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Canada

SCC and the Canadian Standardization System

Stephen Head, Manager, Strategic Policy

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National Quality Infrastructure in Canada: 3 Pillars

Standards

- The **Standards Council of Canada** is Canada's National Standards Body

Accreditation

- The **Standards Council of Canada** is Canada's National Accreditation Body

Metrology

- The **National Research Council** (NRC), a federal government department, is responsible for metrology in Canada

Canadian Regulatory System

- Under the Canadian constitution there is a division of powers between the federal and provincial and territorial governments
- The federal government has jurisdiction over certain areas, such as defense and communications
- Provinces and territories have jurisdictional authority over others, such as education and health and electrical safety
- There are thousands of references to standards in federal and provincial/territorial regulations
- Canada's federal structure means standards development has traditionally been "bottom-up," not "top-down"

National Quality Infrastructure in Canada

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Importance of Standardization for Canada's Economy

Between 1981 and 2004, growth in the stock of standards accounted for 16% of labour productivity growth and 7.8% of GDP growth

The Standards Council of Canada

- Canada's national standards and accreditation body
- Reports to Parliament through the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED)
- SCC's mandate is to promote efficient and effective **voluntary standardization** in Canada, where standardization is not expressly provided for by law
- SCC also manages Canadian participation in international bodies such as ISO and IEC

Standards Development Process

- SCC accredits Standards Development Organizations (SDOs) to the criteria of:
  - WTO/TBT Annex 3
  - ISO/IEC Guide 59, Best Practices for national SDOs
  - Canadian specific requirements

- SCC's SDO Accreditation Program supports Good Regulatory Practices by embedding values such as **transparency**, **balance of interests**, **consensus**, etc.

SCC Accredited SDOs

AHRI
we make life better™

ASTM INTERNATIONAL

BNQ
Bureau de normalisation du Québec

CGSB ONGC

CSA Group

IAPMO

NSF

UL

ULC

ULC Standards

HSO

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The Role of Accreditation in Regulation

- Not only does SCC accredit CABs based on international standards (e.g., ISO/IEC 17065), but SCC also accredits to additional unique requirements that fulfill Canadian regulatory needs.

- The Requirements and Guidance for Product, Process and Service Certification Bodies outlines additional criteria and guidance for product, process, and service certification bodies, above and beyond the requirements of ISO/IEC 17065:2012

Regulatory Authority Advisory Bodies (RAABs)

- RAABs are bodies, councils and committees consisting of representatives from provincial and territorial governmental organizations
- SCC requires CABs to establish working relationships with RAABs in order to effectively confirm regulatory requirements such as corrective action and dual language requirements
- Key responsibilities for RAABs include coordination and ensuring consistency among jurisdictions on matters related to regulations and standards
- RAABs support public safety and construction of standardization in areas such as building, electrical systems, plumbing, elevators, gas and fire safety

Multilateral Accreditation Arrangements

- SCC is a signatory to:
  - International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC),
  - International Accreditation Forum (IAF),
  - Inter American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC),
  - Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC)

- SCC is the only monitoring authority in Canada that grants recognition to the OECD Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) program.

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The Role of Voluntary Standardization in Good Regulatory Practice

