



January 28, 2010

Ref. # 136801

To: All Superintendents  
All Secretary-Treasurers

Re: 2009/2010 Federal Funding for French Language Education and Instruction

The new *Protocol for Agreements for Minority-Language Education and Second-Language Instruction 2009-2010 to 2012-2013* was signed on April 22, 2009. The Protocol is a multi-year, multilateral agreement between Canadian Heritage and the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC), which acts on behalf of all provinces and territories. The Protocol sets the main parameters for collaboration between Canadian Heritage and the provincial/territorial ministers of education in the area of official languages in education.

British Columbia has now concluded its bilateral agreement with Canadian Heritage, “*Canada–British Columbia Agreement on Minority Language Education and Second Official Language Instruction 2009-10 to 2012-13*”. The bilateral agreement allows the disbursement of federal funds to the provinces/territories as established under the Protocol. Under the new Protocol and bilateral agreement British Columbia will see a small increase in overall allocation of federal funds; this will enable the Province to provide funding stability and predictability to school districts and facilitate the planning and delivery of the French programs in the province.

School districts must produce an annual report containing a financial statement of actual expenditures with a brief description of activities accomplished under each funded category; these reports will be posted on French Programs web site and available to the public.

We have calculated the federal funding allocation in order to ensure that school districts with growth in their enrolment benefitted from the small increase in federal funds and that school districts with no growth maintained last year’s level of funding.

You will find attached the breakdown, by category, of your school district’s total allocation of federal funding for French language instruction. You will receive 70 percent of your school district’s total allocation on February 15, 2010 by electronic transfer. You will find the federal funding breakdown by category and by school district, on the following Ministry of Education web site: <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/frenchprograms/>; an updated version of the French Funding Guide 2009-2010 will be posted at a later date.

Federal funds continue to be targeted for French language programs (Immersion, Intensive and Core French). Funds must be spent in these program areas only.

In order to provide more flexibility, the school districts may move federal funds between the allocated funding categories. School districts will still have to report at the end of school year on second language expenditures for each category.

Again this year, school districts may use some federal funds for teachers' salaries or a coordination position for official French second language activities at the school district level. Please consult the Funding Guide for additional information.

Any school district requiring assistance should contact Nicole Couture, Program Manager at (250) 356-2176.

Sincerely,



Britta Gundersen-Bryden  
Executive Director  
Measurement, Evaluation and International Languages Dept.

Attachments

pc: District French Contacts  
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