

**Supplement to the Annual Report**

**1995-96**

# **Official Languages**



**Summary of 1995-96 status reports and  
1996-1997 or multi-year action plans  
prepared by key federal Institutions  
for implementation of section 41 of the  
Official Languages Act**

Copies of this publication may be obtained from:

Communications Branch  
Canadian Heritage  
Hull (Québec)  
K1A 0M5  
Tel.: (819) 994-6625  
Fax: (819) 953-8770  
Internet: <http://www.pch.gc.ca/offlangoff>

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## INTRODUCTION

The federal government's determination to help enhance the vitality of the official-language minority communities was first given concrete form by the addition, in 1988, of an amendment to the *Official Languages Act*. This amendment, which forms Part VII of the 1988 Act, deals with the advancement of English and French in Canada and abroad. To strengthen the provisions of Part VII of the Act, in August 1994 the federal government approved the development of an accountability framework for the implementation of sections 41 and 42 of the *Official Languages Act*. Under section 41, the federal government is committed to fostering the full recognition and use of both English and French in Canadian society and enhancing the vitality of the English and French linguistic minority communities throughout Canada. The August 1994 commitment is intended to ensure the active participation of 27 federal departments and agencies in the development and enhanced vitality of the official-language minority communities. Section 42 assigns the Minister of Canadian Heritage the role of encouraging and promoting a coordinated approach by federal departments and agencies to the implementation of these commitments.

The accountability framework set out in August 1994 targets mainly the cultural, economic and human resources development sectors. Accordingly, the designated departments and agencies must prepare an annual or multi-year action plan after consulting the official-language minority communities regarding their specific needs. These action plans are submitted to the Minister of Canadian Heritage, who reports on them in the annual report she tables in Parliament. The departments and agencies in question must also submit status reports to the Minister of Canadian Heritage.

Pursuant to a recommendation the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages made in June 1996 in order to make federal departments and agencies more accountable for the implementation of section 41 of the *Official Languages Act*, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Canadian Heritage and the President of the Treasury Board signed a memorandum of understanding, in the winter of 1996, in which the Treasury Board Secretariat makes a commitment to encourage federal departments and agencies to incorporate activities related to the implementation of section 41 into their strategic planning and evaluation process. This new partnership opens the way to greater involvement by federal departments and agencies in the development of the official-language minority communities.

As its title indicates, this document has two parts. The first presents the status report on the first series of action plans, covering fiscal year 1995-1996. The second contains a summary of measures included in the 1996-1997 or multi-year action plans of key federal departments and agencies. The detailed action plans and status reports are available from the national coordinators whose names and telephone numbers appear at the end of each summary. These documents can also be consulted at the Library of Parliament.

## **Part I**

# **Summary of 1995-1996 status reports**

## Table of Contents

<b>Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Business Development Bank of Canada</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>Canada Council</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>Canada Post Corporation</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Canadian Broadcasting Corporation</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>Canadian International Development Agency</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>Department of Canadian Heritage</b> .....	<b>13</b>
<b>Department of Citizenship and Immigration</b> .....	<b>16</b>
<b>Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade</b> .....	<b>18</b>
<b>Department of Health</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<b>Department of Human Resources Development</b> .....	<b>21</b>
<b>Department of Justice</b> .....	<b>23</b>
<b>Department of Western Economic Diversification</b> .....	<b>25</b>
<b>Federal Office of Regional Development (Quebec)</b> .....	<b>26</b>
<b>Industry Canada</b> .....	<b>28</b>
<b>International Development Research Centre</b> .....	<b>30</b>
<b>National Arts Centre</b> .....	<b>32</b>
<b>National Capital Commission</b> .....	<b>33</b>
<b>National Film Board of Canada</b> .....	<b>35</b>
<b>Public Works and Government Services Canada</b> .....	<b>37</b>
<b>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada</b> .....	<b>38</b>
<b>Statistics Canada</b> .....	<b>39</b>
<b>Status of Women Canada</b> .....	<b>41</b>
<b>Telefilm Canada</b> .....	<b>42</b>

# ATLANTIC CANADA OPPORTUNITIES AGENCY

**Responsible minister:** The Honourable John Manley  
**President:** David Nicholson

## 1. Principal achievements at the regional level

- The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) helped fund and prepare a second series of 20 television broadcasts entitled *Temps d'Affaires* in cooperation with the *Société Radio Canada Atlantique* and Human Resources Development Canada, among others. This project of the *Conseil économique du Nouveau-Brunswick* depicts economic and entrepreneurial phenomena that influence everybody's daily lives. *Temps d'Affaires* is broadcast on the SRC Atlantique network and on the *Réseau de l'information* (RDI).
- The *Conseil économique du Nouveau-Brunswick*, in cooperation with ACOA, conducted a study-survey of Francophone entrepreneurs in the Atlantic region. The study looks at the reasons why people set up their own business, the support they look for when getting started, how their needs and growth strategies change and the role of advisors in making business decisions.

## 2. Principal achievements at the provincial level

### Nova Scotia

- As it has been doing since 1989, ACOA continued to work in close cooperation with the *Le Centre Jodrey* and provide funding to allow it to continue its work among small businesses in the Francophone regions of southwest Nova Scotia.
- ACOA helped organize a workshop on creating a business that was held in *Le Centre Jodrey* on November 30, 1995. One of the things to come out of this workshop was an Acadian entrepreneurship working group.
- ACOA also provided financial assistance to the *Collège de l'Acadie* in Dartmouth to establish a profile of the commercial activities of the Francophone population of Halifax-Dartmouth. The study made it possible for the *Collège de l'Acadie* to identify ways of making business people aware of the courses offered to the business community and to identify entrepreneurship opportunities.
- ACOA helped the *Fédération acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse* (FANE) to conduct a study of cultural industries in Nova Scotia. The data from this study are useful for evaluating the economic impact of Grand-Pré National Park.
- The Enterprise Cape Breton Corporation (ECBC), which is responsible for carrying out ACOA programs in Cape Breton, provided financial support to the *Centre La Picasse*, a cultural, entrepreneurship and community centre in Petit-de-Grat.
- The ECBC, in cooperation with the *Commission de développement économique de Chéticamp*, took part in various projects initiated by the community to reduce its dependence

on the fishery and diversify its economy. These include projects related to the tourism infrastructure, the reconversion of the harbour and other projects related to *Cabot 500*. It also participated in the preparation of economic development strategies for the communities of Chéticamp and Île Madame, and hired a Francophone officer in Chéticamp to ensure liaison with the community.

### **New Brunswick**

- The ACOA office in New Brunswick has an extended network of district offices (Bathurst, Saint John, Fredericton, and Grand Falls) where experienced staff have acquired a good understanding of the Francophone communities' economic development needs. This network allows it to serve these communities effectively in their own region.
- ACOA provided financial support to the *Centre de recherche et de développement en entrepreneuriat* for its first Francophone forum on information technologies, which was held in Shippigan in the spring of 1996.

### **Newfoundland**

- ACOA continued to work with the *Association régionale de la Côte-Ouest* (ARCO) on an economic development project in the Port au Port peninsula. ACOA officers met with ARCO's representatives to discuss the status of the work and the next steps. The principal issues to be dealt with are 1) the Association's dependence on public funds for its core funding, 2) ACOA's involvement in the activities of the region's new zonal commission, and 3) its responsibility for job creation and the development of small businesses in the region.
- ACOA held weekly meetings with ARCO's economic development coordinator to discuss the status of the agreements concluded with ACOA and the operations of the *Fédération des francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador*.
- ACOA participated actively in the implementation of a community education project intended to examine new education and training measures for rural communities (indirect link with the Francophone communities).

### **Prince Edward Island**

- In Prince Edward Island, ACOA contributed financially to various projects and activities sponsored by the *Société de développement de la Baie Acadienne*, the *Société éducative de l'Île-du-Prince-Edouard*, the *Association touristique Évangéline* and various private sector applicants.

*NOTE: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*

## **3. Distribution of status report**

- The Department sent its status report to official-language minority organizations and to the Commissioner of Official Languages.

Lucienne Godbout (506) 851-2091  
National Coordinator

## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BANK OF CANADA

**Responsible minister:** The Honourable John Manley  
**President:** Francois Beaudoin

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- The Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) participated in various meetings organized by the Department of Canadian Heritage across the country. These meetings helped the Bank gain a higher profile among members of minority communities. The Bank also held consultations with various groups, including business organizations representing official-language minority communities.
- The Bank amended its corporate policy on official languages to include a specific section on its commitment to comply with Part VII of the *Official Languages Act*.
- Within the context of its new mandate and the creation of the position of Bank ombudsperson, the BDBC adopted a Charter of Client Rights, which calls for the Bank to meet its obligations in the area of official languages.

### 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- To provide minority communities with better information about Bank products and services, the Bank regularly places ads in minority-language publications. More specifically, as part of a targeted advertising campaign in February 1996, ads were placed in 38 minority-language publications.
- To inform people about the BDBC, employees participated in business luncheons, seminars, and trade fairs and exhibitions in the course of which they had the opportunity to give numerous presentations on Bank products and services.
- The Bank held business management training sessions for the Francophone community in Whitehorse, and gave sessions on how to start a business to some hundred participants in Ottawa.
- The Bank also gave training sessions on various themes in Timmins and Hearst.
- Other training courses were proposed to *Collège Boréal*, and the Bank gave a workshop entitled "Cherchez-vous un emploi?" in cooperation with the *Collège* at a job fair in Sudbury.
- The Bank took part in a round table on implementing the plan for a community centre in Yellowknife and provided technical support in the initial stages of the project.
- As part of a project to create a community centre in Maillardville/Coquitlam, the New Westminster Branch signed a contract with the *Société Maillardville-Uni* to conduct a study with a view to making recommendations on ways to make the facility self-financing.



- The manager of the St. John's Branch serves on a Francophone steering committee set up to coordinate government support for initiatives by the Francophone community in Newfoundland.
- In the Sherbrooke region, the Bank serves on the boards of directors of both AIESEC at Bishop's University and the Townshippers' Association. The Bank participated in the annual Bankers Day at Bishop's and gave an entrepreneurship training session at the University. The Bank also received a business launch assignment from Citizen's Advocacy.
- In the Montreal region, the Bank organized meetings to let various members of the Anglophone communities know about its ISO and NEXPRO products. It also delivered a management seminar entitled "Advertising & Promo" to twenty Anglophone small businesses in Montreal and a management seminar to the Kahnawake Chamber of Commerce.
- In the Hull region, and specifically in Pontiac, the Bank gave a presentation on its family business program to a group of Anglophone farmers.

*NOTE: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*

### **3. Distribution of status report**

- The Bank sent its status report to some fifty associations representing the official-language minority communities across the country.
- The Bank also sent its status report to all the managers in its 17 sectors, accompanied by a note to remind employees of the rationale for the action plan and the status report.
- Bank employees who are members of chambers of commerce or associations for members of official-language minorities will be able to distribute copies of the report at their association's activities.

Jeanne Girard (514) 283-5279  
*National Coordinator*

## CANADA COUNCIL

**Responsible minister:** The Honourable Sheila Copps  
**Director:** Roch Carrier

### 1. Principal achievements

- The Council devoted most of its efforts to translating its strategic plan into action. The main objective of the plan, entitled *A Design for the Future*, is to maintain the Council's budget for grants to artists and reduce its administrative costs by 50% over three years.
- The Council reviewed the criteria and budgets of all its programs in light of the strategic priorities: the Council will focus its assistance on creation, production and distribution.
- The Council increased its resources for distribution, particularly for tours of visual arts, media arts and interdisciplinary arts shows, exhibitions and displays, and for Canadian literature. This allowed the Council to more effectively meet the needs of the official-language minority communities, for whom the distribution of cultural products has long been a priority.
- The Council continued to ensure that its programs meet the needs of the official-language minority communities and are accessible to them. It carefully monitored the composition of its juries and advisory committees to ensure they reflect, as much as possible, the needs of artists in the various communities, particularly theatre, literature and publishing, and the Touring Office.
- The Council developed communications strategies to improve the official-language minority artistic communities' access to information on its activities. To that end, consultations and discussions are held with the artists and communities. As well, managers and officers attend the annual meetings of representative associations.

*NOTE: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*

### 2. Distribution of status report

- The Canada Council's status report was sent to cultural associations of the official-language minority communities and to the Commissioner of Official Languages. As with the action plan, the status report is available upon request.
- Once the Council develops its web site, the status report for 1995-1996 will be available on Internet.

Katherine Berg (613) 566-4367  
*National Coordinator*

## CANADA POST CORPORATION

**Responsible minister:** The Honourable Diane Marleau  
**President:** Georges C. Clermont

### 1. Principal achievements on the national level

- Review of the eligibility criteria for the *Flight for Freedom* Awards, in the Literacy Award category: Personal achievement. Eight awards are now presented to a Francophone and an Anglophone in each of the four regions of Canada (Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario and Western Canada). Previously, the award was presented to only two persons.
- Cash donations offered to a literacy organization of each winner's choice.
- Development of a strategic partnership with the *Fédération canadienne pour l'alphabétisation en français*. The organization used its extensive network to promote the *Flight for Freedom* Awards in French Canada and helped Canada Post to get its message out to Francophone minority communities across Canada.
- Recipient of an *Étoile* award from the *Fédération canadienne pour l'alphabétisation en français* for its support of the cause of literacy in French communities across Canada.
- Introduction of a new semi-postal stamp to help raise awareness of the importance of literacy; five cents from the cost of each stamp will be distributed to Anglophone and Francophone literacy organizations for family literacy and other projects.
- Donation of framed lithographs of Canada's literacy symbol to English and French literacy groups and associations to assist in their efforts to raise funds for their literacy programs.
- Ongoing production of the *Heritage Minutes* one-minute English and French films that depict important moments and events in Canadian history; publication of *The Heritage Post*, a bilingual educational publication that is distributed three times during the school year to Canadian educational institutions and teachers, including official-language minority communities.
- Implementation of national bilingual writing programs, such as the *Santa Letter Writing Program* (which won the 1995 Canadian Public Relations Society Award of Excellence) and *Get Writing!* a new national, bilingual contest, established in 1996, that encourages young Canadians to express their creativity through the medium of the written word.
- In November 1995, the issuance of 15 million stamps commemorating "La Francophonie" on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the *Agence de coopération culturelle et technique*. The stamp, unveiled on Parliament Hill on March 20, International Francophonie Day, celebrates those people, groups and associations that promote the use of French in the communications process.

