

Final Report on Results and Expenditures Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Canada–British-Columbia Agreement on
French Language Services 2024-2028

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Strategic Objective 1 – Service Planning and Corporate Support

1.1 Strengthen the internal capacity of the B.C. Public Service and support implementation of the French Language Policy (FLP)

Federal Funding		Provincial Funding		Expected Outcomes	Target	Status
2024-25	\$795,228	2024-25	\$795,228	• All priority sector ministries increase their capacity to provide services in French.	• 100% of priority sector ministries increase French service capacity	✓
2025-26	\$796,228	2025-26	\$796,228	• Install French-language translation tools, standards, guidelines, and procedures.	• 100% of B.C. public service has access to translation tools, guidelines, etc.	✓
2026-27	\$844,228	2026-27	\$844,228	• Make public content (updates or new) available in French to the public.	• 350,000 words translated for publicly available materials	✓
2027-28	\$844,228	2027-28	\$844,228	• Ensure government information and services reach the target audience.	• 4 meetings held with spokesperson organization to disseminate information	✓
Total:	\$795,228	Total:	\$795,228	• Install evaluation and reporting mechanisms for the French Language Policy.	• 1 annual report on key activities in priority sectors	✓
				• Maintain intergovernmental collaboration to promote vitality of Canadian Francophonie and government services.	• 1 FPT Francophonie ministers conference and 10 senior officials FPT meetings	✓

Highlights

- The Ministry of Citizens’ Services’ Multi-Language Services unit welcomed a new French Communications Specialist in October 2024 to expand their in-house capacity and to develop translation standards and guidelines.
- Santé Ouest, B.C.’s first Francophone health centre, opened in fall 2024.
- The Insurance Corporation of British Columbia, a Crown corporation, developed a French version of its Driving Smart guide.

Priority Sectors

Community engagement-guided priority sectors, which are highlighted throughout this report:





Strategic Objective 1 – Service Planning and Corporate Support

1.2 Service Promotion and Consultations

Federal Funding	Provincial Funding	Expected Outcomes	Target	Status
2024-25 \$52,000	2024-25 \$52,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase engagement activities with BC Francophone community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 engagement activities per priority sector 	✓
2025-26 \$52,000	2025-26 \$52,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase language confidence among the B.C. public service. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 150 15-minute sessions 	✓
2026-27 \$47,000	2026-27 \$47,000			
2027-28 \$47,000	2027-28 \$47,000			
Total: \$52,000	Total: \$52,000			

Highlights

In 2024-2025, 55 current employees of the B.C. Public Service completed language coaching sessions. There were nearly 80 people on the waitlist. Coaches work with participants on developing work-related vocabulary and on building confidence in oral French skills. To participate, employees must be in a public-facing role, work in a priority sector, and/or hold an executive or decision-making position.

Health and Social Development	Justice and Public Safety	Immigration and Employment	Arts and Culture
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Established new relationships between the Community Based Seniors Services branch of the Ministry of Health and Francophone NGOs. New targeted services for francophone seniors expected to launch in 2025–2026. Forged new connections in the health sector recruitment space, culminating in a proposal for a promotion-focused initiative scheduled to begin later in 2025–2026. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing engagement continues between Francophone NGOs and elected and non-elected officials in the areas of public safety and gender-based violence, with the goal of maintaining access to services. Francophone Affairs coordinated with partners, including the Supreme Court of Canada, to participate in a mock trial and justice education day at a local Francophone school. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Engaged Francophone NGOs to participate in and provide feedback on a potential pilot of a new mobile multilanguage service delivery model. Discussions remain ongoing, with interest expressed by both government and Francophone NGOs. Promoted available services through an ad and interview in <i>Le Figaro – Vivre au Canada</i> and developed a multilingual flyer to raise awareness about immigration fraud. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Consulted with B.C. Libraries on approach to outreach and promotion within the Francophone community, including the creation of a map targeting libraries in areas with above-average concentrations of French speakers for promotions. B.C. Francophonie Day celebrations saw strong involvement from ministries: elected officials and public servants from 11 priority sector ministries participated in engagement sessions with representatives from the Francophone NGO sector.



Strategic Objective 2 – Service Delivery in Priority Sectors

2.1 Health and Social Development

Federal Funding	Provincial Funding	Expected Outcomes	Target	Status
2024-25 \$345,000	2024-25 \$1,300,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fulfill all Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) client requests for French interpretation services. • Maintain support services for marginalized Francophone individuals in the Downtown Eastside. • Maintain and/or increase early years education opportunities in French. • Maintain and/or increase number of French titles in public libraries. 	• 700 clients annually	✓
2025-26 \$348,000	2025-26 \$348,000		• 250 clients annually	✓
2026-27 \$322,000	2026-27 \$322,000		• 5 programs available annually	✓
2027-28 \$322,000	2027-28 \$322,000		• 10% increase in titles	✓
Total: \$345,000	Total: \$1,300,000			

Highlights

- The Provincial Language Service at the PHSA coordinated French interpretation services for 2,103 Francophone patients – an 85% increase over the previous year – demonstrating the impact of targeted promotional efforts across print and digital media, as well as outreach at newcomer-focused events.
- 241 Francophone individuals facing poverty and social exclusion received tailored support through ongoing collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction and their service providers.
- Over 100 participants were registered across 10 programs delivered in French to preschool-aged children, focused on play-based francization and socialization activities.
- The provincial French-language digital libraries added 512 new titles (328 eBooks and 184 audiobooks) to existing collections.



