



AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

WITH RESPECT TO THE FRANCOPHONIE

IN THIS AGREEMENT,

THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC IS REPRESENTED BY:

The Minister responsible for Canadian Relations and the Canadian Francophonie

and

THE GOVERNMENT OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND IS REPRESENTED BY:

The Premier and Minister responsible for Acadian and Francophone Affairs.

The governments of Quebec and Prince Edward Island are hereinafter referred to as "the Parties".

WHEREAS Quebec and Prince Edward Island have maintained relations with respect to the Francophonie since concluding on August 19, 1989, a first Cooperation and Exchange Agreement and both societies include a population that is attached to the French language and to Francophone cultures, and both want to support and strengthen the richness and diversity of the Francophonie;

WHEREAS on the one hand, Quebec is the only Francophone state in North America and as such intends to exercise collaborative leadership with respect to the Francophonie and, on the other hand, the Acadian and Francophone community has been deeply rooted on Prince Edward Island since the early 18th century, and this community and the French language enjoy official recognition in that province;

WHEREAS the government of Prince Edward Island is determined to support the Acadian and Francophone community and to preserve the French language on Prince Edward Island for future generations;

WHEREAS the government of Quebec wishes to support the development of the Francophone and Acadian communities and to ensure the long-term future of the French fact in Canada and, in order to do so, it intends to draw on the assistance of the 2.6 million Francophones and Francophiles residing in Canada outside Quebec, thereby ensuring the determining role of the French language in the foundation of Canadian society;

WHEREAS both governments wish to demonstrate the importance of their historical relations and intend to continue, and even deepen, their close collaboration so that it may further contribute to maintaining and fostering the French fact in Canada, by multiplying relations and exchanges between Quebecois and Acadians, Francophones and Francophiles on Prince Edward Island;

WHEREAS both governments are determined that this desire for cooperation be translated into concrete actions, thus ensuring the promotion, development and vitality of the French language and Francophone cultures;

WHEREAS on September 30, 2009, the governments of Quebec and Prince Edward Island entered into a second Cooperation and Exchange Agreement with respect to the Francophonie and they deem it appropriate to renew and enhance this agreement.

THE PARTIES AGREE TO SHARE AND EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND EXPERTISE AND TO COOPERATE IN A NUMBER OF AREAS, INCLUDING EDUCATION, CULTURE, YOUTH, FRENCH LANGUAGE, ECONOMY, COMMUNICATIONS, HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, EARLY CHILDHOOD, IMMIGRATION, TOURISM, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, STATUS OF WOMEN AND JUSTICE.

Title I: EDUCATION

Article 1

The Parties will facilitate cooperation and exchanges allowing teachers, school administrators and specialists in Francophone education in Quebec and Prince Edward Island to participate in professional development activities and will encourage exchanges of pupils, students and teachers from educational institutions at the primary, secondary, college and university levels.

Article 2

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges of information concerning access by young Francophones to post-secondary education in their language in order to provide them, among other things, with more opportunities to pursue their learning and choose a career in French.

Article 3

The Parties will encourage the development and dissemination of best practices regarding expectations and attitudes that foster the use of the French language and the development of a cultural identity among young people.

Title II: CULTURE

Article 4

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges in all sectors of arts and heritage, such as literature, music, performing arts, visual arts, folklore, crafts, museology, libraries and archives, not merely to contribute to the vitality of Acadian and Francophone culture by offering more cultural products, but also to make various artists and creators in both provinces better known.

Article 5

The Parties will encourage tours by authors and creators within educational institutions at the primary, secondary, college and university levels.

Title III: YOUTH

Article 6

The Parties will encourage exchanges whereby young people can become engaged in their own success and get to know each other better, thereby contributing to the development of Francophone culture, to joint activities between youth from both provinces, to the affirmation of their leadership and to the strengthening of their identity and sense of belonging to the Canadian Francophonie.

Title IV: FRENCH LANGUAGE

Article 7

The Parties will encourage exchanges on linguistic policy and French-language terminology, as well as on the language industries and French-language resources within new information and communication technologies.

Title V: ECONOMY

Article 8

The Parties will encourage cooperation among Francophone economic development organizations in all fields deemed relevant to developing economic exchanges in French, and they will work together to promote Francophone entrepreneurship and improve business practices in French.

Article 9

The Parties will collaborate on exploratory missions to encourage the establishment of effective collaboration, thus increasing the practice of business in French.

Title VI: COMMUNICATIONS

Article 10

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges related to French-language communications. These exchanges will foster joint projects in the fields of audio-visual production, computer science, information, production and distribution of CDs and videos, community media and new technologies, in a perspective of overall development of communications in French.

Title VII: HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Article 11

The Parties will encourage exchanges of information and expertise on health and social services, especially with regard to training, terminology and service delivery in French.