- Corporate donations by Canada Post Corporation of one per cent of pre-tax profits. Fully 50 per cent of the contributions budget is donated to those organizations or groups which encourage literacy in either of Canada's official languages.

## 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- In British Columbia, provision of a corporate donation to a Francophone adult literacy centre, *Educacentre*, allowing the organization to purchase word processing equipment.
- Meetings between representatives of Canada Post Corporation and of the *Association franco-yukonnaise* to find ways to meet the needs of minority language groups in the territory.
- Meetings between representatives of Canada Post Corporation and of Anglophone groups in Quebec to discuss literacy issues. Copies of the Corporation's literacy video series were made available to several interested groups in Quebec. In addition, new names were added to the distribution list for *The Heritage Post* magazine.
- In Nova Scotia, Canada Post gave a corporate donation to *Université Sainte-Anne* to assist minority language students to further their education in a French environment.
- Presentation of a framed enlargement of the "La Francophonie" stamp to a French school in Toronto to display in a prominent location so that all who see it can share in the teachers' and students' pride in their French language and culture.

*N.B.: Please refer to the complete version of the document for further details.*

## 3. Distribution of status report

- The Corporation plans to forward a copy of the summary of achievements to the Commissioner of Official Languages.
- Copies of the summary of achievements will also be made available to official-language minority communities across the country.

Robert Gauthier (613) 734-8596  
*National Coordinator*

# CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

**Responsible minister:** The Honourable Sheila Copps  
**President and Chief Executive Officer:** The Honourable Perrin Beatty

## 1. Principal achievements at the national level

The first plan developed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) in the context of the implementation of section 41 of the *Official Languages Act* intended to present what the CBC sees as the essence of its regional mandate, more particularly with regard to the official-language minority communities. Program production for communities and the illustration on the basic service and on RDI of the diversity of expectations, values, interests and needs of these communities represent the fundamental contribution of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to the affirmation and development of minority communities. Some of the CBC's achievements in 1995-1996 are presented below.

- The launching of the specialty service Réseau de l'information (RDI), to which all regions contribute original programming.
- The great majority of regional stations make it a point to attend the annual meetings of the community organizations, and they cover them on air. In certain cases, CBC staff are members of the board of directors of regional or provincial organizations. The staff also participated in the meetings organized by the Department of Canadian Heritage throughout the country and at the national level in the fall of 1995.
- CBC stations regularly offer their technical expertise to the communities in organizing and recording shows and presenting plays. Also, CBC staff voluntarily assist as hosts or masters of ceremonies.
- Numerous public interest messages are broadcast by CBC stations (for example, in the Maritimes alone, more than 9,500 radio messages and more than 4,000 television messages were broadcast).
- Many regions prepared and sent information kits on the CBC and its jobs to schools. The CBC promoted its activities on air, but also made use of community media (local and regional magazines or newspapers).

## 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- The Atlantic provinces and French Ontario and the Outaouais produced an average of eight hours of weekly programs for the RDI. On the basic service, these regions produced, on average, seven hours of regional programs, in addition to the many contributions to network programming (*Le Point*, *Le Point Média*, *La Semaine verte*, *Découverte*, *Second Regard*, *Le Jour du Seigneur*) which have high visibility and strong credibility.
- The Western provinces produced three and a half hours of television programming per week. French Ontario and the Outaouais also produced and broadcast cultural programs

(*Espace Libre*), programs on the economy (*Posséder mon entreprise*) and programs for young people (*Vidéo Clip*).

- Each region produced many special programs based on events taking place in its region (coverage of municipal, school and provincial elections, of the G7 Summit in Halifax, of the 275th Anniversary of Louisbourg, of the *Festival international de musique baroque* in Lamèque, of the *Festival du Voyageur*, etc.), in addition to the competitions created and organized by the CBC to develop local talents and enable them to experience live stage performances with professionals (*Ontario Pop*, *La Brunante à la SRC*, *Tout Nouveau Tout Show*, and the provincial and interprovincial *galas de la chanson* in the Maritimes and the West).
- Regional radio stations generally produce more than 48 hours of weekly programs: current affairs and news programs, programs for the young and for farmers, and, of course, community notices. Special programs are also broadcast (e.g. reading of a text by Antonine Maillet on Maritimes stations; competition for the best Christmas story, with the winning entry read on air; Christmas concerts; etc).
- The Saskatchewan region organized transcultural exchanges with their Anglophone colleagues from the CBC.
- On Prince Edward Island, work began on the production centre that will broadcast a local edition of *Bonjour Atlantique*, and production in the Centre began in September 1996..
- To ensure that the programs produced reflect the communities and that the communities find them beneficial, stations maintain Audience Relations departments and 1-800 lines. Some even undertook program evaluations with members of the public. French Ontario and the Outaouais and English Services in Quebec, among others, also organized consultation tours to meet the local population and meetings with provincial organizations and their leaders.
- The English stations in Quebec produced about 4,950 hours of programming for regional and national broadcast; for example, in 1995-1996, Quebec contributed more than 5,700 items to the English radio and television networks while producing some 25 Montreal Canadiens hockey games.
- The CBC offered internships to enable young people to develop their craft. French Ontario and the Outaouais made it possible for young students from the *Cité collégiale* in Ottawa to produce *Ce Soir* news programs. The English Services in Quebec offered internships to young people, recorded local artists and supported numerous charitable events.

*NOTE: Please refer to the complete version of the document for further details.*

### **3. Distribution of the status report**

- CBC will send the 1995-1996 status report free of charge to anyone making the request.

Hélène Gendron (613) 738-6976  
National Coordinator

# CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

**Responsible minister:**            **The Honourable Don Boudria**  
**President:**                            **Huguette Labelle**

## 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) met with the Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne (FCFA) to discuss matters of interest to Francophone minority communities in Canada. CIDA plans to hold its information sessions more often and to respond favourably to invitations from official-language minority groups, nationally and in the regions.
- With regard to education, CIDA gave its backing to several colleges which conducted international development activities, including Heritage, Dawson and Champlain colleges in Quebec, as well as New Brunswick Community College and *Collège Boréal* in Sudbury.
- Through international institutions, CIDA funds a fellowship program allowing Canadians interested in international development work to improve their professional, technical and intercultural qualifications; these fellowships are awarded by *La Francophonie*, the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation, the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation and the Commonwealth of Learning.

## 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- In the autumn of 1995, at the Francophone Summit in Cotonou (Benin), a special committee of CIDA and New Brunswick officials was formed in order to develop closer cooperation and thereby extend the Agency's influence in Canada and abroad.
- CIDA's Institutional Cooperation Division supported two projects of the *Université de Moncton* in Vietnam, one pertaining to solar energy and conducted in collaboration with St. Mary's University in Halifax, and another on market-based economies. The *Université de Moncton* also conducted an agri-food project in Haiti, as well as a fellowship program with assistance from CIDA. The Agency has given the *Université de Moncton* more than \$5 million in the last twenty years.
- The Agency supported two projects by Laurentian University in Sudbury, one in Mauritius in the education sector, and another in China on distance education.
- MacDonald College/McGill University received funding for projects in the areas of energy conservation, agriculture, the environment and health, in Guatemala, India, Ghana, Brazil, Argentina and Saint Lucia. The same institution conducted training programs in agriculture (Jordan), health (Jamaica) and management (Cuba). CIDA has given more than \$36 million to McGill University in the last twenty years.

*NOTE : Please refer to the complete version of the document for further details.*

Claude Francoeur (819) 997-5041  
*National Coordinator*

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD

**Responsible minister:**            **The Honourable Ralph Goodale**

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- Implementation of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Electronic Information Service for easy access to information on news, trade, policies, commodity prices, regulations, federal agri-food programs, agriscience and technology, as well as relevant officials and technological expertise.
- Seminars with clients on food safety and enhancement programs.
- Meetings with producers and shippers on problems with exports to the USA.
- Seminars with the industry on export financing.
- Coordination of a consultation with the agri-food industry on agriculture marketing programs.
- Publications on departmental programs and articles published in the minority-language specialized press.
- Participation in three working sessions between departments and federal institutions and representatives of the official-language minority communities.
- Meetings with representatives of the Anglophone and Francophone minorities to learn their priorities in the agriculture and agri-food sectors.
- Review of programs, such as the National Farm Business Management Program, to make them more accessible to Anglophone and Francophone minorities in fields related to departmental activities.
- The Department undertook an analysis of the impact of some departmental activities on linguistic minorities in rural regions.
- The Department cooperated with other federal institutions, in particular Western Economic Diversification Canada and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, with a view to offering the official-language communities more complete service.

*NOTE: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*



## 2. Distribution of status report

- The Department sent its status report to the managers in each branch and to the regional managers.
- The status report was sent to all the associations on the list supplied by the Department of Canadian Heritage and to government organizations with a regional-development mandate.
- Copies were also sent to the Commissioner of Official Languages, the Official Languages Branch at Treasury Board, and the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.

Claude R. Desrochers ( 613) 759-6453  
*National Coordinator*

## DEPARTMENT OF CANADIAN HERITAGE

**Responsible minister:**            **The Honourable Sheila Copps**

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- Signed an agreement on community development with 18 national organizations of the Francophone community outside Quebec on February 9, 1996. Signed similar agreements in Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, the Northwest Territories, Yukon, British Columbia and Saskatchewan, and in Quebec with the Anglophone community.
- Provided financial support for funding minority-language instruction and second-language instruction in all the provinces and territories.
- Promoted English and French by means of agreements with all the provinces (except Alberta and British Columbia) and the territories.
- Provided support for the development of community radio and for such projects as the creation of a computer network and an Internet site, financial diversification and the preparation of projects for the introduction of community radio stations in Prescott-Russell and Nipissing, Ontario; Port au Port, Newfoundland and Peace River, Alberta.
- Promoted linguistic duality by creating an Internet site, holding the third edition of the competition *Write it up!* and participating in activities of the *Semaine nationale de la Francophonie*, the *La Dictée P.G.L.* and the *Dictée des Amériques*.
- Provided financial support to the *Fédération de la jeunesse canadienne-française* to plan a series of youth initiatives (training for young people).
- Provided financial assistance for the *Commission nationale des parents francophones* to produce a francization kit.
- Provided financial support to the *Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne* (FCFA), the *Fédération culturelle canadienne-française* (FCCF) and the *Alliance des radios communautaires* (ARC) for creating Internet sites.
- Prepared a directory of venues to facilitate organizing tours within Canada's Francophone community and supported the creation of the first pan-Canadian song network under the auspices of *Coup de coeur francophone*.
- Funded some 20 festivals, including the Hiawatha Festival of the Arts in the Laurentians (Quebec) and Francophone festivals in Vancouver and Tracadie (N.B.).
- Relaxed one of the eligibility criteria for the Publishing Industry Development Assistance Program to allow official-language minority publishing houses to gain better access to government assistance.

- Held the "Official Languages and the Economy" colloquium in May 1995. Started six research projects on this topic.

## 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- Provided support for the court case on school management in British Columbia.
- Contributed financially to the construction of Émilie Tremblay School and an adjacent day-care facility in Whitehorse (Yukon).
- Negotiated and signed an agreement on Francophone school management in Nova Scotia; provided financial support to the Northwest Territories Francophone community and to the territorial government for implementing school management in the N.W.T.
- Participated in the completion of such projects as construction of the School of Electrical Engineering of the *Université de Moncton*, establishment of a network of French-language colleges in Ontario and of school and community centres in Regina and Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, expansion of the English-language school in Grosse-Île in the Magdalen Islands and creation of the *Centre de theatre francophone* in Ottawa and the *Cité franco-phone* in Edmonton.
- Financial support from the Department of Canadian Heritage to the *Association franco-yukonnaise* for the production of an economic development plan.
- Awarded a grant to the *Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta* for a provincial action plan on tourism.
- Provided financial support for the creation, on November 1, 1995, of the *Economic Development Council of Manitoba*.
- Participated in repairs to the convent and museum of the Grey Nuns in St. Boniface, Manitoba.
- Provided financial support to the *Société des Acadiens du Nouveau-Brunswick (Fonds d'avenir)*, the *Grand Nord* Project in the N.W.T., the establishment of a Franco-Albertan foundation to diversify the income sources of associations.
- Participation of Parks Canada in promoting the Ponteix cultural centre to visitors to Grasslands National Park (Saskatchewan).
- Developed a regional policy on the composition of Museum Assistance Program review committees which provides representation for Francophones in Ontario.
- Provided financial support to the Quebec Drama Federation to develop a promotion strategy aimed at tourists from New England.
- Financial support from the Department for six projects on interdepartmental co-ordination and self-funding suggested by the Anglo-Quebec community.

- Provided financial support to the *Musée du Madawaska* and the *Musée acadien* of the *Université de Moncton*.
- Financial support from the Department for holding an Acadian concert at the celebrations at the Fortress of Louisbourg, Nova Scotia, in the summer of 1995.
- Provided financial support for creating the *Société de développement de la Baie acadienne* in Prince Edward Island and for holding a forum on the creation of tourist products.
- Established two co-ordination groups to advance distance education and economic development in the Port au Port peninsula in Newfoundland.

*NOTE: Please refer to the complete version of the document for further details.*

### **3. Distribution of the status report**

- The Department has sent its status report to organizations of the official-language minority communities and to the Commissioner of Official Languages.

Pierre Goulet (819) 997-7584  
*National Coordinator*

## DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

**Responsible minister:**            **The Honourable Lucienne Robillard**

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- Good participation in consultations organized by the Department of Canadian Heritage in all the regions and nationally; this made it possible to develop action plans that reflect the needs of many official-language minority groups.
- The Department agreed to include and distribute information on the *Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne* (FCFA) in its kit "Is Your Future in Canada?"
- The Department agreed to distribute and display in its offices abroad the video *A Francophonie to Discover*, which was developed by the FCFA.
- The International Region continued to develop and distribute promotional material on immigration and visitor information promoting Canada's linguistic duality at all of its missions abroad.
- Public Affairs developed a computer game called *Stargate 2232* aimed at teens aged 10 to 17, which was tested in both English and French schools; the game will help students to better understand Canada's immigration process.
- Public Affairs is instrumental in developing communication tools to promote the Department's new way of doing business with the private sector, other levels of government and organizations that assist immigrants.
- A new publication about youth experiences in settling in Canada, entitled *New Friends*, was produced for teens of both language groups.
- The Strategic Policy, Planning and Research Branch takes Part VII of the *Official Languages Act* into consideration when developing and revising its policies.

