

Québec 


New Nouveau
Brunswick

AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE

IN RELATION TO THE FRANCOPHONIE

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF QUÉBEC

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW BRUNSWICK

AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE IN RELATION TO THE FRANCOPHONIE

BETWEEN: **THE GOVERNMENT OF QUÉBEC**, as represented by the Minister responsible for Canadian Relations and the Canadian Francophonie,

AND: **THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW BRUNSWICK**, as represented by the Minister of Economic Development and Minister responsible for La Francophonie.

The Government of Québec and the Government of New Brunswick are hereafter referred to collectively as the "Parties."

CONSIDERING THAT the Government of Québec and the Government of New Brunswick signed an agreement for cooperation and exchange, in June 2005, and they deem it advisable to update and enhance that agreement;

CONSIDERING THAT the Government of Québec and the Government of New Brunswick have maintained relations on the Francophonie since the conclusion, in 1969, of the first agreement for cooperation and exchange and that both societies have a French-speaking population and want to support and strengthen the wealth and diversity of the Francophonie.

CONSIDERING THAT Québec, as the only Francophone state in North America, and New Brunswick, as the only officially bilingual province in Canada with a Francophone and Acadian community rooted in its land, plan to exercise joint unifying leadership of the Francophonie;

CONSIDERING THAT the Government of Québec wants to support the development of the Francophone and Acadian communities and ensure the survival of French in Canada and that, in order to do so, it intends to rely on the 2.6 million Francophones and Francophiles in Canada outside Québec, thereby ensuring the determining role of the French language in the founding of Canadian society;

CONSIDERING THAT the Government of New Brunswick, in its relations with the other provinces and territories, is seeking to increase the opportunities for its Francophone community to benefit from its cultural and linguistic heritage and to preserve it for generations to come;

CONSIDERING THAT the governments of Québec and New Brunswick are determined to ensure that this cooperation will secure crucial advantages for the future of their respective communities, translated by concerted action in the fields deemed relevant by the Parties, thus ensuring the promotion, development, and vitality of the French language and French-speaking cultures in their jurisdictions and throughout French-speaking Canada;

NOW THEREFORE, THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

Section I: OBJECTIVE OF THE AGREEMENT

Article 1

Through this agreement, the Parties agree to share and exchange their expertise and best practices for the development and strengthening of French in Québec and New Brunswick and to cooperate in several fields, including the economy, rural, local, and regional development, immigration, education, tourism, the arts, culture and communications, employment and income security, youth, early childhood, and the family, health and social services, and the French language, under the terms and conditions mentioned in the following articles.

Section II: ECONOMY

Article 2

The Parties will encourage cooperation between Francophone economic promotion organizations in all fields considered relevant to the development of economic exchanges in French.

Section III: RURAL, LOCAL, AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Article 3

The Parties will encourage cooperation between groups, institutions, organizations, and companies in the field of rural, local, and regional development that promote exchanges on best practices and the use of information and communication technologies, the sharing of knowledge, and the transfer of strategic expertise designed to support the Francophone communities in their development.

Section IV: IMMIGRATION

Article 4

The Parties will share their expertise and best practices on immigration, more specifically in the selection of French-speaking immigrants; the retention, integration, and sustainable settlement of immigrants; francization, teaching, training of workers and teaching staff; and online francization programs.

Section V: EDUCATION

Article 5

The Parties will take part in joint projects designed to enable them to take up the common challenges of the two French-language education systems, such as the consequences of declining demography, retention of quality education services in remote areas, integration of culture into the curriculum and teaching practices, and welcoming and integrating immigrant children.

Article 6

The Parties will encourage the development and circulation of successful practices with regard to the expectations and attitudes that will encourage the use of the French language and the development of a culture of identity among young people.

Article 7

The Parties will exchange expertise on programs and methods for all levels of education in French in order to improve practices in this area.

Article 8

The Parties will both look into the possibility of taking part in the various internship and exchange programs (students, teachers, and administrators) in Canada or abroad currently managed by either government.

Section VI: TOURISM

Article 9

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges in the various activity sectors of their respective tourist industries. Such exchanges will involve visitor and tourist information practices, the use of new tourism technologies, and product development.

The Parties agree to work closely together to implement projects that will foster the discovery and preservation of Francophone cultural heritage in Canada, including the *Réseau des villes francophones et francophiles d'Amérique* (North American network of francophone and francophile cities) and a heritage, cultural, and tourism corridor of French-speaking Canada.

