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## **CIRA MISSION**

The Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA) is a not for profit Canadian corporation that is responsible for operating the .ca Internet country code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) for all Canadians in an efficient and professional manner. CIRA may also carry out other Internet related registration activities for the Canadian community.

## **CIRA HISTORY**

CIRA was incorporated in 1998 with the mandate to set policy for and operate the .ca domain. Since 1988, dot-ca domain names have been registered on a volunteer basis by the registrar at the University of British Columbia. With the recent usage and rapid commercialization of the Internet, the Internet community agreed that the original rules and mode of operation had to be changed.

In 1997, at the Canadian annual Internet conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia, the Canadian Internet community, with a view to liberalize registration procedures and substantially improve turnaround times, decided to undertake reform of the .ca Registry. The Canadian Domain Names Consultative Committee (CDNCC) was created and it was recommended that a not-for-profit, private sector corporation be incorporated to run the .ca registry. This occurred in December 1998, when the Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA) was incorporated.

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