### 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- Regional representatives held consultations with service providers of the Anglophone and Francophone minority communities about devolution of the Settlement Program to the public and private sectors. A new system of data management now allows Settlement to analyze data on the social, linguistic and economic profiles of clients, thus providing more accurate information on the needs and services required in both official languages throughout Canada.
- Settlement continues to manage and offer its services to new arrivals and to the community which receives them in an efficient and beneficial manner. When a community speaks the minority official language, that language becomes the principal language of integration, as in Vanier in the Ottawa area.

- Citizenship Courts continued to promote Canada's linguistic duality during their ceremonies. Special citizenship ceremonies were held in French minority schools in all the provinces in an effort to sensitize the new arrivals to Canada's linguistic duality and the principles of the *Official Languages Act*, which promotes the use of both languages within our society.
- The Department's Atlantic Region worked closely with local official-language minority groups to organize various events for Citizenship offices.
- The Quebec Region met with English-language associations to respond to their needs regarding communications. Local offices are working actively with Anglophone community associations to develop and provide one-on-one instruction for citizenship classes where numbers were too low for the community to provide ongoing classes. At the request of the Executive Director of the Voice of English Quebec, the Department provided statistical data to assist in the preparation of a report.
- The Manager of the Department in St. John's is a member of the joint committee on official languages, whose mandate is to ensure better understanding of the subject in this region.
- Through a service provider called *La Magie des lettres*, officers of the regional Settlement Program in Ontario made arrangements for and funded (\$90,000) French-language immigrant training opportunities for newcomers in the Ottawa-Carleton area.
- Meetings were held in Toronto between immigrant official-language minority groups and the Settlement Group to discuss projects and funding to help in the settlement of newcomers to Ontario.
- The *Fédération franco-colombienne* (FFC) and the Department reached an agreement designed to promote the FFC to newcomers by including a brochure in the welcome kit.

*N.B.: Please refer to the complete version of the document for further details.*

### **3. Distribution of status report**

- The regional co-ordinators responsible for implementation of Part VII of the *Official Languages Act* will inform official-language minority community organizations of the availability of their status report and will distribute it on request.
- The status report will be available on the Internet.
- Copies of the status report were sent to the Commissioner of Official Languages and to the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.

Monique Tremblay (613) 941-7748  
National Coordinator

## DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

**Responsible minister:**            **The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy**

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade provided financial assistance to a number of Francophone groups working nationally and internationally: the *Société nationale de l'Acadie*, the *Institut international de droit d'expression et d'inspiration française*, the *Association internationale francophone des Aînés*, the *Association francophone internationale des directeurs d'établissements scolaires*, the *Association des universités partiellement ou entièrement de langue française*, the *Université des réseaux d'expression française*, the *Fédération internationale des professeurs de français*, the *Conseil international des études francophones*, the *Association canadienne d'éducation de langue française*, the *Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada*, the *Agence de coopération pour l'intégration des personnes handicapées* and the *Fondation Paul-Guérin Lajoie-dictée PGL*.

### 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade continued to support New Brunswick's participation in La Francophonie by means of a contribution to that province's government.
- The Department also provided financial support to several Anglophone groups in Quebec through its Arts Promotion Program.

*NOTE: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*

### 3. Distribution of status report

- The accomplishments of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade were taken from its 1996 Annual Report on the implementation of Part VII of the *Official Languages Act*. This report was sent to groups representing Francophone minority communities across the country.
- The Department also sent its status report to the Commissioner of Official Languages and the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.

Michael Kamoff-Nicolsky (613) 992-9249  
*National Coordinator*

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**Responsible minister:**            **The Honourable David C. Dingwall**

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- Health Canada officials participated in all the consultative meetings organized by the Department of Canadian Heritage, at both the national and regional levels, held during November and December 1995.
- Annual project solicitations were sent to communities inviting them to apply for funding under Health Canada programs.
- The Communications Directorate of Health Canada sent its press releases to the official language minority communities' press and umbrella organizations.
- In co-operation with Department of Canadian Heritage, Health Canada supported the production and distribution of a teaching kit designed to encourage young Francophone children outside Quebec to improve their French. The kit is intended to help parents and educators prepare children, particularly pre-schoolers from homes where only one parent speaks French, to attend a French-language school.
- The Department is also supporting a project to develop intervention strategies to create a non-sexist environment in physical education courses.
- During the 1995-96 fiscal year, Health Canada committed more than \$4.5 million on annual or multi-year community service projects. Almost \$2 million in total were granted to 50 groups in 1995-96. Of particular note is the \$200,000 contribution to the *Commission nationale des parents francophones* for its national program for francization of pre-schoolers.

### 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- In addition to national and regional co-ordinators, Health Canada has designated resource persons in every province and territory for the implementation of section 41 of *Official Languages Act*.
- The Department is a member of the federal working group to assist the Government of Prince Edward Island in improving the delivery of its services in French to the Acadian community. To date, Health Canada has provided brochures in French as well as documentation on the Quebec model for delivery of health services to that province's Anglophone community.
- In New Brunswick, a project has been established to improve the abilities of parents and young people to prevent or reduce problems resulting from the consumption of drugs or alcohol.



- Under the project, a provincial committee and ten regional policy committees have been formed. A study on the use of prevention programs has been conducted in the Francophone school districts. In addition, a promotion and implementation strategy has been prepared for this type of program, and the necessary resources have been provided to each region to create partnerships for training volunteers to deliver the various prevention programs.
- Health Canada has put in place a policy and implementation committee in the Outaouais. This committee comprises representatives of associations and employers, youth and parents to respond to the needs of the Anglophone community in the region.
- Health Canada has put in place a program to increase public awareness in the Francophone community of Dubreuilville, Ontario.
- In Alberta, The Department has developed a health promotion plan for Franco-Albertans. This project will result in improved access to and utilization of available French-language services.
- In the Peace River region of Alberta, a multidisciplinary Steering Committee made up of the various partners in the Franco-Albertan community interested in health promotion received funding from the Department for a project to assess community needs and resources regarding an anti-smoking campaign.
- In the British Columbia and Yukon Region, Health Canada supported a project to help isolated Francophone seniors take better care of their health and become more independent. The project will be implemented at three locations in British Columbia: Victoria, Coquitlam and Powell River.
- In 1995-1996, Health Canada provided health services to Francophones in Yukon. It is expected that these services will be transferred to the Government of Yukon in the 1996-1997 fiscal year.

*N.B.: Please refer to the complete version of the document for further details.*

### **3. Distribution of status report**

- The status report is being distributed to national and provincial organizations representing the official-language minority communities, based on lists provided by the Department of Canadian Heritage.
- A copy of the status report is being sent to the Commissioner of Official Languages and to the co-chairs of the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.
- In fiscal year 1996-1997, the achievements of Health Canada in implementing section 41 will be the subject of an article in *Intracom*, the newsletter for departmental employees.

Lise Lavoie (813) 954-2878  
National Coordinator

## DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

**Responsible minister:**                    **The Honourable Pierre Pettigrew**

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- To ensure that Part VII of the *Official Languages Act* is efficiently implemented, the Department put Monique Collette (Director General, Communications) in charge and appointed a team of people to manage this file at the national level, under the direction of Michelle Hamelin, National Coordinator.
- The Department added a provision in Part II of the *Employment Insurance Act* setting out the seven guidelines which will underlie the new federal-provincial agreements. The active measures should make it possible to offer services to the public in the official language of choice where warranted by the significance of the demand.
- The Department participates in all interdepartmental meetings organized by the Department of Canadian Heritage with Francophone and Anglophone minority community groups to present its programs and services, establish links with representatives of these communities and learn about their needs and priorities.
- The Department supported the establishment and operation of the *Comité d'adaptation des ressources humaines de la francophonie canadienne* (CARHFC), sponsored jointly by the *Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada* (FCFA) and the *Conseil canadien de coopération* (CCC).
- To further CARHFC's endeavours, the Department is continuing to work with the *Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada* and the *Conseil canadien de coopération* to set up a mechanism for close cooperation between the Department and Francophone minority communities.

### 3. Principal achievements at the regional level

- Responsibility for implementing the action plan at the regional level was delegated to the regional directors general and regional assistant deputy ministers, who are supported by a coordinator in each province and territory.
- Representatives of the Department participate in meetings, annual meetings and conferences organized by the various minority associations. An information booth is set up where appropriate.
- The Department places announcements in the minority press and uses the services of community radio stations and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to inform the official-language minority public of changes to the *Employment Insurance Act*, and its programs and services, and to advertise positions available in the local labour market.

- Employee information sessions were organized in each region. Information on official-language minority organizations and associations was distributed to the managers and employees who deal regularly with them.
- Each region has established an internal and external communication plan and ensures coordination of projects and dealings with official-language minority clients.
- The Department supported a number of initiatives, including distance-training for Francophones with community colleges and universities in several regions.
- The Department supported employment and job placement clubs in Anglophone and Francophone minority communities.
- The Department also supported such projects as the founding of a French-language newspaper in Calgary and a community radio station in Chéticamp, Nova Scotia.
- The Department participated in activities involving the improvement of skills and acquisition of knowledge by unemployment insurance claimants so that they can return to the labour market. (Please note that these labour market training activities took place before the *Employment Insurance Act* came into force and the federal government withdrew from training.)

*NOTE: Please refer to the complete version of the document for further details.*

### **3. Distribution of status report**

- The status report will be distributed internally to all executives and managers and externally to Francophone and Anglophone minority community associations.

Michelle Hamelin (819) 997-5771  
National Coordinator

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**Responsible minister:**            **The Honourable Allan Rock**

### 1. Principal achievements

- Implementation of measures required to ensure that, in the provinces where there is a large French-speaking population, the *Associations de juristes d'expression française de common law* (ASJEF) are now represented on these provinces' advisory committees.
- Members of the *Associations de juristes d'expression française* were invited on several occasions during 1995-1996 to submit applications for judges' positions. This invitation was conveyed by the Minister and Deputy Minister and by the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs in speeches before the members of the various AJEFs and in workshops on the procedure for appointing judges organized by the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs at annual meetings of the Associations.
- The Department of Justice co-operates closely with the Department of Canadian Heritage in connection with the National Program for the Integration of the Two Official Languages in the Administration of Justice (POLAJ).
- In 1995-96, POLAJ underwent a major restructuring exercise. The objectives of POLAJ were broadened to include the development of popularization and familiarization tools. In the same vein, the project funding criteria were reviewed to adapt them to the new objectives.
- New products were developed in 1995-1996 by organizations belonging to POLAJ: video, simulated trial, practitioner's guide on diskettes (Ontario).
- The Department of Justice established the committee on legislative bijuralism in order to be able to draft legislative documents that take better account of the needs of the four Canadian audiences: Francophones living under civil law or common law and Anglophones living under civil law or common law.
- Funding requests for projects targeting the official-language minority groups are considered on a priority basis by the Department. In addition, such groups are added to the distribution list for the Department's information kits on funding.
- Since 1994 the Department has provided free access to its ACJN network to the *Associations de juristes d'expression française* and has also created a POLAJ conference for their use. This represents a financial contribution of some \$70,000 by the Department.
- The Department's Official Languages Group offered workshops to all the Department's legal advisers on sections 25 and 91 of the *Official Languages Act* (OLA), as well as workshops on language rights in the administration of justice (sections 530 et 530.1 of the *Criminal Code* and Part III of the OLA) to civil and criminal prosecutors in the Montreal office.

- The Department has updated the information on sections 16 to 23 of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* in the *Charter of Rights Decisions* distributed to all the Department's legal advisers.
- The Department's Official Languages Group dealt with Part VII of the OLA in legal opinions concerning the provision of service to the public, federal-provincial agreements and financial grants and contributions by the Government of Canada.
- The Department also participated actively in the implementation and interpretation of language rights in connection with cases before the courts of various provinces.
- In connection with the reform of administrative tribunals, various organizations were consulted. The reform plan specifies that persons appearing before federal tribunals have language rights under the *Official Languages Act*.
- The chapter on the use of official languages before the courts in the *Litigation Manual* used by the Department's prosecutors was developed and will be included in the next edition of the Manual.
- Finally, a reminder was issued to the managers of the various departmental legal services to ensure that the review of memorandums to Cabinet takes sections 16 to 23 of the *Charter* into account.

*N.B.: Please refer to the complete version of the document for further details.*

## **2. Distribution of status report**

- The Department of Justice circulated the status report internally to the offices of the Minister and Deputy Minister and to sector heads and managers by means of a letter bearing the signature of the Associate Deputy Minister, Civil Law and Corporate Management. Employees will be informed by means of a newsletter from the Deputy Minister and will be invited to submit their comments.
- The summary of achievements will be distributed during the *Semaine nationale de la francophonie* and Law Day 1997. A display illustrating one aspect of the summary, such as legislative bilingualism, will be prepared for these events.

Carole Johnson (613) 957-4391  
National Coordinator

## DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

**Responsible minister:**            **The Honourable Jon Gerrard**

### 1. Principal achievements

- The Department of Western Economic Diversification established a team for the implementation of section 41, with a regional Assistant Deputy Minister accountability framework and corporate support in Edmonton and Ottawa for communications and strategic planning.
- In partnership with the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Department of Western Economic Diversification obtained Treasury Board approval for a \$5,000,000 commitment to the Department of Canadian Heritage's Canadian Identity Program, which includes programs of support to official-language minority communities in the West.
- The Department sent mail-outs on our services to all Francophone organizations in the West and its designated offices for future communications.
- The Department worked with the Manitoba Association of Bilingual Municipalities and its Economic Development Council, to which it allocated the sum of \$750,000 (\$250,000 a year for three years).

*NOTE: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*

### 2. Distribution of status report

- The action plan and the status report were sent to all the Francophone organizations in the West and to national groups.
- The Department also sent its status report to the Commissioner of Official Languages and the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.

