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Canada

Accreditation as a Regulatory Tool in Canada

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Standards **experts**. Accreditation **solutions**.

The Standards Council of Canada

- Canada's national standards and accreditation body

- As a Crown corporation, SCC reports to the Federal Government through the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED)

- SCC:
  - *Coordinates* standardization activities in Canada
  - *Accredits* Standards Development Organizations & Conformity Assessment Bodies
  - *Advises* federal and provincial governments
  - *Supports* strategic priorities of industry and governments
  - *Represents* Canada in international and regional forums

Standards Development Organizations (SDOs)

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Standards Development Process

Core Requirements

Multi-stakeholder participation

- Regulators, Industry, Consumers,
- Consultants, Academics etc.

Consensus-based process

- "Substantial agreement …implies much more than a simple majority, but not necessarily unanimity."
- Utilizes technical experts

Transparent and inclusive approach

- Public inquiry on drafts
- Availability of National Standards of Canada
- Publication and Dissemination

Maintenance requirements

- Standards have to be reviewed to ensure latest technology included

Canada

Canadian Regulatory & Standardization System

- Under the Canadian constitution there is a division of powers between the federal and provincial and territorial governments.
- There are thousands of references to standards in federal & provincial/territorial regulations.
- SCC provides federal & provincial/territorial regulators with information on the standards they are referencing in regulation.
- Inconsistency in the standards referenced in regulation can result in internal trade barriers for Canada.
- SCC is supporting federal & provincial/territorial governments to advance Regulatory Reconciliation under the Canadian Free Trade Agreement.

Principles of an Effective Canadian Standardization Network

- Highest Levels of Health & Safety
- Use of Aligned and Up-to-Date Standards between Jurisdictions
- Effective use of Standardization and Conformity Assessment to Support Regulatory Needs
- Leverage Standardization to Achieve Economic Priorities

Accreditation Priorities and Objectives

- SCC leads and facilitates the development and use of national and international standards and accreditation services to enhance Canada's competitiveness and well-being.

- SCC's Accreditation Services Branch accredits conformity assessment bodies, such as testing laboratories and product certification bodies, to internationally recognized standards.

- SCC is a member of a number of organizations that have mutual recognition agreements in place to assist with international acceptance of conformity assessment results with the goal of "one standard, one test — accepted everywhere."

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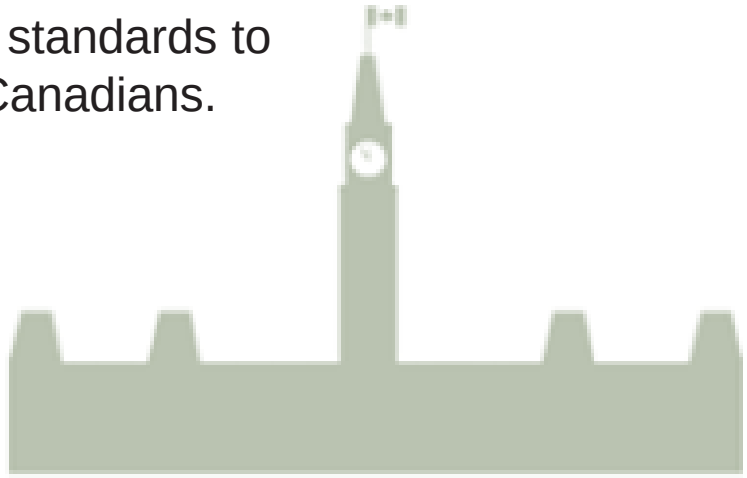
Advisory Role to Government on Accreditation and Conformity Assessment

- SCC helps government regulators make the most of the many standards and conformity assessment options available to them.
- SCC manages numerous programs and services designed to support the successful integration of standardization into regulatory practices.
- SCC supports government departments to use standards to protect the social and economic welfare of all Canadians.