Section VII: ARTS, CULTURE, AND COMMUNICATIONS

Article 10

The Parties will implement programs and carry out activities to encourage cooperation and exchanges in the cultural sector, including communications. These programs will contribute to building French pride in Québec and New Brunswick or elsewhere in Canada, and to the development and promotion of knowledge of the cultures and heritage of Francophone communities. They will also encourage cooperation, especially in cultural policies and programs.

Article 11

The Parties will encourage cooperation initiatives that recognize the contribution of immigrants to the diversity of the Canadian Francophonie.

Section VIII: EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME SECURITY

Article 12

The Parties will exchange expertise on policies and programs related to their respective labour markets.

Article 13

The Parties will exchange their expertise on their policies and programs in French on social assistance and the fight against poverty and social exclusion.

Section IX: YOUTH

Article 14

The Parties will facilitate exchanges and will encourage joint initiatives between Francophone youth organizations so they can get to know one another better and to promote the participation of young people in joint activities.

SECTION X: EARLY CHILDHOOD AND FAMILY

Article 15

The Parties will encourage exchanges of expertise and best practices in the area of early childhood, especially in relation to training and the delivery of services in French.

Article 16

The Parties will share their needs planning practices in relation to day care services, evaluation of the quality of these services, and evaluation of physical facilities.

Article 17

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges of best practices in the area of policies and programs related to childhood and the family.

Section XI: HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Article 18

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges of expertise in health and social services, especially in relation to training, terminology, and the delivery of services in French.

Section XII: FRENCH LANGUAGE

Article 19

The Parties will share their expertise in the promotion of French and will encourage the exchange of specialists.

Article 20

The Parties will contribute to increased exchanges of terminology and standardization of the French language.

Article 21

The Parties will exchange expertise on the management and implementation of their government's language policies.

Section XIII: EXCHANGE OR TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION

Article 22

The Parties agree that any exchange or transmission of the information set out in this Agreement, including personal or confidential information, will occur in compliance with the laws of each of the Parties in relation to access to information and protection of private information.

Section XIV: MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Article 23

The Parties will form a cooperation committee for the purpose of implementing this agreement, composed of their respective representatives from, on the one hand, the *Secrétariat du Québec aux relations canadiennes* and, on the other hand, the Canadian Francophonie and Official Languages Branch of the Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat of the Government of New Brunswick.

The cooperation committee will meet in person, by teleconference, or by videoconference:

- 1) annually to assess the results obtained during the fiscal year ended; to identify avenues for action and initiatives whose impacts are considered structuring and meaningful for the fiscal year to come; and, if applicable, to make recommendations to the Parties, including amendments to be made to the Agreement;
- 2) every five years from the effective date of this Agreement, in order to recommend five-year action priorities to the Parties that take into account the needs of the Francophone and Acadian communities and amendments to be made to the Agreement if applicable.

Article 24

The Parties will meet in person, by teleconference or by videoconference at least once every two years to discuss and review the topic of the Canadian Francophonie and to discuss recommendations formulated by the cooperation committee, if applicable.

Section XV: FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Article 25

Subject to the budget resources available and the approval of the appropriate authorities of each government, each Party agrees to allocate the amounts mentioned hereafter for the implementation of the Agreement.

The Parties will each allocate an annual amount of \$200,000 for the 2017-2018 to 2019-2020 fiscal years to fund the cooperation activities set out under this Agreement.

For subsequent fiscal years, the amounts required for the implementation of the Agreement will be agreed upon between the Parties in terms of the five-year action priorities and will be subject to the approval of the appropriate authorities of each government.

Section XVI: COMING INTO FORCE, AMENDMENT, CANCELLATION

Article 26

This Agreement is deemed to take effect on the date it is signed by all the Parties.

This Agreement replaces the Agreement for Cooperation and Exchange between the Government of Québec and the Government of New Brunswick in Relation to the Francophonie, signed on June 3, 2005.

This Agreement may be amended by an amending agreement written and signed by the Parties, subject to the necessary government approvals.

This Agreement may be cancelled by either Party by means of prior written notice of at least six months by one Party to the other.

Made in Fredericton, New Brunswick, this 18th day of January, 2018, in four copies, two in French and two in English, each version being equally authentic.

THE GOVERNMENT OF QUÉBEC,
per:

THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW
BRUNSWICK, per:

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

Francine Landry
Minister of Economic Development and
Minister responsible for La Francophonie