Guy R. Brunet (613) 954-3933  
*National Coordinator*

## FEDERAL OFFICE OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (QUEBEC)

**Responsible minister:**            **The Honourable Martin Cauchon**

### 1. Principal achievements

- December 1995: consultation of the Anglophone community of Quebec. Presentation of 1995-1996 action plan.
- Autumn 1995: the director of the Outaouais region takes part in a radio broadcast on CBC Ottawa. Transmission of information to Anglophone clientele on the IDEA-SME programming.
- Partnership with the industrial commissioner and the economic development corporations in all the target regions. These organizations are very familiar with FORD(Q)'s programming and are able to provide bilingual information on it.
- The Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDC), which operate in the basic areas of activity adapted to their community's situation, serve FORD(Q)'s Anglophone target clientele. The boards of directors of the CFDCs include representatives of the official-language minority communities in a proportion at least similar to their percentage in the population. The majority of the CFDCs have bilingual information on the programs and services offered by FORD(Q).
- Spring 1995: inauguration of the Ottawa River Project. At that time, transmission of information on FORD(Q) and its programming to a predominantly Anglophone tourism and municipal clientele.
- Development of the AIDER-SME system, an information access system for regional economic development (not yet completed). In this system, the client's profile will be established by language of preference.
- Access to Internet for all employees and access to the databanks on Anglophone small businesses.
- Autumn 1995: The Small Business Access Centre advertising campaign in some fifteen English-language newspapers in Quebec in order to inform clients of FORD(Q)'s mission, its areas of activity, and the services offered in its thirteen regional offices.
- November 1995: presentation of the IDEA-SME programming to members of the Canada-Ireland Chamber of Commerce by a senior advisor from Montreal Island region.
- Autumn 1995: information session in Montreal with the *Association des manufacturiers de vêtements*, which has a large Anglophone clientele.

- January 1996: organization of a meeting of senior economic development officers from the Lower North Shore to inform them of FORD(Q)'s programming and enquire about their needs.
- March 1996: information session with the Pontiac Community Futures Development Corporation, which has a primarily Anglophone board of directors.
- Spring 1996: the director of the Eastern Townships office meets with the Townsippers' Association to discuss FORD(Q)'s mission, role and programs, transmission of documents, regional profiles, and clients' needs.

*NOTE: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*

## **2. Distribution of status report**

- The status report was sent to all FORD(Q)'s regional offices.
- The status report is also available to any official-language minority community that wishes.

Carole Savard (514) 283-8148  
*National Coordinator*



## INDUSTRY CANADA

**Responsible minister:**            **The Honourable John Manley**

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- Canada Business Service Centres (CBSC): eight provincial advisory committees of CBSC users, out of a total of nine, now include representatives of the official-language minority communities. These committees previously had no community representatives.
- Community Access Project: sixteen official-language communities in seven provinces received financial assistance to access the information highway.
- Schoolnet: a committee on Francophone issues was established to strengthen the French content of Schoolnet and ensure that technology is not a barrier to using Schoolnet in French.
- Computers for schools: we mailed a news release describing the program and the application process for obtaining a computer to more than 250 official-language minority organizations across Canada.
- La Francophonie: Industry Canada participated fully in the Cotonou Summit on the information highway in December 1995 and played a strategic role in promoting the importance and merits of the information highway in French on the international scene.
- Access on the Internet in both official languages: Industry Canada helped to establish the *Centre international pour le développement de l'inforoute en français (CIDIF)* in Edmunston, NB, which will develop an inventory of French-language resources on the information highway.
- Community Futures Development Corporations: the demographic profile of CFDCs in Ontario has been established, and we have contacted CFDCs serving areas with an official-language minority community that makes up 5% or more of the population to obtain their suggestions on how to involve those communities more in the economic development of their regions.
- Canadian Intellectual Property Office: CIPO gave eight presentations on our programs to minority groups in New Brunswick, Quebec and Manitoba.
- Distribution of the plan: we distributed our action plan to 268 official-language minority organizations throughout Canada.
- Internal communications: we published an article in ARGUS, Industry Canada's internal newsletter, explaining to the Department's 5,500 employees our main obligations under section 41 of the *Official Languages Act* and the Department's action plan to enhance the vitality of official-language communities.

## 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- Pacific: presentation to Industry Canada employees in Vancouver.
- Prairies and Northwest Territories: full participation in four consultation sessions with official-language communities and ongoing, frequent contacts with the business community.
- Ontario: some ten contacts throughout Ontario were identified to participate in beta testing in French of STRATEGIS, Industry Canada's new web site on information products.
- Quebec: meetings were organized to develop a project to market Anglo-Quebecker theatrical productions for the New England market.
- Atlantic: a bilingual officer was appointed in each provincial office to distribute information to the communities.

*NOTE: Please refer to complete version of the report for further details.*

## 3. Distribution of status reports

- The Department sent its status report to official-language minority community organizations and to the Commissioner of Official Languages.
- Available on Internet at the following address: <http://info.ic.gc.ca>

Dominique Veilleux (613) 954-4083  
*National Coordinator*

## INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE

**Responsible minister:**                    **The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy**  
**President:**                                    **Keith A. Bezanson**

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

The achievements of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) are centred around the objectives set out in its action plan for 1995-1996.

- The IDRC provides sustained program support to the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, International Relations and Programs (AUCC-IRP), so that, as an institutional partner, it may continue its collaboration with the Centre by providing services to the Canadian university research community, IDRC staff, other development funders and the broader development public, with the aim of serving the needs and interests of research for development.
- For a period of two years the Centre supported a program administered by the AUCC-IRP to strengthen long-term collaboration between Canadian and Latin American university researchers, through a series of grants to individual researchers. In the first cycle, the AUCC approved six research grants and two sabbatical internships. Two research grants went to students from official-language minority communities.
- IDRC has continued to support training and the granting of awards to Canadians to develop their skills and knowledge in the international development field through programs such as the Young Canadian Researchers Awards, the John G. Bene Fellowship in Social Forestry, and the Journalism Awards (Gemini Internship and the *Bourse PÉRISCOPE*). Brochures and application forms in both English and French are distributed to educational institutions across the country. At present, there is no means of determining exactly how many applicants or award recipients belong to official-language minority communities. In 1996-1997, applicants will be asked to indicate their first official language on application forms.
- IDRC is investing substantial resources in order to have its documents on the Internet accessible in both English and French, even when the design and development of the site are done outside Canada.
- IDRC also provided the Association of Community Colleges of Canada with support for the organization, in collaboration with Secretary of State/Multiculturalism, of a journalism students' competition for the production of an essay in commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, March 21. One winner was a Francophone from Moncton, New Brunswick.
- In 1995-1996, IDRC organized eight Development Forums in Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. These forums, intended for all Canadians, have been created to encourage discussions and debates on development issues, with a view to generating new ideas. They were advertised on the Centre's Web site and in local newspapers, thus reaching the general public and representatives of official-language groups and associations.

- The Centre supported the magazine of the *Association canadienne-française pour l'avancement des sciences*, *INTERFACE*, which is available by subscription as well as in the newsstands. It took part in the production of the "Science Monde" column, which promotes the research activities carried out by Canada's Francophone scientists in collaboration with researchers in the Third World. *INTERFACE* is published five times a year.

## 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- IDRC had to abolish its Summer Institute in Costa Rica due to budget cuts. However, the Centre worked closely with the *Association des enseignantes et des enseignants franco-ontariens* (AEFO), giving advice and support on the coordination and logistics needed to establish this type of institute.

*NOTE: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*

## 3. Distribution of the status report

- The IDRC status report for 1995-1996 is available on the Internet at the following sites: <http://www.idrc.ca/corp/findex.html> (French) and <http://www.idrc.ca> (English).
- IDRC sent its status report to the Commissioner of Official Languages, the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages and associations representing official-language minority communities, in accordance with the distribution list provided by the Department of Canadian Heritage.

Catherine Reynolds (613) 236-6163, ext. 2512  
*National Coordinator*

## NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE

**Responsible minister:** The Honourable Sheila Copps  
**Director and president:** John Cripton

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- The National Arts Centre (NAC) went ahead with the sale of the NAC's Atelier to the *Centre de théâtre francophone d'Ottawa*. The Atelier will now be known as *La Nouvelle Scène*. The NAC is proud to be able to contribute to the development of the first permanent French-language theatre in Canada's capital.
- The French Theatre Department continued its support for French-language professional theatre companies in the official-language minority communities through its *Développement du théâtre en région* Program.

### 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- Assistance under the *Développement du théâtre en région* Program assumed a range of forms, depending on the needs expressed by regional companies and creators. For many companies it took the form of sponsorship of writers or directors who acted as advisors or resource persons.
- The National Arts Centre supported professional companies in the official-language minority communities through tour funding, the loan of premises or elements of stage design, funding of a work through coproduction, exploratory playwriting workshops, or the purchase of works for presentation in an NAC theatre series.

*NOTE: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*

### 3. Distribution of status reports

- The National Arts Centre's status report was sent to professional theatre companies and the main cultural organizations of the official-language minority communities.
- The NAC also sent its status report to the Commissioner of Official Languages.

Danielle Robinson (613) 947-7000, ext. 542  
*National Coordinator*

## NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION

**Responsible minister:** The Honourable Sheila Copps  
**Chairman:** Marcel Beaudry

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- The Teacher's guide *Capital Adventures* was sent to all Members of Parliament, and many of them requested copies for schools in their constituencies.
- The Capital Family Experience contest was promoted in six magazines, nine dailies and twenty radio stations across the country, including official-language minority community media.
- Newsletters are being forwarded to over 5,200 youth ambassadors across the country on a regular basis to offer them the possibility to be part of a youth network. Canada's Capital Web site, currently being developed, will include youth-related content.
- Thanks to the distribution of the 1996 Canada Day national newspaper inserts, this initiative reached over 40 major and smaller markets from coast to coast. A total of 4.8 million copies were distributed in 114 newspapers across Canada in 1996. Over 800,000 copies were distributed to minority Anglophone and Francophone communities through the *Opération publicitaire et services de communication* (OPSCOM), the Quebec Community Newspaper Association and Northern and Aboriginal Publications.
- In 1996, four 30-minute programs were broadcast on the volunteer program, the banner program, Christmas Lights Across Canada and in the Capital. Thanks to the Canadian Cable Television Association, these programs were distributed by satellite to all Canadians, including Francophone stations outside Quebec and Anglophone stations in Quebec.
- A general agreement has been signed between Experience Canada and the National Capital Commission (NCC) to offer young people between the ages of 18 and 29 an in-depth Capital experience and provide them with materials to help them share their experience with other Canadians. Specific agreements have been signed to offer participants work placement opportunities in the NCC. To date, two participants have been selected, one a French-speaking Manitoban. The NCC expects to host two more participants and will give priority to people from official-language minority communities.
- *Cultures Canada* - Among artists who performed during the 1996 summer season, a few were from official-language minority communities, such as *Hart Rouge* (Prairies) and *Barachois* and *Suroît* (Atlantic). Cultural groups representing each region of Canada were carefully chosen.
- The Parliament Hill show "Reflections of Canada: A Symphony of Sound and Light", promotes a better understanding of Canada and Canadians. One part of the show relates Canadian accomplishments and highlights artists and leaders from Canada's official-language minority communities. In 1995, the show drew 142,240 spectators.

- The Capital Infocentre, at 90 Wellington Street, presents Francophone artists from outside Quebec through exhibits and videos.
- *Programs with an international theme* - This programming gives Canadians a chance to discover the different facets of their international Capital. The choice of artists reflects Canada's cultural diversity. As well, when recruiting seasonal staff, the NCC focuses on official-language minority communities.

## 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- In cooperation with the community radio station CHOD-FM of Cornwall, the NCC produced radio programs for Christmas Lights Across Canada in 1994 and 1995, Winterlude in 1995 and 1996 and Canada Day in 1995 and 1996. These radio shows were given to other Francophone radio stations in Ontario, Manitoba, and some in Acadia and Quebec for broadcast, thus reaching a large number of Francophones in minority areas across Canada. For minority Anglophones living in Quebec, the Broadcast Section made an effort to work with networks such as YTV and The Weather Network, which reach the whole population of Canada and broadcast in English in Quebec. The Broadcast Section works with the French CBC network and with TVOntario, which reach minority Francophones.

*NOTE: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*

## 3. Distribution of the status report

- The NCC has sent the status report to the Commissioner of Official Languages, the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages, the President of the Treasury Board, the Privy Council Office of Canada, the national coordinators of federal institutions designated under section 41 of the *Official Languages Act* and national Francophone and Anglophone organizations.

Judith Russell (613) 239-5703  
National Coordinator

## NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA

**Responsible minister:** The Honourable Sheila Copps  
**Chairperson:** Sandra Macdonald

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- The National Film Board (NFB) succeeded in maintaining, despite severe budget cuts, a portion of its production resources for French films in minority communities outside Quebec.
- The resource envelope for co-production in French was increased, and several co-productions are in the works across the country.
- The NFB launched its bilingual Web site on September 7, 1995, thus allowing official-language minority communities linked to the Internet to browse the entire filmography of the NFB and access a wealth of other information on the NFB as well.
- A 1-800 line allows official-language minority communities to order videos and obtain information on NFB activities seven days a week.
- Modules 3 and 4 of *Pour tout dire* were released in 1995-1996.

### 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- The NFB concluded many pre-sales with Radio-Canada on the regional network, and discussions are still under way to continue to improve the situation.
- The NFB continued to ensure access to its French-language video collection through partnership agreements with the following organizations:

**Vancouver:** *Le Centre culturel francophone*

**Edmonton:** *Le Conseil scolaire francophone d'Edmonton*

**Winnipeg:** *La Bibliothèque municipale de Saint-Boniface*

**Halifax:** The Halifax Public Library

**Moncton:** The Moncton Public Library

- Direct mail activity to Anglophone Quebec educational and institutional clients continued.
- In fiscal year 1995-1996, over 900 English productions were transferred to laser disk, thus permitting Anglophones to have on-demand screenings of NFB titles at the *CinéRobothèque*. The *CinéRoute* project also permits Anglophones to screen NFB productions at a remote location in Montreal at McGill University.
- English Program screenings were held on a regular basis at NFB Montreal, to which the major Anglophone community groups were invited. Furthermore, ads were placed in the *Hour* and *The Mirror*, English-language weeklies, to draw a wider Anglophone public.

*NOTE: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*



### 3. Distribution of the status report

- The NFB will send its status report for 1995-1996, free of charge, to anyone who requests a copy.
- It is available on the Internet at the following address: <http://www.nfb.ca>.

Laurie Jones (514) 283-9247  
*National Coordinator*

## PUBLIC WORKS AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES CANADA

**Responsible minister:**            **The Honourable Diane Marleau**

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- The Department distributed its action plan to all the provincial and national organizations that took part in the consultations organized by the Department of Canadian Heritage.
- The Department designated liaison officers in each province to coordinate responses to the communities' requests.
- The Department sent a letter to minority-language business people offering to organize information sessions on the various ways of doing business with the federal government.
- The Department sent a letter to the Department of Industry, which is responsible for the Computers for Schools Program, asking that minority-language groups and associations be given consideration when computers that are no longer being used are distributed.
- The Department took part in *La Francophonie* National Week in the National Capital Region by setting up two information booths and distributing pamphlets and posters throughout Canada.
- The Department continued to publish all general information of public interest in minority-language newspapers.
- The Department helped organize a meeting between minority-language media and representatives of the federal organizations concerned.