Stephen Head, Manager, Strategic Policy

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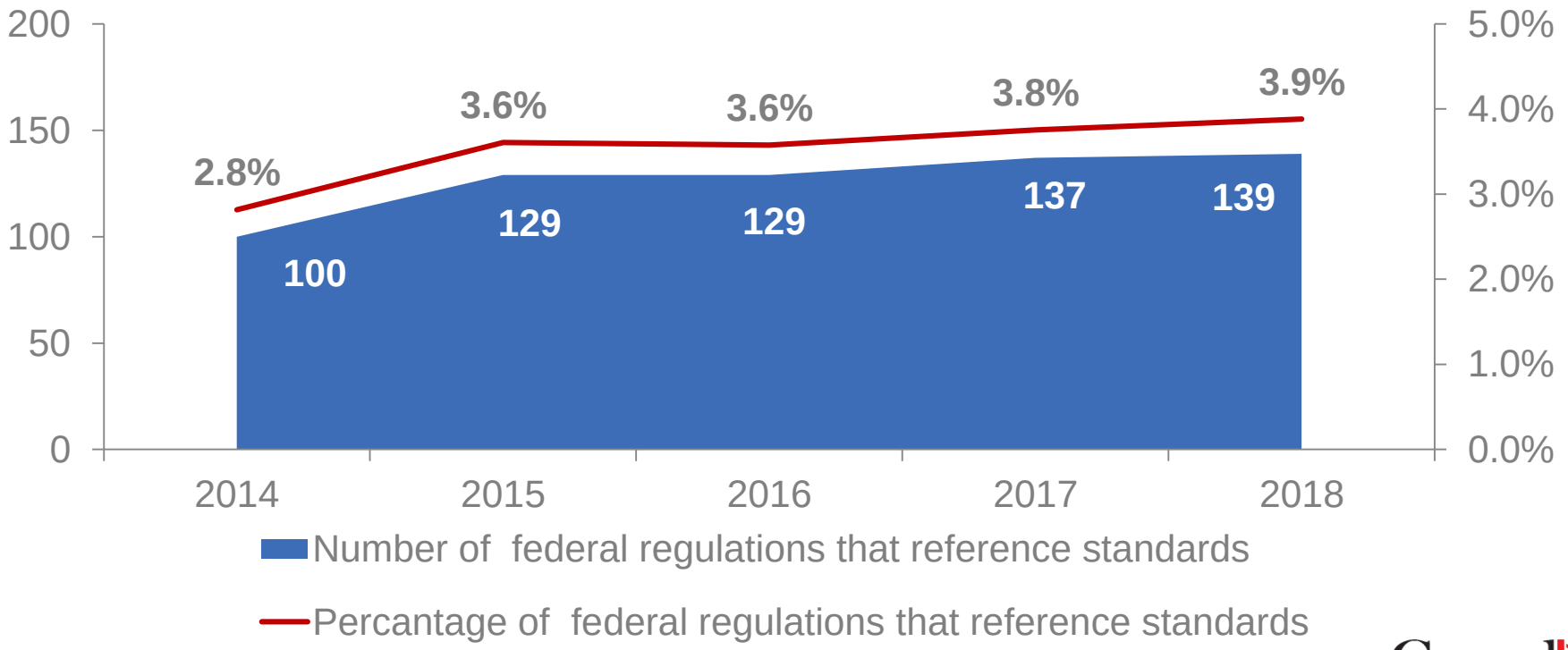
Coordinating the Canadian Standardization System

- Monitoring Standards in Regulation project
- Over 5,000 references to standards in federal, provincial and territorial regulations
- Data can be used to facilitate internal and international trade

Standards Incorporated by Reference

SCC identified 1,132 references to standards in 139 Canadian Federal regulations.



Development of the IBR Guidelines

Monitoring Standards in Regulation project brought to light consistent issues common across jurisdictions

Guidelines developed and circulated for public comment in August 2017

Guidelines revised with input from Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat and published September 18, 2018

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SCC's International Engagement

