

# NPSIA Works: Career Futures

## ASSOCIATIONS

### Description of the Field

Associations exist to represent the interests of their members, and they operate in both the developed world and developing countries. Associations are non-profit organizations and promote the interests of their members by influencing government policies through active participation in political processes. Large or small, these groups are active in presenting their needs, principles, and demands to other Canadians. Most Canadian associations operate in Ottawa where they may most effectively apply pressure to the federal government. The number of interest groups is large.

The three aspects of research, media relations and government relations are intertwined in almost all work in associations. The activities of associations include conducting research and developing statistical analyses, publishing, lobbying, advocacy, and reporting on developments in Ottawa and in the provinces. While lobbying is the most prominent and public function of Canada's associations, education is their most significant role.

Associations have the function of providing support for their members, of keeping their group's issues before the public, and of lobbying government. Although relatively unknown to job seekers, many associations have 'international divisions', or represent members with an international focus.

### Selected Alumni Job Titles

**Analyst**, Financial Services Policy, Canadian Bankers' Association  
**Assistant Director**, Digital and Cyberspace Policy, Council on Foreign Relations  
**Associate**, Business Council of Canada  
**Chief Executive Officer**, Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
**Deputy Director**, Trade and Investment, Department of Policy and Business Practices, International Chamber of Commerce, Paris  
**Director**, Business Development, Automotive Parts Manufacturers Association  
**Director**, Canadian Chamber of Commerce  
**Director**, Centre for Central and Eastern Europe, Canadian Bureau for International Education  
**Director**, External Affairs, Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia  
**Director**, Federal Government Affairs, Retail Council of Canada  
**Director**, Global Member Programs, Society for Human Resource Management  
**Director**, International Centre for Municipal Development, Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
**Director of International Relations**, International Affairs Branch, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC)  
**Director**, Partnership Programs, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC)  
**Director and Deputy Head**, Department of Policy and Business Practices, International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)  
**Director-General**, International Co-operative Alliance  
**Executive Director**, Executive Director, The Foundation for Educational Exchange between Canada and the United States of America (Fulbright Canada)  
**Head**, International Division, Canadian Cooperative Association  
**Information and Content Specialist**, Canadian Public Health Association  
**International Relations Officer**, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada  
**Program Officer**, Americas Policy Group, Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC)  
**Policy Analyst**, Canadian Chamber of Commerce/Canadian Council for International Business  
**Policy Analyst**, Native Women's Association of Canada  
**Policy and Research Manager**, UK India Business Council

**President**, Canadian Advanced Technology Association (CATAAlliance)  
**President and CEO**, Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE)  
**Policy Advisor and Researcher**, Canadian Community Economic Development Network  
**Project Officer**, Development and Field Operations, International Services, Association of Canadian Community Colleges [Project Development Unit, Asia]  
**Research Analyst**, Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Canada  
**Research Associate**, Business Council on National Issues  
**Senior Advisor**, Knowledge Services, Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
**Senior Advisor**, Mining Association of Canada  
**Senior Program Officer**, Canadian Immigrant Integration Program (CIIP), Colleges and Institutes Canada

**Last Revised: Summer 2016**