### 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- The Department helped organize and present information sessions on doing business with the federal government. These were held in Winnipeg, Sudbury and northern New Brunswick.
- The Department's liaison officer in Newfoundland participated in the work of the special provincial committee responsible for coordinating interdepartmental activities.

*NOTE: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*

### 3. Distribution of status report

- The Department sent its status report to the Commissioner of Official Languages and sent it upon request to official-language minority community organizations.

Francine Bastien (819) 956-4391  
*National Coordinator*

## SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA

**Responsible minister:**            **The Honourable John Manley**  
**President:**                            **Lynn Penrod**

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- From its inception, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) has made a commitment to recognize and promote equal funding opportunities for all university scholars as well as the fair and equitable treatment of all applications submitted in either official language. SSHRC established management and adjudication practices to reflect these objectives. One of these practices is to ensure that adjudication committees are structured so as to ensure an appropriate representation on the basis of language.
- In the case of the Doctoral Fellowships program, in which universities are required to pre-select candidates, SSHRC has put in place measures to ensure the fair treatment of all applications submitted in the official language which is not that of the institution.
- The Council initiated discussions for a partnership to co-fund a new research program on the situation of minority language groups in Canada and impacts on their development. However, the budget restrictions which SSHRC currently faces will make it impossible to introduce this new initiative.
- SSHRC continues, within its regular grants and fellowships programs, to support research on the linguistic duality of Canada's population and on the development of official-language minority communities. A complete list of research projects funded on this topic from 1991-1992 to 1996-1997 has been prepared and will be updated annually.

*NOTE: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*

### 2. Distribution of the status report

- The SSHRC status report for 1995-1996 was distributed internally, and was sent to the national coordinators and to relevant official-language minority institutions (related to SSHRC's mandate).
- SSHRC also sent its status report to the Commissioner of Official Languages and to the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.

France Landriault (613) 992-5125  
*National Coordinator*

## STATISTICS CANADA

**Responsible minister:** The Honourable John Manley  
**Chief statistician:** Ivan P. Fellegi

### 1. Principal achievements at the national level

- Development of a three-year action plan for the implementation of section 41 of the *Official Languages Act*.
- Review of the present program of consultation and liaison with the official-language minority communities in order to gain a better understanding of their priority needs for information, taking the availability of data and costs into account.
- Production of a leaflet containing linguistic and other data of interest to the official-language minority communities. This leaflet was distributed to the community associations on a mailing list provided by the Department of Canadian Heritage and to resource persons in other federal departments. It is also available at all of Statistics Canada's regional offices.
- Preliminary discussions were held with community associations on available products and services and will continue in 1996-1997. These discussions will make it possible to consolidate the most relevant census data and break it down to quite a detailed geographical level, in accordance with the needs and interests of the communities. Linguistic data from the 1996 census will be available in the third quarter of 1997.
- Identification of an information tool (regular newsletter) containing analyses of survey data to show the evolution of the official-language minority communities in relation to various factors (demographic, economic, health, literacy, etc.) which would be of interest to the community associations, federal departments and others.
- Preliminary work on the analysis of language-related topics available from the General Social Survey was completed in 1995-1996.
- Some preliminary discussions were held with representatives of other federal departments and with associations to explore the possibility of a conference. Further discussions in 1996-1997 will establish the degree of interest and level of commitment that would be necessary to organize such an event.
- A special research study on youth in official-language minorities was completed in 1995-1996. It traces the evolution of the youth population between 1971 and 1991.

*N.B.: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*

## 2. Distribution of status report

- A copy of the status report and a new leaflet giving a description of Statistics Canada data and how to obtain it will be sent to the associations of the official-language minority communities that appear on the list provided by the Department of Canadian Heritage. The other associations will be able to obtain copies from the regional offices of Statistics Canada with which they are in contact or directly from the national coordinator.
- At Statistics Canada, the status report and the above-mentioned leaflet will also be made available to employees through the division heads.
- The status report and the new leaflet will be sent to the Commissioner of Official Languages and the members of the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.

Réjean Lachapelle (613) 951-3763  
*National Coordinator*

## STATUS OF WOMEN CANADA

**Responsible minister:**            **The Honourable Hedy Fry**

### 1. Principal achievements

- Status of Women Canada held consultations with representatives of the official-language minority communities concerning short-term and long-term measures that could be incorporated into the 1996-1997 action plan.
- The Department distributed the results of these consultations on a wide scale to official-language minority community organizations.
- The Department enhanced its participation in the various consultation meetings coordinated by the Department Canadian Heritage.
- Status of Women Canada participated on a regular basis in the teleconferences between the Minister and various women's groups.
- Status of Women Canada offered technical and financial support to women's groups in official-language minority communities to enable them to discuss the issues that interest them. The Department funded a total of 29 projects for these same communities at a cost of \$500,000.

*N.B.: Please refer to complete version of the document for further details.*

### 2. Distribution of status report

- Status of Women Canada's status report was sent to the main official-language minority community organizations and to the Commissioner of Official Languages.
- A list of official-language minority women's groups was drawn up for communications purposes.
- Various communications products, including updates of Status of Women Canada information documents such as *Perspectives*, were sent to official-language community groups across the country.

Duy Ai Kien (613) 947-0935  
*National Coordinator*

## TELEFILM CANADA

**Responsible minister:**           **The Honourable Sheila Copps**  
**Chairman :**                           **Robert Dinan**

### 1. Principal achievement at the national level

- In 1995-1996, Telefilm Canada funded 364 new projects, 162 in production and 202 in development. The budgets of these projects total over \$400 million. Telefilm Canada's various programs enabled the Corporation to invest in projects in the following sectors: development, production, distribution, marketing and dubbing. It also financed projects under its mini-treaty and co-production programs.

### 2. Principal achievements at the regional level

- Telefilm Canada contributed to funding for the development of two documentaries and a feature film in French in the Atlantic region, and for the development of a French-language documentary in Alberta.
- In Ontario, the Corporation contributed to funding a French-language documentary and provided financial assistance for marketing (promotion and publicity) a drama in French.
- In Quebec, Telefilm Canada participated in 80 English-language projects, including one in the Quebec City area.
- The Corporation also supported the *Festival du cinéma francophone en Acadie*, held in Moncton, and the *Cinéfest* Festival, held in Sudbury, whose program includes a French-language component specifically for the region.
- Telefilm Canada's office in the Atlantic region has succeeded in establishing closer relations with Radio-Canada in order to make it easier for producers in this region, who have more difficulty obtaining commitments from broadcasters, to obtain acceptance of certain projects.

*NOTE: Please refer to the complete version of the document for further details.*

### 3. Distribution of the status report

- Telefilm Canada distributed its status report to the various national and provincial associations representing official-language minority communities and to the Commissioner of Official Languages.

Maria Antonecchia (514) 283-6363  
*National Coordinator*

## **Part II**

### **Summary of 1996-1997 or multi-years plans**



## Table of Contents

<b>Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency</b> .....	<b>47</b>
<b>Business Development Bank of Canada</b> .....	<b>48</b>
<b>Canada Council</b> .....	<b>49</b>
<b>Canada Post Corporation</b> .....	<b>50</b>
<b>Canadian Broadcasting Corporation</b> .....	<b>51</b>
<b>Canadian International Development Agency</b> .....	<b>53</b>
<b>Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food</b> .....	<b>54</b>
<b>Department of Canadian Heritage</b> .....	<b>55</b>
<b>Department of Citizenship and Immigration</b> .....	<b>57</b>
<b>Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade</b> .....	<b>60</b>
<b>Department of Health</b> .....	<b>61</b>
<b>Department of Human Resources Development</b> .....	<b>63</b>
<b>Department of Justice</b> .....	<b>65</b>
<b>Department of Western Economic Diversification</b> .....	<b>67</b>
<b>Federal Office of Regional Development (Quebec)</b> .....	<b>69</b>
<b>Industry Canada</b> .....	<b>70</b>
<b>International Development Research Centre</b> .....	<b>72</b>
<b>National Arts Centre</b> .....	<b>74</b>
<b>National Capital Commission</b> .....	<b>75</b>
<b>National Film Board of Canada</b> .....	<b>77</b>
<b>Public Works and Government Services Canada</b> .....	<b>78</b>
<b>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada</b> .....	<b>80</b>
<b>Statistics Canada</b> .....	<b>81</b>
<b>Status of Women Canada</b> .....	<b>82</b>
<b>Telefilm Canada</b> .....	<b>83</b>
<b>Treasury Board Secretariat</b> .....	<b>84</b>

## ATLANTIC CANADA OPPORTUNITIES AGENCY

**Responsible Minister:** The Honourable John Manley  
**President:** David Nicholson

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1998

### 2. Principal measures planned

- The 1996-1998 Action Plan is a continuation of last year's plan. The Agency's efforts are concentrated in the area of economic development in Atlantic Canada. In the course of conducting its regular business, ACOA will continue to work with key economic players in the region and play a front-line role in economic development activities in the communities throughout the region. This includes support for Francophone economic activity, particularly with SMEs, young and women entrepreneurs, and organizations involved in economic development. The Agency will also continue to work and build on progress made to date relative to Francophone representation on the CBEDs, CBSCs and the regional development organizations.
- Last year, the Agency demonstrated its willingness to help Francophone groups develop economic development strategic plans (e.g. Port au Port region of Newfoundland) and could assist other Francophone regions which determine that they require such plans. This year the Agency is committed to the implementation of the *Association régionale de la Côte-Ouest's* (ARCO) Economic Development Plan for the Port au Port region of Newfoundland. It is also committed to working on the development and implementation of a community economic development plan with the Francophone community in Prince Edward Island. In Nova Scotia the action plan of the Acadian Entrepreneurship Working Group will be finalized. Work is being undertaken in New Brunswick to explore the opportunities for the development of French-language products and services in the computer and information technology sectors.
- The extent of the Agency's funded assistance committed to the needs of the Francophone communities is very much dependant on the applications submitted by the communities themselves. ACOA's assistance to these communities last year is indicative of the type of activities which could benefit from financial support during the 1996-1997 and 1997-1998 fiscal years.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- ACOA sent its action plan to official-language minority community organizations, Francophone organizations involved in the economic development sector, and the Commissioner of Official Languages.
- The action plan was made available to all ACOA staff and can be accessed through the Internet at the following address: <http://WWW.ACOA.CA>.

Lucienne Godbout (506) 851-2091  
*National Coordinator*

## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BANK OF CANADA

**Responsible Minister:** The Honourable John Manley  
**President and CEO:** François Beaudoin

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

- The Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) intends to pursue its initiatives aimed at enhancing the vitality of English and French linguistic minorities in Canada, supporting their development, and fostering the full recognition and use of both English and French in Canadian society.

To achieve these goals, the BDBC is adopting a manifold approach derived primarily from the nature of its mandate, new Act and revised structure.

One such course of action involves the Bank's objective of gaining a higher profile across Canada. As part of this effort, an information kit on BDBC products and services was sent to some 300 Francophone and Anglophone minority associations. Bank personnel are also expected to become even more active than at present in their efforts at business development as well as generally within the local community. These measures can only have a positive impact on English and French linguistic minorities in Canada.

The Bank's new operational structure is based on the concept of direct access. Under the new arrangement, the Bank's 78 branches, which previously reported to five regional offices, are now organized into 17 key market areas. This approach will enable the Bank to improve its position with official-language minority communities and increase its interaction with them to more fully meet their needs.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- The Bank sent its action plan to some 50 official-language minority associations across the country.
- The Bank also sent a copy of the plan to all managers in its 17 sectors, accompanied by a letter reminding employees of the purpose of the action plan and the status report. In addition, an article focusing on the action plan and the Bank's obligations with regard to Part VII of the *Official Languages Act* will be published in the newsletter *BDC Etc.*, which is sent to all Bank personnel.
- Bank employees who belong to chambers of commerce or official-language minority associations may distribute copies of the action plan at events organized by these organizations.

Jeanne Girard (514) 283-5279  
National Coordinator

## CANADA COUNCIL

**Responsible Minister:** The Honourable Sheila Copps  
**Director:** Roch Carrier

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1998

### 2. Principal measures planned

- To respond to the need expressed by the official-language minority communities for a development strategy with regard to the dissemination of cultural products, the Council will undertake the following measures in 1996-1997:
  - encourage the development of a network of Francophone art galleries and artist-run centres outside Quebec;
  - ensure that artists, companies and organizations in the performing arts field have access to information on touring and exchange networks throughout Canada, facilitate the exchange of information among stakeholders and explore access to professional development initiatives for presenters outside Quebec; and
  - organize a training and networking meeting within the context of the Canadian electronic network.
- In recognition of the specific needs of official-language minority professional theatres, and to clarify the respective responsibilities of the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Canada Council in their various programs of assistance to theatres, the Canada Council will work with Canadian Heritage to decide on the major components of the division of responsibilities and to establish a mechanism for consultation.
- In recognition of the specific needs of official-language minority publishers, and to clarify the respective responsibilities of the Canada Council and the Department of Canadian Heritage in their publishing support programs, the Canada Council will work with Canadian Heritage to explore the possibility of establishing a memorandum of understanding concerning support for official-language minority publishers.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- The Canada Council sent its action plan to the Commissioner of Official Languages and official-language minority cultural associations. The plan is also available on request.
- Once the Council has developed its Internet site, a summary of the action plan will be available on the Internet.
- The Council also distributed its action plan internally.

Katherine Berg (613) 566-4367  
*National Coordinator*

## CANADA POST CORPORATION

**Responsible Minister:** The Honourable Diane Marleau  
**President:** Georges C. Clermont

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

- The Corporation always takes into account the provisions of the *Official Languages Act* when developing its projects and initiatives. While fulfilling its commitment to ensure that clients have access to postal services in the official language of their choice, the Corporation is broadening the scope of its community outreach programs as part of efforts aimed at supporting Canada's Francophone and Anglophone minority communities.
- The Canada Post Corporation has made literacy its favourite cause in communities across the country, taking into account the needs of both official-language minority populations.
- In addition to planning its community involvement at the national level, the Corporation has delegated to all its divisions across Canada specific responsibility for meeting with representatives of official-language minority communities in their region and determining the most effective means of support that the Corporation can offer.
- Promoting literacy in Canada and meeting the needs of Francophone and Anglophone minority groups are among the Corporation's chief priorities in terms of supporting the development of both official languages in Canada and allowing them to flourish.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- A copy of the action plan was sent to the Commissioner of Official Languages.
- Copies of the action plan will also be made available to official-language minority communities across the country.
- A copy of the action plan will be sent to coordinators in the other federal departments responsible for this file.

Robert Gauthier (613) 734-8596  
*National Coordinator*

## CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

**Responsible Minister:**

**The Honourable Sheila Copps**

**President and Chief Executive Officer:**

**The Honourable Perrin Beatty**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

For its second action plan, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) decided, in accordance with the recommendation made by the Commissioner of Official Languages, to include a specific section dealing with its two specialty services, namely the *Réseau de l'Information* (RDI) and Newsworld. This section explains the success of RDI which, after only 15 months in operation, has a penetration rate of 77.1% and is accessible to 94% of the population in the 110 territories identified by the Department of Canadian Heritage and used as a reference by the *Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada* (FCFA). Newsworld, for its part, is continuing to promote the broadcast of its services and maintaining its efforts to persuade operators in the high-cost, low-penetration tier to move to the basic cable service; this situation is unique to cable operators in Quebec, and particularly in Quebec City, where 190,000 subscribers, including the Anglophone minority, have access to Newsworld but at a very high cost.

The chapters dealing with basic services have been revised to reflect the latest guidelines from Canadian Heritage and identify more specifically the officers responsible for the numerous activities mentioned. Regional officials have emphasized the various measures used to identify the needs of the official-language minority communities and highlighted the principal measures planned for the present fiscal year. The CBC wanted a better distinction between normal activities and ad hoc and special contributions intended to better reflect the community to itself and to the rest of the country.

In general, the main needs identified involve increased regional information and the development and promotion of the community through the production of programs with which it can identify, the promotion of the community's identity and activities, the production of youth and children's programs, adequate coverage of important regional events and the development of partnerships through agreements and better cooperation with other regional organizations.

The measures planned by the CBC in 1996-1997 include:

- the opening of a radio production centre in Charlottetown;
- the opening of a news bureau in Caraquet;
- the installation and operation of a new transmitter in Lamèque;
- the production of many special and one-time programs added to the regular schedule to better serve each region;

- the promotion of young regional talents through the production of contest shows including, in some cases, a week-long training program with professionals for finalists (*Ontario Pop*, *Galas de la chanson* in the Maritimes and the Western provinces);
- The CBC will also offer three-month television internships to two young Francophones in each of its Western stations and a two-week internship in radio;
- The CBC will continue to promote its activities on air and in meetings with the communities, at their annual general meetings or with their leaders, to obtain their suggestions or comments on its programming; and
- the CBC will also continue to produce information kits for the communities and send booklets on its youth programs to schools.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### **3. Distribution of action plan**

- The CBC has sent the complete version of its action plan to the Commissioner of Official Languages, the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages and all the national organizations designated by the Department of Canadian Heritage.
- At the regional or provincial/territorial level, the summary, the preamble, the section on RDI and Newsworld together with the regional appendix have been mailed by the regional media directors to each regional and/or provincial organization, according to the list prepared by the Department of Canadian Heritage and according to the particular experience of each regional officer.

Hélène Gendron (613) 738-6976  
National Coordinator

## CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

**Responsible Minister:**            **The Honourable Don Boudria**  
**President:**                            **Huguette Labelle**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

- The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) undertakes activities in support of the economic and social emancipation of the populations of developing countries. Through its initiatives, CIDA promotes social justice, international stability and the development of long-term economic relations that will benefit Canada.
- CIDA asks for input from its partners (individuals, institutions, organizations, private firms) across the country in developing and implementing Canada's international cooperation activities. It encourages the participation of a range of executing agencies working in various fields, as well as participation by all sectors of Canadian society, in carrying out its projects.
- The Agency intends to hold its information sessions more often and to accept invitations from official-language minority groups to hold meetings in the regions.
- CIDA will provide documentation and information to any group, organization or private firm that wishes to undertake cooperation activities in developing countries.
- The Agency wishes to continue the dialogue already initiated with the official-language minority communities, and hopes that it may count on the collaboration of all those involved to help it meet the manifold needs of developing countries.
- CIDA authorities are willing to meet at any time with any person who wishes to obtain more details on the implementation of section 41 of the *Official Languages Act* by the Agency.

*NOTE : Please refer to the detailed action plan for other proposed measures.*

Claude Francoeur (819) 997-5041  
*National Coordinator*



## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD

**Responsible Minister:**            **The Honourable Ralph Goodale**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

- Catalogue and revise the policies and programs which have an impact on the development of official-language minority communities.
- Establish partnerships with institutions having a mandate that relates to community development.
- Provide information and training to departmental regional managers on their role in the development of small communities and in the promotion of the full recognition and use of both official languages in Canadian society.
- Provide information to agriculture stakeholders in Anglophone and Francophone minority communities on initiatives and projects related to the Adaptation and Rural Development Fund (ARDF).
- Improve human resources skills within the agricultural and food sector.
- Create cooperative educational programs and establish better linkages with the educational community.
- Develop continuous and distance education opportunities.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- The Department sends its action plan to the managers in each of its branches as well as the regional managers.
- The action plan is sent to all the associations appearing on the list supplied by the Department of Canadian Heritage and to government agencies with a regional development mandate.
- Two copies are also sent to the Commissioner of Official Languages, the Official Languages Directorate of Treasury Board and the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.

Claude R. Desrochers (613) 759-6453  
*National Coordinator*

## DEPARTMENT OF CANADIAN HERITAGE

**Responsible Minister:**            **The Honourable Sheila Copps**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1999

### 2. Principal measures planned

#### **National measures**

- Pursue the implementation of capital projects under federal-provincial/territorial agreements on the official languages in education (French-language community colleges in Ontario, Faculté Saint-Jean in Alberta, Calgary school and community centre, School of Electrical Engineering of the Université de Moncton).
- Establish and strengthen a network of French song by supporting the activities of *Coup de coeur francophone*.
- During the summer of 1996, implement the government's \$3.5-million initiative "Young Canada Works in Both Official Languages" to provide over 500 young people with the opportunity to obtain a first job in their second language.
- Produce for The Family Channel/Le Canal Famille a series of 30-second messages describing various national historic sites and in many cases involving the participation of the official-language minority communities.
- Participate actively in activities organized around the "Semaine nationale de la francophonie," which promotes rapprochement and a better knowledge and greater understanding of the components of Canada's French-speaking community.
- Organize a national summit, in the Beauce, Quebec, on the economic development of the Francophone communities, preceded by regional forums in western, central and eastern Canada.
- Ensure that the official-language minority communities receive some benefit from the loans provided to cultural industries through the Cultural Industries Development Fund.
- Ensure the participation of the official-language minority communities (economic and social benefits) in promotional activities surrounding all major events between 1996 and 1999, such as Canada Day activities, exhibitions, shows, conferences, symposiums and other events of national scope.
- With the co-operation of each region and of the Canadian Tourism Commission, establish a Canada-wide tourist route highlighting the cultural heritage of the official-language minority communities.

### **Regional measures**

- Participate in the construction of the *Centre du patrimoine franco-manitobain* and support the introduction of public awareness and education programs at the Centre. (Manitoba)
- Contribute to the creation of a school and community centre in Yellowknife. (N.W.T.)
- Support the establishment of the Arts Centre in Sudbury and the Theatre Arts Centre in Ottawa. (Ontario)
- Assist the community in acquiring permanent cultural facilities such as the *Centre des arts* in Caraquet and the *Centre culturel Aberdeen* in Moncton. (New Brunswick)
- Promote projects for the construction of a school and community centre in Sydney and the expansion of the *Carrefour du Grand-Havre* in Halifax-Dartmouth. (Nova Scotia)
- Participate in negotiating an agreement to promote the implementation of Francophone school management. (Newfoundland and British Columbia)
- Support the establishment of satellite centres of the provincial adult training centre in the Acadian and Francophone regions of the province. (Prince Edward Island)
- Take Canada's linguistic duality into account when planning and providing the federal government's contribution to the celebrations marking the 500th anniversary in 1997 of the arrival of Cabot in Newfoundland. (Newfoundland)
- Assist in the development of a Francophone consortium to provide the Canadian and foreign market with a range of tourist products; evaluate Quebec tourist potential. (Alberta)
- Assist the agency Direction Jeunesse in completing its project *Le Mondial de l'entrepreneuriat - at jeunesse* to be held in Ottawa from September 19 to 22, 1996. (Ontario)
- Prepare a three-year project (1996-1999), oriented to tourists from New England, to increase audiences for English-language theatre. (Quebec)
- Assist the *Société Saint-Thomas-d'Aquin* in producing an action plan for sounder economic development based on local resources. (P.E.I.)

*NOTE: The action plan contains other measures. Please refer to it.*

### **3. Distribution of action plan**

- The Department has sent its action plan to organizations of the official-language minority communities, to the Commissioner of Official Languages and to the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.
- The Department has disseminated its action plan electronically to all its employees.
- Available on the Internet at the following address: <http://pch.gc.ca/offlangoff>

Pierre Goulet (819) 997-7584  
National Coordinator

## DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

**Responsible Minister:**            **The Honourable Lucienne Robillard**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

Over the past year, employees in the regional offices and at National Headquarters worked in cooperation with the Department of Canadian Heritage to identify and better understand the objectives and needs of official-language minority communities.

National Headquarters (NHQ) will:

- maintain the NHQ and regional working group to ensure that the action plan is adhered to;
- periodically inform executives of the progress achieved and specific situations concerning Part VII;
- supervise and support the regions in the implementation of section 41 of the *Official Languages Act*. The Settlement Branch has asked the regions to send it the results of their consultation meeting and the plans emerging from that meeting;
- consult the associations representing official-language minority communities to assess their needs with a view to adapting the various programs and services;
- continue educating citizenship applicants about Canada's linguistic duality through study material and questions about the bilingual nature of Canada in citizenship knowledge tests, as well as promoting Canada's linguistic duality through special citizenship ceremonies;
- take into account Part VII of the *Official Languages Act* when CIC's policies are developed or revised;
- ensure that federal negotiators take Part VII into consideration during negotiations with the provinces on immigration matters;
- display bilingual material and videos which promote the linguistic duality of Canada to potential immigrants;
- distribute and promote to the education departments of the provinces and territories its school kit, available in both official languages, which contains an educational booklet entitled "Land of Hope", a CD ROM entitled "Stargate Canada 2232" and a supply of the magazine "New Friends". This kit explains to students the history of immigration and the important roles that both linguistic groups have played in Canada's development;

- broadcast "Land of Hope", a one-hour TV/video drama produced and tested with various focus groups, one of which was from the Acadian community. Negotiations are underway for national broadcasts on public television networks (CBC and SRC) beginning in July 1996.
- continue to develop and distribute Immigration promotional material and visitor information to promote Canada's linguistic duality in all of its missions abroad; and
- invite official-language minority communities across Canada to submit to the Promotion and Recruitment Unit any material they would like to see distributed at missions abroad concerning their particular region and the services available through their organization.

In every region, Citizenship and Immigration Canada will:

- promote Canada's linguistic duality during its Citizenship ceremonies;
- invite representatives of the official-language minority communities to participate in the Citizenship ceremonies;
- incorporate Part VII of the *Official Languages Act* in any Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to be negotiated between the federal, and provincial governments and the regions as part of the new Settlement Renewal Process;
- review proposals to ensure that language courses will be offered to French-speaking immigrants;
- set up a working group composed of representatives of the Department and the various Franco-Ontarian and Franco-ethnocultural organizations as well as racial minority associations. The group's mandate would be to open communication channels and work towards the achievement of common objectives;
- take part in a working group mandated to find alternatives to help groups such as the *Conseil des organismes francophones du Toronto métropolitain*, which are being affected by funding reductions and require financial support;
- cooperate with Francophone communities to plan the Pan-American Games with a view to promoting the *Société franco-manitobaine* (SFM) and its services;
- distribute at every port of entry documents and brochures provided by minority associations describing the services they offer; and
- set up a booth in a French-language school during National Citizenship Week.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- The regional coordinators responsible for implementation of Part VII of the *Official Languages Act* will inform Francophone organizations of the availability of their action plan. They will distribute it on request.
- At National Headquarters, the action plan will be available on the Internet.
- The department has distributed its action plan to the Commissioner of Official Languages and to the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.

Monique Tremblay (613) 941-7748  
*National Coordinator*

## DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

**Responsible Minister:**            **The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade presents an overview of its mandate in its 1996 Annual Report on the implementation of Part VII of the *Official Languages Act*, which serves as an action plan, and describes the assistance it provides to Francophone groups across the country to enable them to participate in activities of the *Francophonie*, as well as to Anglophone groups and artists in Quebec. Under its mandate, the Department:

- manages international relations with other Francophone countries. This is the responsibility of the Francophone Affairs Division, whose basic mandate involves multilateral relations with the *Francophonie*. Thus, the Division manages the necessary funds for meetings of Heads of State and Heads of Government of countries using French as an official language and contributes to the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation and other international institutions of the *Francophonie*, including those with links to the French-speaking world;
- supports New Brunswick's participation in the activities of the *Francophonie* through financial assistance to the government of that province; other provinces also participate in these activities on occasion. In an effort to increase their participation, the Francophone Affairs Division encourages Francophone minority communities in all regions of the country to take part in these activities;
- ensures participation by French-speaking Canadians representing non-governmental organizations by providing financial support for the organization of conferences and activities aimed at promoting the international *Francophonie*; and
- supports, among other things, participation of Quebec Anglophone artists in international fairs and festivals.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade distributed its report to groups representing official-language minority communities throughout the country.
- The Department also sent a copy of its action plan to the Commissioner of Official Languages and the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.

Michael Kamoff-Nicolosky (613) 992-9249  
*National Coordinator*

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**Responsible Minister:**            **The Honourable David C. Dingwall**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

#### *Coordination*

Health Canada will actively assist in coordinating the implementation of section 41 of the *Official Languages Act*.

- As the senior official responsible for the file within the Department, André Juneau, Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy and Consultation Branch, sits on the Steering Committee for the implementation of section 41, created by the Department of Canadian Heritage.
- Representatives of Health Canada, particularly the regional directors general, will present official-language minority community concerns to provincial and territorial officials when the occasion arises.

#### *Consultation and liaison*

The Department will consult and share information on a regular basis with official-language minority communities. In particular:

- The Assistant Deputy Minister of the Policy and Consultation Branch will meet with representatives of the principal national organizations to discuss their expectations and concerns, as raised during the consultations held in 1995-1996.