Title VIII: EARLY CHILDHOOD

Article 12

The Parties will encourage exchanges of information and expertise in the area of early childhood, particularly with respect to policies, programs, training and delivery of French-language services.

Title IX: IMMIGRATION

Article 13

The Parties will share their expertise and best practices in the area of immigration, selection of Francophone immigrants, integration and successful settlement of newcomers, francization, education, training of settlement workers and teachers, and on-line francization programs.

Title X: TOURISM

Article 14

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges in the various sectors of activity of their respective tourist industries. These exchanges will involve practices with respect to tourist reception and information, French-language training in tourism, the use of new technologies in tourism, the development of products, and promotional activities designed to support the marketing of these products.

The Parties agree to cooperate closely to establish projects that promote the discovery and preservation of the Francophone heritage in Canada, particularly the *Réseau des villes francophones et francophiles d'Amérique* (North American Francophone and Francophile Cities Network), and a tourism and heritage circuit of the Canadian Francophonie.

Title XI: PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Article 15

The Parties will encourage and facilitate exchanges of civil servants, allowing them to share experiences, establish contacts and promote training and professional development for public-sector employees, including, but not exclusively with respect to acquiring and improving French language skills.

TITLE XII: RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Article 16

The Parties will encourage collaborations among rural development groups, institutions, organizations and businesses to foster exchanges about best practices and the use of information and communication technologies, the sharing of knowledge and the transfer of strategic know-how to support the Acadian and Francophone community in its development.

TITLE XIII: STATUS OF WOMEN

Article 17

The Parties will encourage cooperation on issues pertaining to Francophone women in both provinces, especially by sharing expertise and best practices.

TITLE XIV: JUSTICE

Article 18

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges to increase access to justice services in French and to improve the language skills of personnel in the justice system, particularly through training and promotion of activities in French.

Title XV: OTHER AREAS OF COOPERATION

Article 19

The Parties will exchange information and expertise and cooperate in any other area deemed to be relevant to the Francophonie and in accordance with the general objectives of this agreement.

Title XVI: IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

Article 20

The Quebec Minister responsible for Canadian Relations and the Canadian Francophonie and the Prince Edward Island Minister responsible for Acadian and Francophone Affairs shall meet at least once every two years to share and discuss developments with respect to the Canadian Francophonie and to adopt Five-Year Action Priorities in areas deemed to be priorities by the Parties.

Article 21

In order to develop the Five-Year Action Priorities, a tripartite meeting will be held including representatives of the Quebec *Secrétariat aux affaires intergouvernementales canadiennes*, the Prince Edward Island Acadian and Francophone Affairs Secretariat and the Société Saint-Thomas-d'Aquin, the organization representing Prince Edward Island's Acadian and Francophone community. The purpose of this meeting will be to identify priority areas for action over the next five years that will be recommended to the ministers.

The Parties, following consultation with the organization representing Prince Edward Island's Acadian and Francophone community, will target initiatives that fall within the scope of the priority areas for action and that are expected to provide structure and significant impacts to the Canadian Francophonie and to enhance the vitality and development of Prince Edward Island's Acadian and Francophone community. They will also ensure the promotion of such initiatives.

Article 22

Every year, a Standing Cooperation Commission consisting of senior officials responsible for the Canadian Francophonie within the Quebec *Secrétariat aux affaires intergouvernementales canadiennes* and the Prince Edward Island Acadian and Francophone Affairs Secretariat will meet in person or communicate by teleconference or videoconference, to assess the results achieved over the preceding year, identify proposed directions for the upcoming year and submit recommendations to their respective ministers in this regard.

Title XVII: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 23

The Parties will determine and allocate each year, upon mutual agreement and in accordance with the budgetary processes and policies in effect within their respective governments, the necessary funds to implement this agreement. Allocation of monies for the funding of projects under this agreement is subject to appropriation by their respective legislatures.

The Parties will each allocate, annually, at least the following amounts to fund the cooperation activities under this agreement:

- \$35,000 in 2017-2018;
- \$40,000 in 2018-2019;
- \$45,000 in 2019-2020;
- \$50,000 in 2020-2021;
- \$55,000 in 2021-2022.

For subsequent fiscal years, the sum will be agreed upon by the Parties as part of the Five-Year Action Priorities.

Article 24

This agreement, which replaces the Cooperation and Exchange Agreement between the Government of Quebec and the Government of Prince Edward Island with respect to the Francophonie concluded on September 30, 2009, shall take effect upon being signed by the Parties. This agreement may be amended upon written consent of the Parties and may be terminated by either of the Parties upon at least six months' notice in writing.

SIGNED THIS 23rd DAY OF JANUARY 2017, IN BOTH FRENCH AND ENGLISH,
EACH VERSION BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC,

H. Wade MacLauchlan
Premier and Minister responsible for
Acadian and Francophone Affairs

Jean-Marc Fournier
Minister responsible for Canadian
Relations and the Canadian Francophonie