



National Capital  
Commission

Commission  
de la capitale nationale

Canada

**2003-2006**

## **Action Plan**

**for the implementation of Section 41  
of the  
*Official Languages Act***

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PREAMBLE

In August 1994, Cabinet approved the establishment of an accountability framework for the implementation of Sections 41 and 42 of Part VII of the *Official Languages Act*.

Section 41 of the *Act* commits the federal government to enhancing the vitality of English-speaking and French-speaking minority communities, as well as fostering the full recognition and use of both English and French in Canadian society. This commitment ensures that minority language communities not only have access to services in their language, but also that all federal departments and institutions actively contribute to the development and vitality of these communities.

Section 42 of the *Act* mandates the Minister of Canadian Heritage to promote and encourage a coordinated approach to these commitments.

The accountability framework includes measures which target key institutions in areas of intervention which are vital to the minority language communities and which have the greatest impact on their development. Each key department or institution is required to develop an action plan for the implementation of Section 41; this plan must take into account the specific needs of the official language minority communities. Ministers and senior officials responsible for the key institutions transmit these plans and report on the results attained once a year (summary of achievements) to the Minister of Canadian Heritage.



SECTION I. GENERAL INFORMATION

**1. Identification of institution**

National Capital Commission  
202-40 Elgin Street  
Ottawa, ON  
K1P 1C7

Web site: <http://www.canadacapital.gc.ca>

**2. Description of mandate**

The National Capital Commission (NCC) continues to work as creator, guardian and interpreter of Canada's Capital, while bringing together some very diverse interests. In summary, its mandate is to integrate two major roles:

- Prepare plans for and assist in the development, conservation and improvement of Canada's Capital Region in order that the nature and character of the seat of the Government of Canada may be in accordance with its national significance;
- Organize, sponsor, promote and communicate such public activities and events in the NCR as will enrich the cultural and social fabric of Canada, taking into account the federal character of Canada, the equality of status of the official languages of Canada and the heritage of the people of Canada.

**3. Responsible officers**

- Suzanne Gustafsson, Executive Director, Human Resources Branch
- Francine Gallo, Chief, Organizational Development
- Stéphane Pellicano, Coordinator, Official Languages Program

**4. Period covered**

The present action plan covers the period April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2006.



## SECTION II. IDENTIFICATION OF COMMUNITY NEEDS

### 5. Means used to identify community needs

#### Canada Day and Winterlude

- Participation in artistic and cultural community conferences attended by artists and producers from the official language minority communities (OLMCs);
- Establishment of networks in the artistic and cultural communities of the OLMCs;
- Personnel who come from linguistic minority communities and are familiar with context and needs.

### 6. Principal needs identified

#### a) Canada Day and Winterlude

- Need for putting on shows and performing for a variety of audiences in the aim of launching a career, something the NCC can offer with its large-scale national events such as Canada Day and Winterlude.

#### b) Adventures in Citizenship

- The current list of program participants recruited by Rotary Clubs from schools across Canada underscores a weakness in terms of the participation of youth from OLMCs.

## SECTION III. ACTION PLAN CONTENTS AND TIMETABLE

### 7. Measures proposed to respond to community needs

- When there are specific celebrations to commemorate minority community anniversaries, such as, for example, the 2004 World Congress of Acadia, or when there are provincial or territorial anniversaries, we are going to feature artists from the minority communities of those regions during Canada Day celebrations in the Capital;
- Establishing programming themes that can include representatives from official language minority communities;
- Continuing our participation in conferences and maintaining our involvement in the artistic and cultural networks of the OLMCs;
- Exploring with Rotary Club the possibility of proactively recruiting students from francophone networks outside Quebec and OLMCs in Quebec in order to ensure better representation.

### 8. Measures proposed to evaluate success of expected results

- Taking into account and considering the number of artists from official language minority communities who participate in Canada Day and Winterlude;
- Taking into account and considering the number of OLMCs represented at both these events;
- Exploring with Rotary Club how to achieve, between now and 2006, the objective of recruiting 10% of total participants from OLMCs.

#### Marketing NCC youth programs

- Starting in 2003, the NCC will send out special promotional material annually to francophone schools outside Quebec and anglophone schools within Quebec as well as mailings to relevant associations in OLMCs.



## 9. Financial and other resources dedicated to the completion of the action plan

- We are going to ensure the participation of representatives of minority communities in events in the Capital from existing financial resources, and the same applies to our participation in artistic and cultural conferences;
- The financial resources will originate from within our budgets;
- We will explore the possibility of signing an agreement with Canadian Heritage under the Interdepartmental Partnership with the Official-Language Communities (IPOLC) and proposing development projects that would fall under this initiative, in an effort to help raise awareness of the NCC's activities among the minority communities.

### SECTION IV. COMMUNICATION PLAN

Internally: This action plan will be shared with Executive Management Committee of the NCC along with its directors and managers.

Externally: The action plan will be available on our Web site at our institutional address <http://www.canadascapital.gc.ca>

### SECTION V. SIGNATURES

Marcel Beaudry  
Chairman  
National Capital Commission

Date:

Suzanne Gustafsson  
Executive Director,  
Human Resources Branch

Date: