



Vocational Rehabilitation Association Canada

VRA Canada and its Societies represent the interests of the profession and its professionals through ongoing **professional development, political action and other tangible benefits**. The Association is a not-for-profit organization led by a President and Board of Directors.

The Association may assist members through:

1. Promotion and Marketing:

- Promoting the field and representing members; Building recognition for the profession and its members with the public, government and all stakeholder groups. Building government and community relations at Federal and Provincial levels.
- Managing ongoing relationships with stakeholder groups like Insurers (all forms), Profit / Not-for-Profit organizations, Government Agencies / Agencies, Educators
- Responding to government consultations
- Developing business / contract opportunities
- Providing professional credibility through best practice
- Maintaining a membership directory

2. Education and Professional Development:

- Providing internal educational opportunities through conferences, seminars, webinars, online modules, journals, newsletters
- Providing external educational opportunities at discounted rates
- Providing support with credentialing exam preparation
- Providing a student scholarship program



3. Support:

- Encouraging best practice research
- Providing professional and ethical guidance and advice
- Providing professional career guidance and development
- Providing expert and legal opinion and advice
- Offering networking opportunities
- Supporting a community of practice
- Providing peer support
- Collaborating with other stakeholders for additional financial and product benefits
- Providing member support / answering inquiries
- Providing sponsorship support / answering inquiries
- Presenting job opportunities specific to the field
- Offering single source service

4. Resources:

- Offering a full insurance package including professional liability, errors and omissions, extended health, motor vehicle
- Providing professional marketing materials
- Maintaining a glossary of terms
- Maintaining a page on relevant statistics
- Providing reading lists and websites relevant to the field
- Providing examples of business cases, case scenarios
- Providing other relevant templates as requested



The Association is also currently:

- Conferring Designations, RRP, RVP, RCSS
- Allocating credits and manage review, acceptance and adjudication of designations
- Maintaining Ethical Discipline

College of Vocational Rehabilitation Professionals (CVRP)

The College provides **Independent Accreditation** of Vocational Professionals. It is an independent corporation and operates in a manner that befits and **meets the standards of Professional Colleges** (e.g. Nurses, Teachers). Its primary goal is to **protect the public** from incompetent and unqualified practitioners through independent certification standards.

The College:

- Is established independent of VRA Canada.
 - Has an independent Board of Directors and an independent Board of Advisors that represents all the stakeholder groups and the public.
 - Has an established Code of Ethics.
 - Establishes the educational and experience **criteria for the profession.**
 - **Accredits (confers) certification** based on these criteria.
 - Manages educational credits for the ongoing validation of certification.
 - Recommends educational opportunities.
- NOTE: Professional development is presented by the Association.***
- Provides guidance and information for individuals who wish to be certified.
 - * **It is the standard for anyone working in Vocational Counselling and Rehabilitation.**



Registered Rehabilitation Professional (RRP)

There will be no new RRP designations awarded but those currently in existence will be maintained until the Vocational Rehabilitation professional retires or is no longer a professional member of the Association. This is consistent with the approach taken with the Canadian Certified Rehabilitation Counsellor (CRCC) and the Certified Vocational Evaluator (CVE). This will accommodate stakeholders who currently use this as their standard requirement for employment to satisfy specific service contracts.

Why do I need to join both?

1. The Association and the College do entirely different things.
2. The Association provides education required by the College.
3. The College provides accreditation / qualifications and sets standards required by the field.
4. The College has brought new life and credibility to the profession. We are better recognized today for what we do than in years before.
5. The Association provides key services to ensure that we are recognized as a "Professional" group. The college sets the standards for that.