



The Council on Quality
and Leadership
*Partners in Excellence;
Leadership for the Journey*

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**CQL and Accreditation Ontario Announce Exclusive
Licensing Agreement – the First of its Kind in the Disabilities Field**

TOWSON, MARYLAND – The Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL) and Accreditation Ontario today announced an agreement between the two organizations through which *Accreditation Ontario* will acquire the exclusive rights to use and market CQL products and services throughout Canada. Under the agreement, Accreditation Ontario will change its corporate name to The Council on Quality and Leadership Canada, and will conduct business as *CQL Canada*. The agreement marks the first time in its over 35-year history of defining, measuring and improving the quality of services in the disabilities and mental illness field that CQL has had an exclusive agreement with an independent organization for the national rights to its products.

“Our agreement to establish an exclusive arrangement with Accreditation Ontario is great news for anyone who cares about supporting Canadian citizens with disabilities and people with mental illness lead full and independent lives,” stated James F. Gardner, Ph.D., President and CEO of CQL. “Now, through the formation of CQL Canada, we have a qualified and experienced North American partner that shares CQL’s vision of defining quality of life from the person’s perspective.”

“Using CQL’s quality of life metrics and research, quality improvement systems and products, Accreditation Ontario has established the bench mark against which all other quality improvement programs are measured,” stated Bill Allerton, CEO of Accreditation Ontario. “Accreditation Ontario has made person- and family-centered services its priority. We are proud to offer CQL’s products throughout Canada and to become the first of what we hope will be a number of international partners.”

The Council on Quality and Leadership (CQL) is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to excellence in the definition, measurement and improvement of personal quality of life for people with disabilities. Through its services, publications and public presence, CQL is noted for its ability to establish real connections between disabilities’ theory and practice, helping those who work in the disability community take the important step from innovative ideas to everyday action. The process begins with defining quality from the person’s perspective. *Personal Outcome Measures*SM is at the heart of the process.

Established in 1994, and licensed by The Council on Quality and Leadership, Accreditation Ontario is a not-for-profit corporation that works in partnership with CQL to deliver CQL’s products and services in the province of Ontario, Canada.

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