Strategic Objective 2 – Service Delivery in Priority Sectors

2.2 Justice and Public Safety

Federal Funding	Provincial Funding	Expected Outcomes	Target	Status
2024-25 \$664,000	2024-25 \$664,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and/or increase French service capacity in the Bilingual Prosecution branch. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 prosecutors and 5 bilingual support staff 	✓
2025-26 \$675,000	2025-26 \$675,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and/or increase French service capacity in broader justice system, including victim services, family law, and legal aid. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 bilingual FTE 	✓
2026-27 \$680,000	2026-27 \$680,000			
2027-28 \$688,000	2027-28 \$688,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and/or increase French service capacity in Residential Tenancy Board branch. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 bilingual FTE 	✓
Total: \$664,000	Total: \$664,000			

Highlights

- The number of proceedings in French continues to increase province-wide, from 106 in 2023-24 to around 200 in 2024-25. While approximately 30 prosecutors are currently enrolled in French training, which was expanded this year to include more regions, the number of prosecutors fully equipped to conduct trials is under 10. To meet increased demand, and in addition to language training, the Bilingual Prosecution branch hired a second legal assistant, and a new bilingual counsel position was added. The branch now includes 6 bilingual support staff.
- French service capacity within the broader justice system (e.g., victim services, family law and legal aid) was maintained, ensuring continued access to justice in both official languages.
- Funding to the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs was allocated to support in-language service delivery through four key bilingual public-facing roles: Information Officer, Arbitrator, Adjudicator, and Manager of Public Education. In addition, the Residential Tenancy Branch launched key French-translated web content in January 2024, ensuring long-term bilingual access to tenancy information for Francophone residents.



Strategic Objective 2 – Service Delivery in Priority Sectors

2.3 Immigration and Employment

Federal Funding	Provincial Funding	Expected Outcomes	Target	Status
2024-25 \$290,000	2024-25 \$290,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attract and retain French-speaking newcomers to B.C. Maintain and/or increase information available to French-speaking small and medium businesses. 	5 promotion and/or recruitment activities annually	✓
2025-26 \$275,000	2025-26 \$275,000		2 to 5 initiatives annually	✓
2026-27 \$253,000	2026-27 \$253,000			
2027-28 \$245,000	2027-28 \$245,000			
Total: \$290,000	Total: \$290,000	Highlights		

- Six promotion/recruitment activities were completed, along with complementary campaigns and Francophone NGO collaboration, including 4 at the international level:
 - ✓ BC Economic Development Association Conference (Penticton, May 2024)
 - ✓ Francophone Immigration Update Session (online, Nov 2024)
 - ✓ Groupe des ambassadeurs Francophones (Vancouver, Feb 2025)
 - ✓ Destination Canada (Feb-March 2025, Paris/Douala/online)
 - ✓ Go Entrepreneurs (Paris, France, April 2025)
 - ✓ Emigratiebeurs (Utrecht, Netherlands, April 2025)
- Multiple initiatives supported engagement with French-speaking small and medium businesses through community and regional outreach.
 - ✓ Introduced Francophone economic development partners to regional local governments and communities to support recruitment of French-speaking entrepreneurs and workers and improve program outcomes.
 - ✓ Bilingual engagement team job titles were translated and added to email signatures, improving accessibility and visibility of French-language support for business stakeholders.
 - ✓ Regular engagement with SDECB, FFCB, and others to ensure information on immigration pathways reaches small businesses seeking to hire or attract French-speaking newcomers.



Strategic Objective 2 – Service Delivery in Priority Sectors

2.4 Arts and Culture

Federal Funding	Provincial Funding
2024-25 \$50,000	2024-25 \$50,000
2025-26 \$50,000	2025-26 \$50,000
2026-27 \$50,000	2026-27 \$50,000
2027-28 \$50,000	2027-28 \$50,000
Total: \$50,000	Total: \$50,000

Expected Outcomes	Target	Status
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- Promote visibility of the Francophonie in BC.
- 4 events supported annually



Highlights

- B.C. Francophonie Day at the Legislature is the marquee event celebrating the vitality and vibrancy of B.C.'s Francophone community, with Francophone culture prominently featured during the event and in the House statement. This year's celebration highlighted the justice sector's significant progress in expanding French-language service capacity. Parallel meetings between the Francophone NGO community and government strengthened collaboration and advanced shared priorities.
- Targeted investments in two youth-focused initiatives promoted civic engagement and created opportunities for Francophone culture to blossom. These activities helped strengthen social bonds among Francophone youth from across the province, which is an essential factor in language retention, sense of belonging, and community vitality.
- SFU's *Printemps de la francophonie* event is a key contributor to the visibility and celebration of French language and culture in B.C. The 15th edition in 2024-25 showcased a dynamic lineup of academic, artistic, cultural, and professional programming open to both the SFU community and the broader public.
- Société Francophone de Victoria and Visions-Ouest Productions collaborated to bring Quebec films to the 2025 Victoria International Film Festival. In addition to film screenings in French, the organizers facilitated a public event for audience engagement featuring a Quebec film industry professional. This initiative not only broadens the cultural offerings in French in Victoria but also offers an ideal platform to showcase French-language cinema and highlight the cultural richness of Francophone storytelling.



From L to R: Hon. Adrian Dix, Sandra Mandanici, Parliamentary Secretary Amna Shah, Hon. Garry Begg, Justice Geoffrey Gaul

