

BRITISH COLUMBIA STRATEGIC PLAN 2013-18

CANADA-BRITISH COLUMBIA OFFICIAL LANGUAGES AGREEMENT ON FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES 2013-14 - 2017-18

British Columbia has one of the most diverse populations in Canada. Cultural and linguistic diversity is celebrated throughout the province. Within this context, the B.C. Government supports our country's linguistic duality as a fundamental Canadian value. Furthermore, our Province recognizes that Francophones and Francophiles have made valuable contributions to our province's economic, cultural and social fabric.

Since it was first signed in 2001, the *Canada-British-Columbia Agreement* has improved access to programs and services in priority sectors for French-speaking British Columbians and it has enhanced the capacity of the Province to deliver services in French. It is through our collaboration with the federal government that British Columbia has been able to continue improving its services and made them more accessible for French-speaking British Columbians.

In the fall 2012, the B.C. Government held a province-wide consultation with Francophones and Francophiles to hear about their priorities for the next five years. One emerging theme was the importance of increasing the visibility of B.C. Francophone arts and culture in our Province. Other priorities mentioned were: funding, employment, health, government services, immigration, early childhood/youth and the economy.

The 2013-2018 Strategic Plan proposes objectives and measures that align with the priorities of the community, the B.C. Government and the priorities of the federal government. This Strategic Plan reflects a government-wide commitment and promotes a coordinated approach to maximize the effectiveness of initiatives aimed at enhancing the vitality and further supporting the development of this community. This Plan will also be instrumental for the development of partnerships in support of the Francophone Affairs Program's general orientations and objectives.

The 2013-18 British Columbia Strategic Plan is consistent with the general purpose of the the *Canada-British-Columbia Official Languages Agreement on French Language-Services 2013-2014 – 2017-2018*. As stated in the Agreement, its objective is to support the planning and delivery of French-language provincial services aimed at contributing to the development and enhancing the vitality of the Francophone community of British Columbia, and to support structuring and start up initiatives in priority sectors (i.e. Health, Economic Development (including immigration and Tourism), Social Services, Justice, Arts and Culture and Communication).

Furthermore, this Plan will also focus on youth and early childhood. As with the previous plans, the 2013-2018 Plan strives to increase access to French services to British Columbians.

This Strategic Plan describes the initiatives and activities that British Columbia intends to pursue over the life of the *Canada-British-Columbia Official Languages Agreement on French Language Services 2013-2014 – 2017-2018* and indicates the expected results of these undertakings. British Columbia will evaluate the outcomes of these initiatives. The Strategic Plan serves as a roadmap for the planning, implementation and assessment of various initiatives and activities.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE: Support the development and delivery of French Services for British Columbia’s Francophone community and support initiatives to enhance its vitality.

Objective 1: Support the administrative arrangements necessary so that the government, the municipalities and the quasi-government bodies can create and offer French services to the francophone community.		Annual Provincial and Federal Contributions
		Federal: \$250,000
		Provincial: \$130,000
		Total: \$380,000
MEASURES 2013-18	EXPECTED RESULTS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
The Francophone Affairs Program actively seeks partnerships with British Columbia government, municipalities and quasi-government bodies to support, develop, and monitor francophone projects and service delivery to the British Columbia francophone community.	British Columbia Government maintained or increased its capacity to deliver services to its francophone community.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number and type of renewed projects directly provided to citizens. 2. Number and type of new projects (directly provided to citizens) with existing partners. 3. Number and type of new projects (directly provided to citizens) with new partners.

MEASURES 2013-18	EXPECTED RESULTS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
Promote British Columbia and Canada's francophonie to increase its visibility by ensuring information on francophone activities is available throughout British Columbia and/or Canada.	Increased visibility of the British Columbian and Canadian Francophonie.	Number and types of initiatives that promote the B.C. Francophone community.
The Francophone Affairs Program connects francophone community organizations with British Columbia Government, municipalities, and quasi-Government bodies and facilitates collaboration and partnership.	Francophone community needs and priorities are taken into consideration when developing French services delivery capacity.	Number and types of collaboration agreements between francophone community organizations and British Columbia Government, municipalities, and quasi-Government bodies facilitated by the Francophone Affairs Program. Benchmark to be established in 2013-2014

Objective 2: Support Service Development, Planning and Delivery in Five Priority Areas

Annual Provincial and Federal Contributions
Federal: \$ 450,000
Provincial: \$570,000
Total: \$1,020 000

MEASURES 2013-18	EXPECTED RESULTS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
Priority 1: Health and Social Services		
Support British Columbia government, municipalities and quasi-government bodies in their efforts to maintain and/or improve health and social services to the francophone community.	Health and social services available to the British Columbia French-language community are maintained or increased.	<p>Number and type of initiatives and activities undertaken to support health and social services to the British Columbia French-Language community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Number of individuals and families who received direct assistance in French from the Provincial Language Service. Benchmark: Approximately 500 individuals in 2011-2012. b) Number of French interpretation services requests. Benchmark: Approximately 487 requests in 2011-2012. c) Number of governmental related interventions (accompaniment and translation at the Ministry of Social Development (MSD), mainly China Creek Office, Tax Canada, Service Canada and EI related, Birth Certificates, etc.). Benchmark: 368 governmental related interventions in 2011-2012. d) Number of French speaking clients served by community social agencies on behalf of MSD. Benchmark: A total of 264 French speaking clients in 2011-2012.
Collaborate with ministries and Health Authorities for the translation into French of	Health and social services related government information is	Number and type of updated or new British Columbia Government health and social services publications

health and social services related government material.	maintained or increased.	translated into French. (Excluding news releases which are captured under priority #5) Benchmark: 107 publications in 2011-2012.
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MEASURES 2013-18	EXPECTED RESULTS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
Priority 2: Economic development		
Support the B.C. government, municipalities and quasi-government bodies in initiatives that contribute to the economic development of the B.C. Francophone community (including francophone tourism and immigration initiatives).	Maintain or increase the contribution of the B.C. francophone community to the overall economic growth of the Province.	Number and type of Francophone economic development initiatives or activities that have been created, maintained or enhanced.
Priority 3: Arts and Culture		
Support the B.C. government, municipalities and quasi-government bodies for the development of services, resources and programs enabling the Francophone community to increase its visibility and promote its cultural, artistic and linguistic heritage.	Francophone arts and culture are more visible and well promoted in British Columbia.	Number and type of initiatives celebrating the presence and contributions of the British Columbia francophone community funded under this Agreement.

MEASURES 2013-18	EXPECTED RESULTS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
Priority 4 : Justice		
Support the B.C. government, municipalities and quasi-government bodies to increase access to Justice related information and services in French.	Maintained or increased access to justice related information and services in French.	Number and type of updated or new British Columbia Government justice related publications translated into French. (Excluding news releases which are captured under priority #5) Benchmark : 35 publications in 2011-2012.
Support the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General to facilitate linguistic training of staff.	The availability of French speaking staff is maintained or increased.	Number of bilingual BC Government justice employees capable of providing services to the public in French.
Priority 5 : Communication		
Promote use of French in government communications when appropriate (e.g. news releases)	Increased access to government information available in French.	Number and type of updated or new British Columbia Government publications translated into French <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including all publications • Excluding publications already identified in priority 1 and 4
Encourage and monitor consultation between the British Columbia Government and the British Columbia francophone community.	The British Columbia Government continues open dialogues with the British Columbia francophone community.	Number and type of meetings between Francophone Affairs Program (FAP) and main British Columbia francophone stakeholders. An annual evaluation of the FAP is performed.