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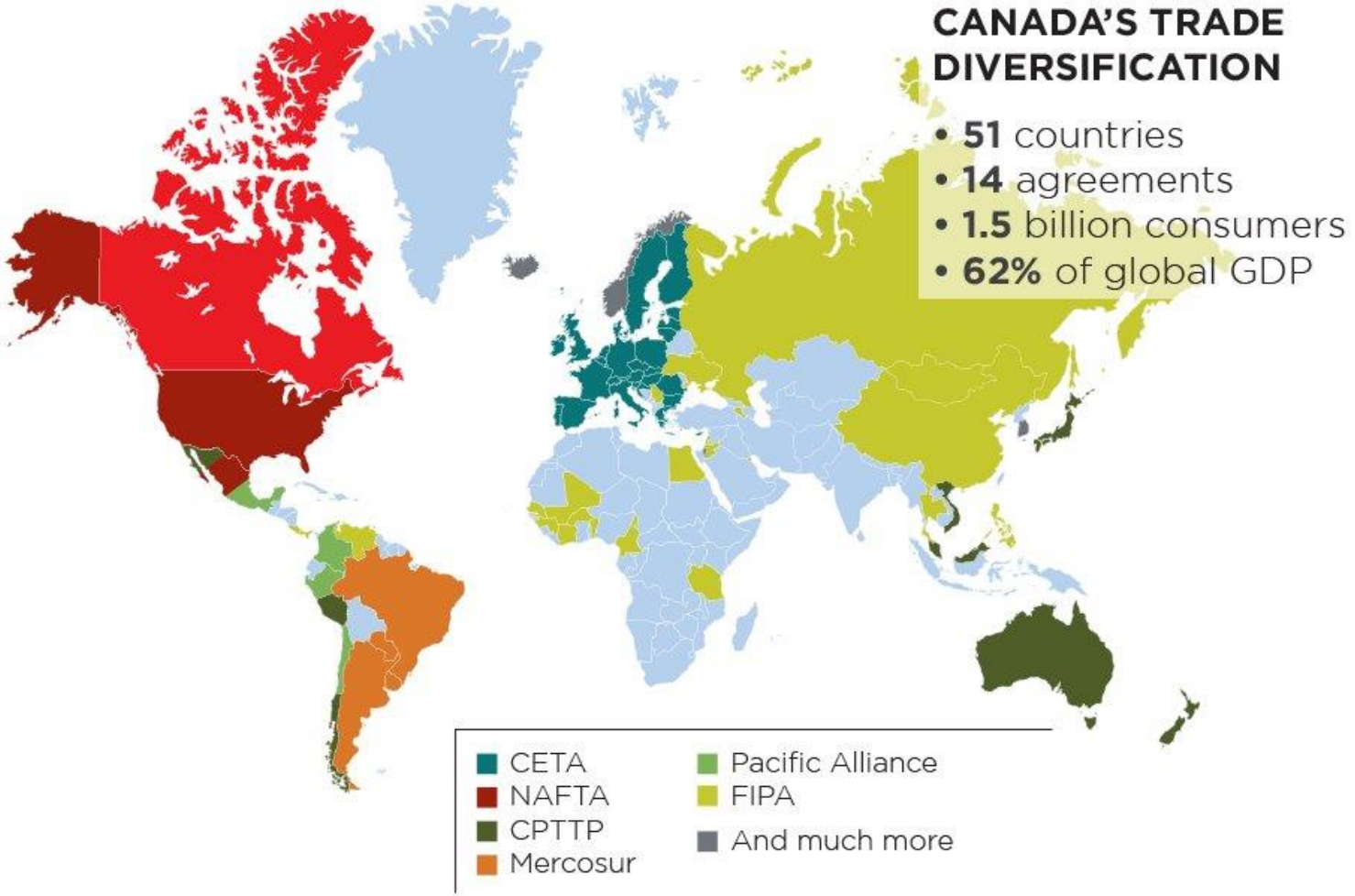
Canada is a Trading Nation



Standardization in Canada

SCC works with Global Affairs Canada as a trusted advisor because of SCC's mandate to provide oversight of standardization in Canada and leadership in regional and international standardization forums.

SCC's advisory role to Global Affairs Canada is critical for ensuring that obligations in Canada's Free Trade Agreements are accurate and reflect international best practices.

Overview of Current Trade Activities

Active Negotiations: Mercosur

Pending ratification: CUSMA (formerly NAFTA)

Under Implementation: CFTA, Ukraine, CETA

Expected Negotiations: ASEAN, UK

Pacific Area Standards Congress

- SCC is engaged in regional standards bodies, including the Pacific Area Standards Congress
- SCC's CEO, Chantal Guay, is a member of the PASC Executive Committee
- By collaborating with and taking on leadership roles in regional standardization bodies like PASC, SCC helps to facilitate the trade of Canadian goods and services with these countries

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

- SCC views APEC as an important platform to share best practices on trade and standardization within the Asia-Pacific region

- Key international and regional partners also attend APEC Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance (SCSC): APAC, ISO, IEC, and PASC

- SCC is looking forward to participating in the 2020 APEC meetings in Malaysia

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Creating Successful Exporters Through New Standards

International standardization is an important strategic issue if Canada is to help its entrepreneurs succeed on the global stage

Why SCC is engaged in innovation?

- Align with **Government of Canada priorities**
- **Target innovation and commercialization support** to sectors of highest economic value for Canada
- **Streamline the way innovation support** is provided to industry through standardization
- Help companies **become international standards setters**
- **Boost economic growth** and Canadian competitiveness

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SCC's Innovation Role

Canada's Innovation & Skills Plan has set a target of 30% export growth by 2025 and highlights the value of **standards-setting** in advancing Canada's economic interests, and growing globally successful companies.

By working directly with **Canadian innovators**, SCC is providing tailored, end-to-end support to companies in **developing effective standardization strategies** to accelerate commercialization and remove barriers to the adoption of new Canadian technologies.

Investing in standards development and conformity assessment activities is one way Canadian innovators are able to lead the creation of **new markets**, encourage **complimentary innovation**, influence **future market rules** and enhance **market access**.

QUESTIONS?