and issues related to accreditation</li> <li>PEAC stays current with published literature regarding accreditation</li> <li>PEAC has links with physiotherapy educators to share information regarding trends and issues related to education</li> <li>PEAC disseminates information gained through environmental scanning when appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PEAC engages in dialogue with other accreditors at least once annually (AAAC)</li> <li>PEAC receives and reviews web/ research alerts regarding accreditation-related research</li> <li>PEAC engages in dialogue with educators at least once annually</li> </ul>	AAAC meetings at least once annually  When published  CCPUP meetings at least once annually	Executive Director  Executive Director  Executive Director
10. PEAC has bylaws, a Financial Framework, and financial policies and procedures that provide clear guidance for financial decisions and processes, and support transparency and accountability in fiscal activities.	<b>Governance and Stewardship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PEAC completes a Review Engagement once annually</li> <li>Planned and unexpected variances in financial statements are tracked and documented in Board Minutes</li> <li>PEAC holds an Annual General Meeting once annually</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All components are reviewed/ revised at least every three years</li> <li>Bank reconciliation conducted semi-annually</li> <li>Scheduled AGM</li> </ul>	In scheduled rotation  Twice a year  Once a year	Executive Director/ Director of Finance/ Board of Directors  Director of Finance  All of PEAC
11. PEAC has a governance model and an operational plan for the organization which are democratic and transparent, and allow for efficient use of all resources.	<b>Governance and Stewardship</b>  <b>Involvement of Stakeholders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The organization has an infrastructure that allows timely and efficient decision-making</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decision-making situations encountered at meetings which cannot be resolved through reference to current seminal documents are flagged for policy development.</li> <li>Operational plan and governance model are reviewed at least every three years - focus on democracy/ transparency/ efficiency</li> </ul>	As required	Executive Director/ Governance Committee/ Board of Directors