#### *Financial assistance*

In terms of resources, the key measure is undoubtedly the financial assistance that the Department provides to official-language minority communities across the country.

- During fiscal year 1995-1996, Health Canada earmarked over \$4.5 million for annual or multi-year projects serving the communities. In total, almost \$2 million was contributed to 50 groups in 1995-1996, including \$200,000 to the *Commission nationale des parents francophones* for its national early childhood Francization program. Health Canada intends to pursue its cooperation with the official-language minority communities during fiscal year 1996-1997.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain further measures. Please refer to it for details.*



### 3. Distribution of action plan

- The action plan is distributed to national and provincial organizations representing official-language minority communities, in accordance with the lists supplied by the Department of Canadian Heritage.
- A copy of the action plan is sent to the Commissioner of Official Languages and the Co-Chairs of the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.
- During the 1996-1997 fiscal year, Health Canada's achievements in implementing section 41 will be the subject of an article in *Intracom*, the Department's employee newsletter. An article describing these achievements will be submitted to the Department of Canadian Heritage for its *Bulletin 41-42*.

Lise Lavoie (613) 954-2878  
*National Coordinator*

## DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

**Responsible Minister:**            **The Honourable Pierre Pettigrew**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

- Ensure that the Anglophone and Francophone minority communities receive services in the official language of their choice, in accordance with paragraph 57(1)(d.1) of the *Employment Insurance Act*.
- Pay particular attention to official-language minority communities in the monitoring and assessment of the way in which individuals, communities and the economy in general adjust to the changes brought by the *Employment Insurance Act*, especially with respect to the effectiveness of the employment benefits and support measures under Part II.
- Coordinate projects proposed by the official-language minority communities at the national, regional and local levels.
- Establish an effective collaborative framework to ensure close cooperation with the communities and continuation of work accomplished by the communities and departmental officials in recent months through the *Comité d'adaptation des ressources humaines de la francophonie canadienne* (CARHFC).
- Establish an official liaison mechanism with community groups in every region to better identify and meet their needs.
- Keep the official-language minority communities better apprised of the programs and services offered by the Department and continue to respond to requests for services and programs.
- Develop and implement regional communication strategies and develop internal and external mechanisms for distributing information.
- Maintain existing partnerships and develop new ones with a view to helping improve living conditions in the official-language minority communities and supporting their organizations.
- Develop closer ties with French-speaking communities, particularly those in Newfoundland, Alberta and British Columbia, and establish official liaison mechanisms with them.
- Provide direct and indirect assistance to purchase training from the *Société Éducative*, a provincial training centre for Francophone adults in Prince Edward Island.
- Support initiatives promoting human resources development among Nova Scotia's Francophones and involve that community in the local and regional planning process.

- Support the standing committee composed of representatives of each human resources centre and representatives of National Services and the Regional Office in New Brunswick, and develop an awareness campaign for these centres concerning the needs of the province's Francophones.
- Organize information sessions with Quebec Anglophone stakeholders to present the new *Employment Insurance Act* and the new service delivery tools as part of the service point restructuring process.
- Develop a youth strategy for Franco-Ontarians.
- Provide support to the Franco-Manitoban community in terms of economic and social development as well as cultural activities.
- Establish a joint planning process with Saskatchewan's French-speaking community. The first in a series of biannual meetings will be held in May 1997.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### **3. Distribution of action plan**

- The action plan will be distributed internally to all executives and managers and externally to Francophone and Anglophone minority communities.
- The national and regional action plan will be presented and analysed during employee awareness sessions to eventually determine other initiatives to be added to the Department's communication plan.
- The action plan will also be distributed to the Commissioner of Official Languages and the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.

Michelle Hamelin (819) 997-5771  
National Coordinator

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**Responsible Minister:**            **The Honourable Allan Rock**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

- In order to promote bilingualism and bijuralism, the Department of Justice has established the *Bilingualism and Bijuralism Committee*. This Committee will provide an official forum for coordination, discussion, decision-making, planning, and establishment of priorities with regard to the major issues affecting the promotion of bilingualism and bijuralism, both internally and in the Department's dealings with its partners. The Committee will also be responsible for the implementation of this Plan and for approving the Department's future Action Plans under the *Official Languages Act*.
- To raise minorities' awareness of their language rights, the Department of Justice will publish a brochure, involve itself in training activities, create a POLAJ site (National Program for the Integration of Both Official Languages in the Administration of Justice) on the ADJNet network and provide funding (a \$175,000 contribution) to the *Fédération des associations de juristes d'expression française*.
- To promote the development of tools needed to improve the integration of both official languages in the administration of justice, particular attention will be given to the recommendations of the working group on the distribution of POLAJ products and services and of that on the role, structure and operation of the POLAJ Steering Committee.
- To promote legislative bijuralism, the Legislative Services Branch, with the help of the report to be submitted by its committee on legislative bijuralism, is committed to drafting federal statutory instruments in such a manner as to better enable Canadians to read laws in the official language of their choice, and with reference to the legal system of their province or territory.
- To ensure that the special needs of official-language minorities receive greater recognition in the course of policy development, the Policy Sector of the Department has implemented a Policy Project Plan requiring project managers to consider the relationship between their projects or initiatives and the *Official Languages Act*.
- To increase its counsels' awareness, the Department will organize conferences and will develop working instruments for federal Crown prosecutors and legal counsel designed to better inform them about the implementation of the language rights provisions of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, the *Official Languages Act* and the *Criminal Code*. Particular attention will be paid to Part VII of the *Official Languages Act*.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- The Department of Justice distributed its action plan internally to the offices of the Minister and Deputy Minister, sector heads and managers, accompanied by a letter signed by the Associate Deputy Minister, Civil Law and Corporate Management. The employees will be informed in a bulletin distributed by the Deputy Minister and will be invited to submit their comments.
- The action plan will be distributed during the Semaine nationale de la francophonie and on Law Day 1997. A display illustrating one aspect of the plan (e.g. legislative bijuralism) will be prepared for these events.
- An interview with the National Coordinator and the POLAJ Coordinator, dealing with various aspects of the action plan (origin, participants, objectives, content, etc.) will be published in *Inter Pares*.
- Externally, the Department of Justice will send the action plan to representatives of each designated community group, accompanied by a letter from the Associate Deputy Minister explaining the objective of the initiative and inviting feedback on the plan.
- A special edition of *Echo Justice* will be published to explain various aspects of the action plan and provide demographic data on the distribution of official-language minority groups across the country. Suggestions on ways of reaching these groups will be presented as well.

Carole Johnson (613) 957-4391  
*National Coordinator*

## DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

**Responsible Minister:**            **The Honourable Jon Gerrard**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

- Over the course of the past year, Western Economic Diversification (WED) officials in the regions and at our corporate offices have worked closely with Francophone community representatives and with officials from the Department of Canadian Heritage to implement WED's 1995-1996 action plan. In-depth discussions were also held to determine the immediate and long-term measures that could be incorporated into the current 1996-1997 plan. The latter is based on a strategy centred on the Department's five main objectives (see below) and a number of specific initiatives contributing to their achievement.
- 1) Increase and improve communications, consultations and cooperation between the Francophone communities and WED by:
    - distributing the WED action plan to the Francophone communities;
    - exploring the possibility of an electronic link between Francophone western economic development organizations by means of WED's integrated service delivery network: WED will target a certain number of Francophone minority communities for the distribution of its products and services;
    - improving the bilingual data base for federal programs and services that can be consulted in both official languages;
    - promoting the participation of Francophones on the boards of directors of groups such as the Community Futures Development Corporations;
    - announcing activities associated with WED programs and services that are aimed at Francophone communities; and
    - developing an inventory of Francophone resource persons for distribution to the members of the WED network and the appropriate organizations.
  - 2) Strengthen the Francophone community infrastructure and identify opportunities for economic growth by:
    - establishing a profile of the Francophone communities to highlight their economic strengths, current and potential comparative advantages, special needs and economic development opportunities;
    - developing training programs, seminars and specific services for Francophone communities; and
    - identifying summer employment opportunities at WED for students attending Francophone postsecondary institutions.

- 3) Respond to specific needs identified by the communities in areas such as youth entrepreneurship and cultural tourism; ensure improved federal interdepartmental coordination in the provision of enhanced services by:
  - holding periodic consultations with other federal departments and organizations to ensure coordinated delivery of programs and services; and
  - holding periodic consultations with representatives of Francophone communities to examine the implementation of specific projects and initiatives.
- 4) Enhance WED's institutional awareness and understanding of its obligations under section 41 of the *Official Languages Act* by:
  - designing awareness programs aimed at the Department's staff and the partners of the integrated service delivery network;
  - enhancing the Department's ability to offer its programs in French;
  - designing specific mechanisms to improve the working relationship between the network's partners and the Francophone communities;
  - updating the WED policy on official languages so that it reflects the Department's commitment to conform to the spirit and intent of section 41 of the *Official Languages Act*; distributing the revised version of the policy to all staff and our network partners.
- 5) Integrate the section 41 objectives into WED's planning and evaluation processes by:
  - integrating into Part III of the Estimates the Business Plan and the Departmental Outlook as well as the objectives and commitments set out in the action plan; and
  - designing a framework for evaluating the results obtained in terms of the departmental section 41 objectives.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### **3. Distribution of action plan**

- The action plan was distributed to groups and associations representing the Francophone communities as well as to the volunteers of the business services network. Discussions will be held to analyse the consequences of the plan and the shared responsibilities provided for therein.
- The Department also distributed its status report to the Commissioner of Official Languages and the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.
- The action plan is available on the Internet at the following address:  
<http://www.wd.gc.ca>

Guy R. Brunet (613) 954-3933  
*National Coordinator*

## FEDERAL OFFICE OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (QUEBEC)

**Responsible Minister:**            **The Honourable Martin Cauchon**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

- Annual survey and corrective/preventive action on client services.
- As part of its implementation of ISO standard 9002, the Office plans to bilingualize all its forms to enable advisors to provide official-language minority communities with appropriate services and information.
- FORD-Q will continue to ensure compliance with Part VII of the *Official Languages Act* in contracts with Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDCs).
- The Office will ensure that the Department's new programs are presented to official-language minority communities as soon as possible.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- The action plan is distributed to all the Bank's regional offices.
- The plan is also made available to all official-language minority communities wishing to familiarize themselves with it.

Carole Savard (514) 283-8148  
*National Coordinator*



## INDUSTRY CANADA

**Responsible Minister:**            **The Honourable John Manley**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1999

### 2. Principal measures planned

- *Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC)* - Industry Canada will create a working group, comprising representatives from Ontario's 15 CFDCs serving areas with a sizeable Francophone minority.
- Industry Canada will ensure that each CFDC board of directors includes representatives of the official-language minority community in a proportion that at least equals their percentage of the population.
- *Tourism* - Any marketing partnership proposal received from official-language minority communities, such as the *Route de la francophonie* project, will be submitted to a private-sector-led review committee for approval. The committee will evaluate the project according to its commercial value and its contribution to the business plan of the Canadian Tourism Commission.
- *Canada Community Investment Plan* - Require that funding applications from groups whose catchment area includes official-language minority communities indicate how they intend to meet the needs of these communities within the context of the project; failure to do so will lead to an appreciable drop in their project ranking.
- *Information Highway* - Develop a strategy on universal access to the information highway, in consultation with official-language minority communities, in order to ensure that the information highway meets their needs and reflects Canada's linguistic duality.
- *Information highway in both official languages* - Regularly assess the situation of French on the information highway; ensure that the activities of the *Centre international sur le développement de l'information en français* are meeting the needs of Francophone communities.
- Canada and France will form a joint commercial cooperation and partnership committee in the field of information and telecommunications technologies.
- Canada will host and participate in an international conference of Francophone countries to promote the development of the information highway in French.
- *Community Access Program (CAP)* - Some of the CAP promotion activities will be aimed specifically at official-language minority communities.

- Sensitize members of the provincial selection committees and the National Advisory Committee to the program's strategic importance to many of these communities.
- Include in most of the provincial selection committees at least one member from the official-language minority communities.
- *SchoolNet* - A committee on Francophone issues has been created to consider content and occasionally hold discussions on technical issues in relation to the use of French.
- Encourage official-language minority communities to submit projects under the Grassroots Projects Program.
- *Digitized Collection Program* - Industry Canada will make special efforts to generate digitization projects in official-language minority communities.
- *Student Connection Program* - Contact official-language minority associations and chambers of commerce to ensure that their members are included in the selection process of organizations identified to receive training.
- *Computers for Schools* - Send information on the program to official-language minority associations.
- *Evaluation frameworks* - When completed, the evaluation frameworks for six programs (CAP, SchoolNet, Computers for Schools, Digitized Collection, Student Connection and Canada Community Investment Plan) will identify, among other things, potential evaluation issues concerning the impact of these programs on official-language minority communities, to be considered in future program evaluations of these initiatives.
- *Canada Business Service Centres* - Most of the provincial advisory committees of CBSC users will include representatives from the official-language minority community.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### **3. Distribution of action plan**

- Industry Canada sent the action plan to all the provincial coordination and national organizations, as well as all the economic organizations representing official-language minority communities across Canada.
- Organizations representing local communities will receive, in addition to the national plan, the regional action plan dealing with their region.
- Copies have been sent to the Commissioner of Official Languages, the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.
- The action plan is also available on the Internet through Industry Canada's home page, at the following address: <http://info.ic.gc.ca>.

<p>Dominique Veilleux (613) 954-4083 National Coordinator</p>
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## INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE

**Responsible Minister:** The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy  
**President:** Keith A. Bezanson

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

The principal measures planned by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) for implementing section 41 of the Official Languages Act during 1996-1997 form part of the awareness program IDRC intends to conduct, both inside and outside the organization. These measures include:

- making upper management and program team members aware of the role they play in implementing section 41 of the *Official Languages Act*;
- distributing to key IDRC personnel, including staff from regional offices outside Canada, scientific information provided by Canadian official-language minority communities;
- participating in meetings with Canadian scientific official-language minority communities working in international development research--for example, by organizing a meeting by June 1996 between the *Regroupement des universités francophones hors Québec*, IDRC and the International Division of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada;
- updating mailing lists for various IDRC Canadian programs in order to ensure that the organization contacts all scientific official-language minority communities, in particular those groups that have indicated an interest in contributing to international development research; and
- determining how well IDRC's annual Fellowships and Awards Program campaign reaches young researchers from official-language minority communities .

