

Implementation Plan – French Language Policy 2024-2028

Preamble

Announced on January 5, 2024, and implemented as of April 1, 2024, the French Language Policy helps ministries incrementally increase their capacity to provide services in French across the province, based on needs and available resources.

The policy supports ministries through increased engagement, coordination, and planning activities.

Implementation Plan

The plan identifies priority sectors and initiatives that will support the implementation of the policy and the continued development of government services available in French. The plan covers the period from April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2028.

As needed, the plan can be updated to reflect emerging needs and/or available resources.

The implementation plan focuses on two main strategic objectives:

1. Strengthen the internal capacity of the B.C. public service.
2. Maintain and/or increase the availability of French-language services in priority areas.

1. Strengthen the Internal Capacity of the B.C. Public Service

Goal: Promote the implementation of the French Language Policy within the public service.

Desired Result: Ministries consider the needs and priorities of Francophones in decision-making, program development, and/or service delivery, particularly in priority areas.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1						
Priority Areas	Action Items	2024	2025	2026	2027	Targeted Outcomes
Promotion	IGRS to raise awareness of and lead implementation of the French Language Policy within the B.C. public service and public facing Crown Corporations.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Increased awareness of French Language Policy and Francophone community.
	IGRS, in collaboration with B.C. Francophone Federation and/or other Francophone organizations, to promote visibility and diversity of the B.C. Francophone community with ministries.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Engagement	Maintain and/or increase engagement activities with Francophone stakeholders in priority sectors. IGRS to facilitate where appropriate.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Service Standards	Support translation of government publications, web content, and news releases in French. Establish guidelines and procedures on translated content, display, consistency, and timeliness.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Guidelines, procedures, and standards are established and updated as required.

Service Standards	IGRS to work with ministries to maintain an inventory of information and services available in French and to actively promote their availability to the Francophone community (e.g., signage).	✓	✓	✓	✓	Guidelines, procedures, and standards are established and updated as required.
Language Coaching	Offer language coaching and cross-cultural awareness to B.C. public service staff. Priority focus on staff who already have an intermediate level in French and have a public-facing and/or leadership role.	✓	✓	✓	✓	B.C. public service staff have increased linguistic security in French.
	Generate awareness of French language training providers available in B.C.	✓	✓	✓	✓	

2. Maintain and/or Increase the Government's Capacity to Provide Services in French.

Goal: Support ministries in the delivery of French-language services.

Desired Result: Ministries maintain and/or increase their capacity to provide information and services to Francophones.

Priority Sectors:

1. Education
2. Health and Social Development
3. Justice and Public Safety
4. Immigration and Employment
5. Arts and Culture

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2						
Priority Sectors	Action Items	2024	2025	2026	2027	Targeted Outcomes
Education						
Early Years	Support province-wide Francophone childcare resource and referral services.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Maintain and/or increase information and services available to French-speaking residents.
	Maintain and/or increase recruitment of early childhood educators.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Education	Continue to support learners in Francophone and French immersion programs throughout B.C.	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Labour Market Training	Invest in initiatives that support French teacher recruitment and retention and meet the growing demand for French education programs in B.C.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Maintain and/or increase information and services available to French-speaking residents.
	Deliver information sessions on labour market training programs available to Francophone employers.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Translation	Update existing translated content and/or translate new, priority content into French.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Health and Social Development						
Health	Maintain Francophone Navigator role with the Provincial Health Services Authority.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Maintain and/or increase information and services available to French-speaking residents.
	Explore mechanisms to reduce language barriers, enhance patient safety, and improve the quality and outcomes of care by identifying and integrating preferred official languages into digital health platforms.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Maintain and/or expand Video Remote Interpreting (live video calls) in all Health Authorities and French language training to health care providers (priority focus on providers who directly interact with patients).	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Establish a Francophone community health centre in Metro Vancouver Area.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Social Development	Maintain and/or increase French-language titles available in B.C. public libraries.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Maintain existing Francophone service capacity in the Downtown Eastside providing wide-ranging support to marginalized clients.	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Translation	Update existing translated content, and/or translate new, priority content into French.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Maintain and/or increase information and services available to French-speaking residents.
Justice and Public Safety						
Justice	Maintain and/or increase existing capacity within the Bilingual Prosecution Services Branch.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Maintain and/or increase information and services available to French-speaking residents.
	Maintain and/or increase information and service capacity within the Justice Service Branch and Legal Aid B.C.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Maintain and/or increase information and service capacity within the Residential Tenancy Branch.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Public Safety	Maintain and/or increase Community Safety and Victim Services Branch to provide information and services in French.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Maintain and/or increase information and services to prevent violence and/or support victims of violence.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Translation	Update existing translated content, and/or translate new, priority content into French.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Immigration and Employment						
Immigration	B.C. Provincial Nominee Program (PNP) to maintain and/or increase promotion and recruitment activities targeting French-speaking	✓	✓	✓	✓	Attract and retain French-speaking newcomers to B.C.

Immigration	skilled workers in priority occupations such as health care, etc.					Attract and retain French-speaking newcomers to B.C.
	B.C. PNP to maintain and/or increase attraction of French-speaking entrepreneurs in collaboration with regional communities and Francophone partners.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Provide in person or virtual settlement services to Francophone newcomers.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Employment	Maintain service quality through existing 19 designated bilingual FR/EN WorkBC centres, bilingual WorkBC online employment service application portal, and bilingual WorkBC app.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Maintain and/or increase information and services available to French-speaking residents.
	Maintain and/or increase information sharing and service quality and referral mechanism, where appropriate, between WorkBC centres and Francophone employment service providers.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Translation	Update existing translated content, and/or translate new, priority content into French.	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Arts and Culture						
Celebrations and Events	Assist Francophone stakeholders in navigating and connecting with provincial government arts and culture funding opportunities.	✓	✓	✓	✓	Promote the vitality of the B.C. Francophonie.
	B.C. Francophonie Day Proclamation and event.	✓	✓	✓	✓	