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Responding to Government Priorities through Accreditation

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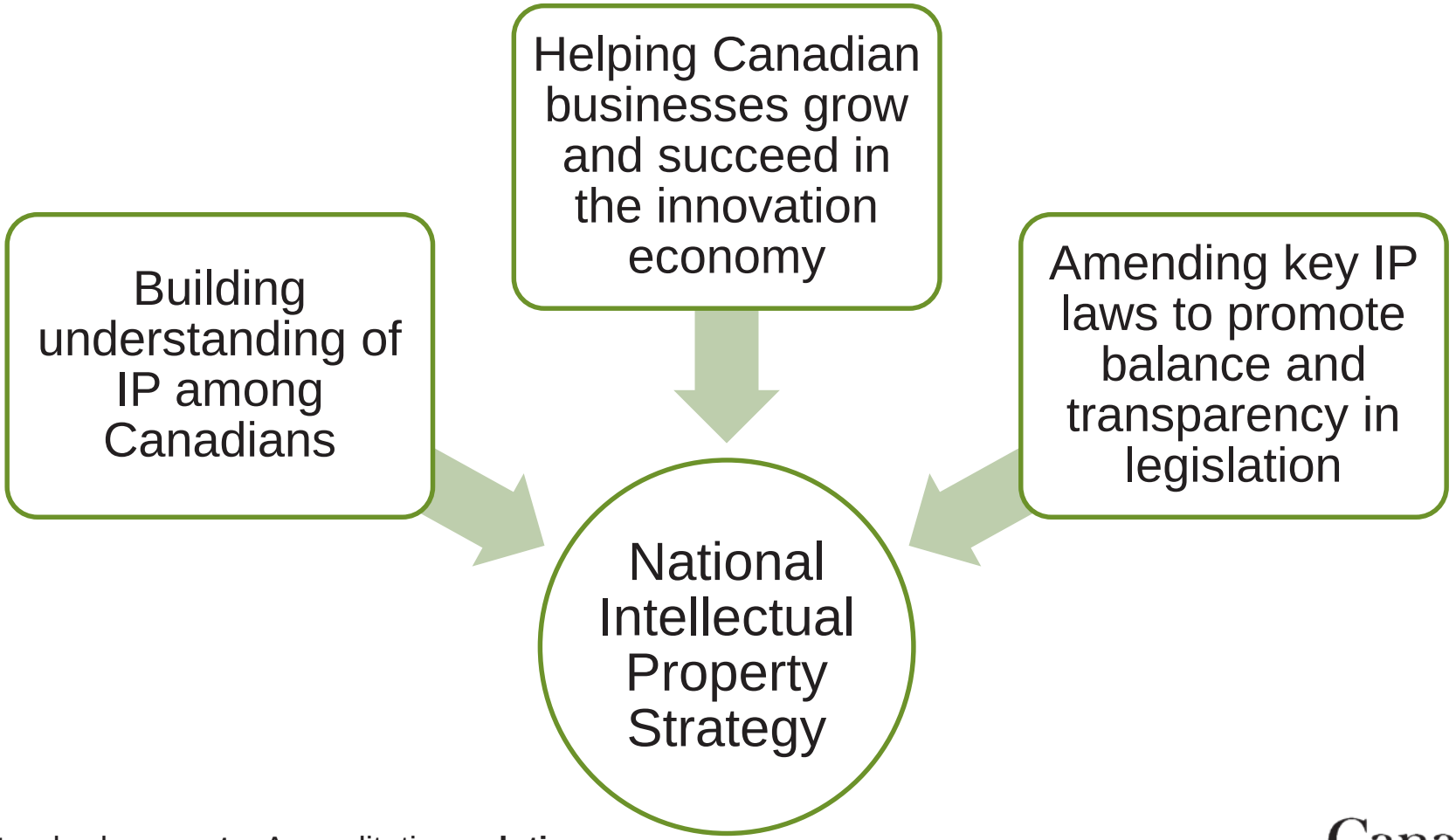
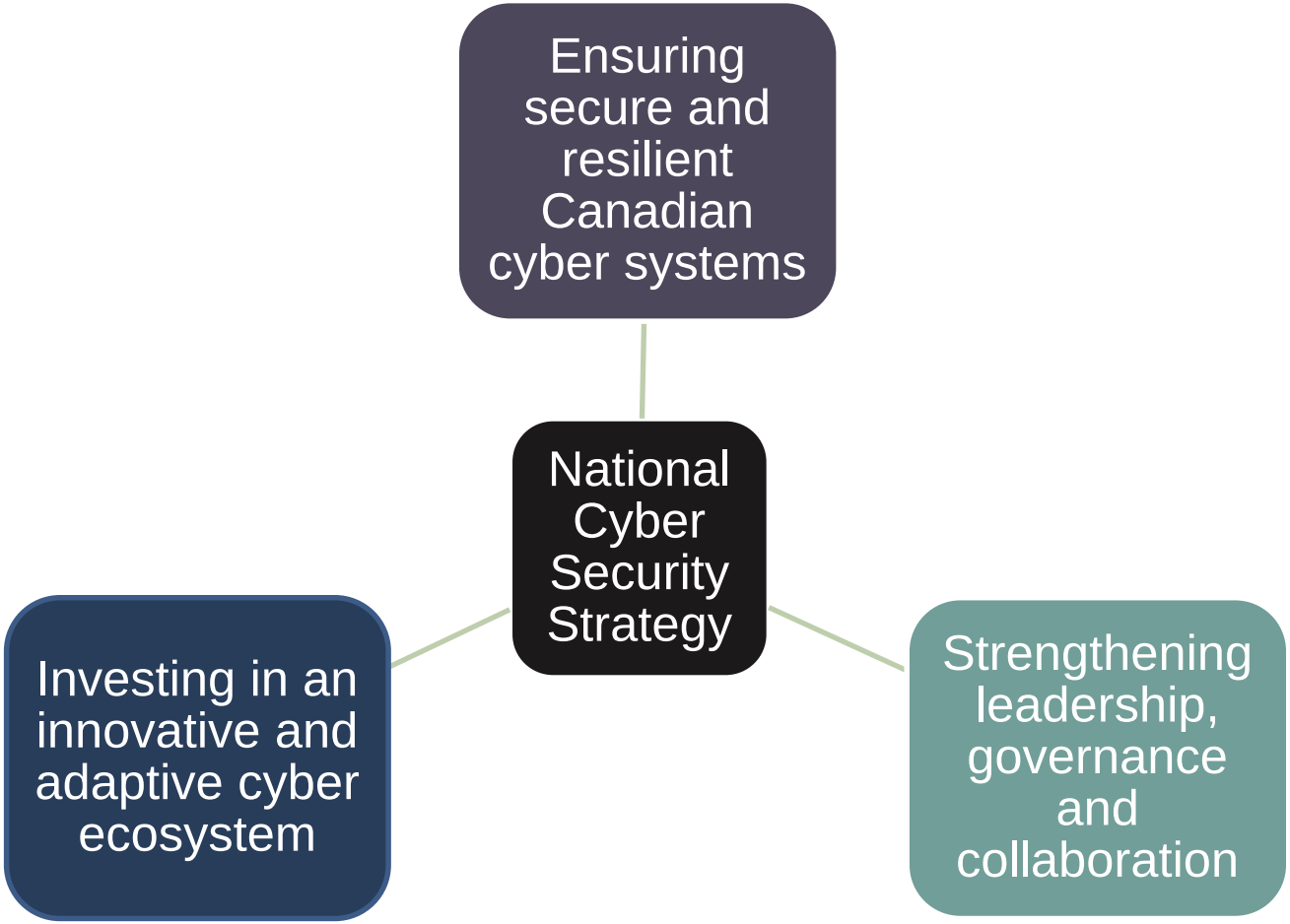
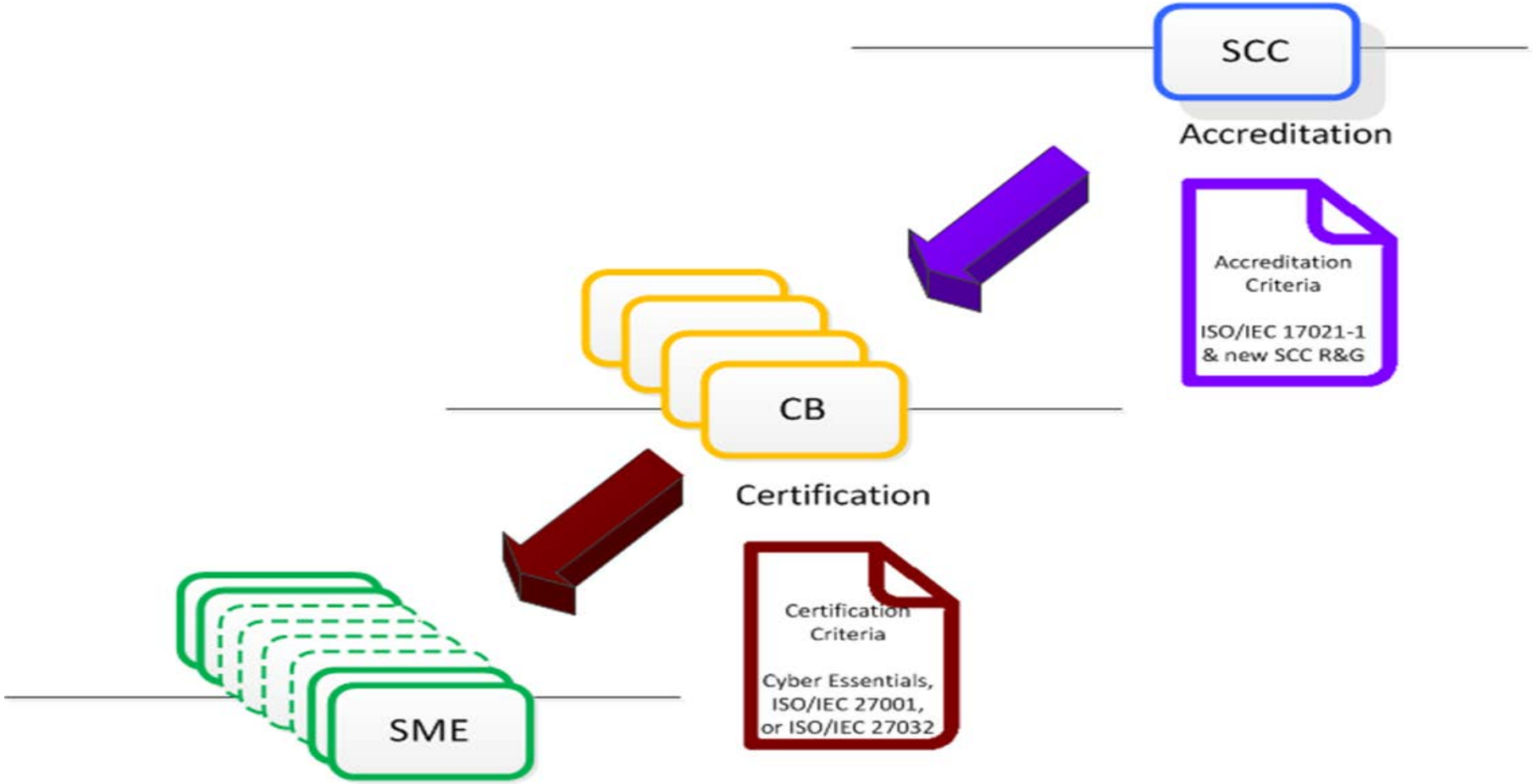
A Canadian Priority: Intellectual Property



A Canadian Priority: Cyber Security



Cyber Security Accreditation Program



Thank You