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- The IDRC action plans for 1995-1996 and 1996-1997 are available on the Internet at the following addresses: <http://www.idrc.ca> (English) and <http://www.idrc.ca/corp/findex.html> (French).

- IDRC has sent its action plan for 1996-1997 by post to the Commissioner of Official Languages, the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages and associations representing official-language minority communities, in accordance with the distribution list provided by the Department of Canadian Heritage.
- IDRC has distributed an electronic version of its action plan internally. As well, an article appeared in the IDRC weekly newsletter, Echogramme, notifying all staff of the tabling of the plan.

Catherine Reynolds (613) 236-6163, ext. 2512  
*National Coordinator*

## NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE

**Responsible Minister:** The Honourable Sheila Copps  
**Director and President:** John Cripton

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

- The National Arts Centre (NAC) intends to set up a Permanent Joint Cultural Committee for the official-language minority communities. It intends to involve other partners and plans to take a leadership role in managing and coordinating this activity.
- The NAC is involved in developing a memorandum of understanding on professional theatre in the Francophone and Acadian communities with the Canada Council and the Department of Canadian Heritage.
- Through its *Développement du théâtre français en région* (DTR) program, the NAC's French Theatre supports the efforts of Francophone professional theatre companies operating in minority communities. The assistance takes the form of collaborations, coproductions, or help in specific areas. On occasion, the NAC presents one of the coproductions on one of its stages. This initiative is essential to the development of professional theatre in the official-language minority communities.
- The NAC plans to support the 25th Anniversary of *Théâtre Action* by offering its Studio facility to hold certain activities and the services of ushers, technical personnel and the equipment needed to carry them out properly.
- The NAC wants to continue presenting the *Quinze jours de dramaturgie des régions*, along with a series of performances and public readings celebrating Francophone playwrights from Ontario, Manitoba and Acadia.
- The NAC plans to work on a 1997-2000 multi-year action plan for the implementation of Part VII of the *Official Languages Act*.

*NOTE : The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- The National Arts Centre distributed its action plan to professional theatre companies and the main cultural organizations of the official-language minority communities.
- The NAC also sent its action plan to the Commissioner of Official Languages.

Danielle Robinson (613) 947-7000, ext. 542  
*National Coordinator*

## NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION

**Responsible Minister:** The Honourable Sheila Copps  
**Chairman:** Marcel Beaudry

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1999

### 2. Principal measures planned

The National Capital Commission (NCC) is committed to fostering the growth of minority Francophone and Anglophone communities in Canada, and so proposes the following:

- increase participation in various educational programs by increasing our mailing list by 10,000 addresses, of which over 1,700 are minority Francophone or Anglophone groups;
- increase access to the Capital Family Experience program by negotiating additional coverage with the "Alliance des radios communautaires du Canada" and the print media in general;
- increase involvement of youth from official-language minority communities (OLMCs) in the Capital Youth Ambassador program by increasing mailings to ensure that intermediate schools and high schools in OLMCs are involved;
- participate in the Experience Canada program. The program helps smooth the transition from school to work for young people. During the selection process, the NCC gives priority to young people from OLMCs. The NCC hosts the participants in Canada's Capital Region;
- maintain a wide distribution of the insert promoting Canada Day, which involves distributing over 800,000 copies in OLMCs;
- develop the Cultures Canada concept, paying special attention to groups that are representative of Canada's cultural diversity;
- choose staff and artists who reflect the linguistic duality of the country, taking any opportunity to interact with OLMCs within the framework of international programs;
- focus on artists and leaders who have come out of OLMCs in *Reflections of Canada: A Symphony of Sound and Light*. The goal of the sound and light show on Parliament Hill is to promote a better understanding of Canada and Canadians;
- bring together young people living in OLMCs in order to provide them with opportunities to share their opinions on current issues which interest them. This segment of the Capital Quiz program is called "Speak Up, Speak Out!";
- invest in the creation of a television series to bring together Francophones in Canada;

- increase NCC involvement with community radio stations; and
- continue to offer non-remunerated training to members of OLMCs.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### **3. Distribution of action plan**

- The NCC has sent its action plan to the Commissioner of Official Languages, the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages, the President of the Treasury Board, the Privy Council Office of Canada, the national coordinators of the federal institutions designated under section 41 of the *Official Languages Act* and national Anglophone and Francophone organizations.

Judith Russell (613) 239-5703  
*National Coordinator*

## NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA

**Responsible Minister:** The Honourable Sheila Copps  
**Chairperson:** Sandra Macdonald

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1999

### 2. Principal measures planned

In a context of budgetary restrictions, the three-year action plan of the National Film Board (NFB) is based on the quality of the partnerships between the representatives of the NFB—in particular the regional producers—and those members and institutions of the official-language minority communities directly or indirectly involved in the creation and distribution of films. Among the activities planned are:

- changes in the French Program in the procedure for evaluating films at the research-scripting stage in order to facilitate the project submission process for filmmakers from Francophone communities outside Quebec;
- establishment of a pilot project in partnership with a Moncton firm, which will handle distribution of the English and French versions of the film *Evangeline's Quest* at various historic Acadian sites in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island frequently visited by tourists;
- a direct mail campaign to some 3,000 potential or actual NFB customers, who are members of Quebec's Anglophone community, to inform them of the release of productions that might respond to their interests or needs.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- The NFB has sent its action plan to the Commissioner of Official Languages, the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages and representatives of official-language minority communities working in partnership with the NFB. The Board will also send a copy, free of charge, to anyone who requests it.
- The NFB announced the tabling of its action plan in its internal newsletter, *Info-film*.
- The plan is available on the Internet at the following address: <http://www.nfb.ca>.

Laurie Jones (514) 283-9247  
National Coordinator



## PUBLIC WORKS AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES CANADA

**Responsible Minister:**            **The Honourable Diane Marleau**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

- In the past year, employees in the regional offices and headquarters of Public Works and Government Services (PWGSC) worked in cooperation with the Department of Canadian Heritage to identify and fully understand the objectives and needs of the official-language minority communities as well as the value they attach to the Department's various programs.

Also in this first year of the learning process, the communities were informed of the constraints that the Department has to face in delivering its services.

The communities are particularly interested in anything relating to the federal contracting process for the procurement of goods and services, which accounts for the majority of PWGSC's activities. In order to help minority-language business groups, information sessions on how to do business with the federal government were organized in various regions of Canada.

The strategic thrust of the 1996-1997 Action Plan stems from a decision by the Departmental Executive Committee. Below is a summary of the principal measures in this plan:

- distribute TERMIUM©, the Translation Bureau's terminology data bank software, and a series of glossaries from the Translation Bureau and Canada Communication Group free of charge;
- establish a departmental committee for the implementation of section 41 of the *Official Languages Act*;
- review the Department's programs in terms of needs identified by the communities;
- assign human resources for the coordination of the initiative;
- distribute information to officers in the regions and at headquarters to make them aware of the Department's obligation under section 41 and understand its importance;
- integrate the section 41 Action Plan into the Department's Business Plan;
- participate in consultations with official-language minority groups; and
- inform economic associations and business groups of activities organized by Supply

Operations.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### **3. Distribution of action plan**

- The Department distributed its 1996-1997 action plan to all national organizations and associations representing official-language minority communities.
- The Department will publish an article on section 41 in its newsletter, *Ensemble*. The article will focus on the Department's activities in 1995-1996 and remind readers of the importance of services in both official languages.
- A communication plan will be prepared for each of the initiatives proposed in the Department's section 41 action plan. The Department will use the Internet, the Intranet, official-language minority newspapers, regular mail, E-mail and any other communication tool enabling it to reach its target client groups.

Francine Bastien (819) 956-4391  
*National Coordinator*

## SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA

**Responsible Minister:** The Honourable John Manley  
**President:** Lynn Penrod

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1999

### 2. Principal measures planned

Given the budget restrictions in place until 1998-1999 and in accordance with its mandate, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) intends:

- to continue exchanging information with the Department of Canadian Heritage and encourage university researchers in minority communities to become involved in research on the social, economic and cultural development of these communities through SSHRC's research support and training programs;
- to continue to support special initiatives through the Presidential Fund for Innovation and Development and the Aid to Small Universities program;
- to implement the 1996-2001 *Strategic Plan*, which will create new opportunities for research on social issues;
- to maintain administrative practices that ensure equitable treatment of the applications it receives and to continue providing information sessions on its programs in universities; and
- to more widely distribute its annual report as well as the list of grants and fellowships awarded during the fiscal year in question.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- SSHRC has distributed its action plan internally and has sent a copy to the national coordinators and relevant institutions in the official-language minority communities.
- SSHRC has also sent its action plan to the Commissioner of Official Languages and the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.

France Landriault (613) 992-5125  
*National Coordinator*

## STATISTICS CANADA

**Responsible Minister:** The Honourable John Manley  
**Chief statistician:** Ivan P. Fellegi

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

- Enhance the present program of consultation and liaison with official-language minority associations in order to identify their priority needs for data.
- Provide information on the availability, potential use and cost of data of particular interest to the community associations and the government departments that may provide them with services and project support. Improve the coverage and comparability of data relating to linguistic minorities that are obtained from surveys.
- Compile the most relevant Census data in some geographic detail, identified on the basis of community needs and interests, in a standard package (print and/or electronic) that could be offered at reasonable cost.
- Develop and disseminate a series of short newsletter articles on the situation of official-language minorities.
- Stimulate and encourage analytical research that would address the needs of the official-language minorities by collaborating with other federal departments to organize a conference on related research issues.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- A copy of the action plan and a new information leaflet describing linguistic data gathered by Statistics Canada and explaining how the information can be accessed will be sent to associations appearing on the list provided by the Department of Canadian Heritage. Other associations can obtain a copy of the action plan and interim report from the Statistics Canada regional offices which they deal with or directly from the National Coordinator.
- The action plan and the leaflet will be distributed to the Commissioner of Official Languages, the members of the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages and will also be made available to employees through their division directors.
- The new Statistics Canada information leaflet will be sent to 250 official languages organizations across the country.

Réjean Lachapelle (613) 951-3763  
*National Coordinator*

## STATUS OF WOMEN CANADA

**Responsible Minister:**            **The Honourable Hedy Fry**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1997

### 2. Principal measures planned

- Strengthen the official-language minority communities by providing technical and financial support to official-language minority women's organizations in undertaking activities aiming to enhance gender equality;
- Address specific needs such as access to programs, information and resources identified by women in official-language minority communities in the policy formulation/review and research design processes as well as program delivery;
- Enhance SWC's institutional awareness and understanding of its obligations under section 41 of the *Official Languages Act*.
- Integrate the section 41 objectives into SWC's planning and evaluation processes.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- Status of Women Canada sent its action plan to the main national and regional official-language minority organizations as well as to the Commissioner of Official Languages.
- A list of official-language minority women's groups was compiled for communication purposes.
- Various communication products, including updates of SWC information papers such as *Perspectives*, were sent to official-language community groups across the country.

Duy Ai Kien (613) 947-0935  
*National Coordinator*

## TELEFILM CANADA

**Responsible Minister:** The Honourable Sheila Copps  
**Chairperson:** Robert Dinan

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1998

### 2. Principal measures planned

- In examining applications and funding eligible projects, Telefilm Canada must take into account Canada's provincial and regional character in the context of the development of a national television and film production industry, while maintaining standards of excellence and high levels of Canadian content. The Corporation must also ensure that the productions it funds reach as wide a Canadian audience as possible, in both official languages.
- Telefilm Canada will continue to maintain eligibility criteria that favour regional productions, thus facilitating access by official-language minority communities to its various programs.
- Under its Canadian Film and Video Festivals Grants Fund, Telefilm Canada undertakes to provide financial support for the *Festival du cinéma francophone en Acadie*, held in Moncton. The Corporation will also provide funding for *Cinéfest*, held in Sudbury, whose program includes a French-language component specifically for the region.
- Under its Industrial and Professional Development Fund, Telefilm Canada also fosters the industrial and professional development of the various participants in the Canadian film and television industry. In some regions, this Fund may be used to organize seminars and support specialized conferences and publications.
- In 1996-1997, Telefilm Canada will provide financial support to *Cinémental* as part of its official languages program. This is a one-shot initiative that will enable the Corporation, in spite of budgetary restrictions, to acknowledge the importance of this event held in St. Boniface, Manitoba.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- Telefilm Canada has distributed its action plan for the implementation of section 41 of the *Official Languages Act* to the various national and provincial associations so that they are better informed about the Corporation's activities.
- The Corporation has used its internal newsletter to publicize the various activities identified in its action plan.

Maria Antonecchia (514) 283-6363  
*National Coordinator*

## TREASURY BOARD SECRETARIAT

**Responsible Minister:**            **The Honourable Marcel Massé**

### 1. Period covered by the action plan: 1996-1999

### 2. Principal measures planned

- Provide assistance and advice to departments and institutions for implementing their action plans to correct deficiencies in their service to the public in both official languages.
- Organize awareness sessions for employees and managers concerning service to the public in both official languages as well as official languages in the workplace that take into account considerations relating to Part VII of the *Official Languages Act*.
- Approve the "Official Languages" section of the *Guide to Internet Use in the Federal Government*, which will then be made part of the "Official Languages" volume of the *Treasury Board Manual*.
- Review, as appropriate, any situation where it appears that the criteria of a program unduly prevent support of initiatives that could enhance the vitality of official-language minority communities.
- Post on the Internet the list of federal offices with an obligation to provide services in both official languages and establishment of a system ensuring that offices with an obligation to provide services in both official languages are identified as such in the blue pages of telephone books throughout the country.
- Maintain ongoing contacts with official-language minority communities, in particular through participation at meetings of their associations.
- Conduct audits through Consulting and Audit Canada, of the implementation of the Regulations on service to the public in both official languages and surveys in New Brunswick and other designated bilingual regions on official languages at work.
- With respect to federal procurement practices, in cooperation with Public Works and Government Services Canada, provide information sessions to various professional and commercial associations connected with official-language minority communities in order to apprise them of the procedures in effect and the steps to take to obtain relevant information.

*NOTE: The action plan may contain additional measures. Please refer to it for details.*

### 3. Distribution of action plan

- During regional visits, the Treasury Board Secretariat distributed its action plan to associations representing the official-language minority communities.
- The President of the Treasury Board will table in the House of Commons an annual report on official languages in federal departments and agencies.
- The action plan is also being sent to the Commissioner of Official Languages as well as the Standing Joint Committee on Official Languages.

Pierre Pronovost (613) 952-2864  
*National Coordinator*