

**Collaboration Accord  
Between  
Canadian Heritage  
and  
the Community Sector  
of the Acadian and  
Francophone  
Community of  
Newfoundland-and-  
Labrador**

Parties have signed the attached copy of the Collaboration Accord in its French version.  
The translated version of the Accord is for information only and does not bind the parties.

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the Acadian and Francophone Community of Newfoundland-and-Labrador**

**Table of Contents**

<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Background</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>The Parties to this Accord</b>	<b>7</b>
The Community Sector of Newfoundland-and-Labrador’s Acadian and Francophone Community	7
The Department of Canadian Heritage	7
<b>Scope of the Accord</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Reason for the Accord</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>THE ACCORD</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>PART I - PURPOSE OF THE ACCORD</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>PART II - VALUES</b>	<b>9</b>
Linguistic Duality	9
Democracy	10
Active Citizenship	10
Equality	10
Diversity	10
Inclusion	10
Social Justice	10
<b>PART III - PRINCIPLES</b>	<b>11</b>
Independence	11
Interdependence	11
Dialogue	12
Cooperation and Collaboration	12
Accounting to Canadians	13
Transparency	13

<b>PART IV – COMMITMENTS TO ACTION</b>	<b>13</b>
Shared Commitments	13
Canadian Heritage Commitments	14
Newfoundland-and-Labrador Acadian and Francophone Community Sector Commitments	14
<b>PART V - APPLICATION OF THE ACCORD</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>1. Key Community Issues and Common Results</b>	<b>15</b>
1.1. Key Community Issues	16
1.2. Common Results	17
<b>2. Cooperation and Collaboration</b>	<b>18</b>
2.1. Community Cooperation and Cohesion	18
2.2. Canadian Heritage-Acadian and Francophone Community Sector Collaboration	21
2.3. Advocacy	24
<b>3. Implementation of the Accord</b>	<b>25</b>
3.1. Commitment of a Budget Envelope	25
3.2. Program - Supporting Action	26
3.3. Project - Supporting Innovation	26
3.4. Interprovincial Collaboration	27
3.5. Process for Recommendations and Decisions	27
3.6. Results and Performance	29
<b>CONCLUSION</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Appendix A: Official Languages Support Programs - Expected Outcomes and Program Components</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Appendix B: 2005-2006 <i>Cooperation with the Community Sector</i> Budget Envelope for Newfoundland-and-Labrador</b>	<b>39</b>

# **INTRODUCTION**

- 1 The Government of Canada and Newfoundland-and-Labrador's Acadian and Francophone community sector have a long history of working together for the common good of French-speaking Canadians living in Newfoundland-and-Labrador. We share a commitment to improving the quality of life of our fellow citizens and to fostering the development of vibrant, healthy communities. The presence of official-language minority communities contributes to the improvement of quality of life for all Canadians. Our relationship is built on a foundation of trust and mutual respect.
- 2 The Government of Canada has undertaken, via the *Official Languages Act*, to enhance the vitality of linguistic minority communities in Canada (Anglophones in Quebec and Francophones outside Quebec), to assist their development and to promote the full recognition and use of both official languages in Canadian society.
- 3 This *Collaboration Accord between Canadian Heritage and the Community Sector of the Acadian and Francophone Community of Newfoundland-and-Labrador* mirrors the accord signed in December 2001 by the Prime Minister and representatives of Canada's voluntary sector. (*An Accord between the Government of Canada and the Voluntary Sector*).

## ***Background***

- 4 The relationship between the Government of Canada and the official-language minority communities has led to significant progress since 1970. Over the two cycles of Canada-Community Agreements from 1994 to 2004, new organizations have emerged and networks have grown stronger.
- 5 The *Action Plan for Official Languages* adopted in March 2003 reaffirms the Government of Canada's commitment to linguistic duality. The *Action Plan* creates a horizontal accountability and coordination framework to report to Canadians on the results achieved in three main areas: an exemplary public service, education and the development of official-language minority communities. The framework applies to all federal institutions. In addition, ten departments and agencies receive funding under the *Action Plan*. Within both government and the communities themselves, community development architects and partners have grown more numerous and more diverse.

- 6 The following points serve to illustrate the context in which the Acadian and Francophone community of Newfoundland-and-Labrador evolves:
- 7 ■ The Conseil scolaire francophone provincial (French-language province-wide school board) was established in 1996; it now has five schools in four regions of the province.
  - 8 ■ Two school-community centres have been established: the Centre scolaire et communautaire Sainte-Anne (1995) and the Centre scolaire et communautaire des Grands-Vents (2004).
  - 9 ■ Pre-school programs have been set up in all regions, as well as a family francization program on the Port-au-Port Peninsula.
  - 10 ■ Major festivities were organized in 2004, in Francophone and Anglophone communities of the province, to celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of French presence in Newfoundland-and-Labrador. Thanks to these events, the expression of pride towards the culture and language is reaching new heights in the community. The spirit of collaboration and cooperation that prevailed throughout these events fostered the creation of several partnerships between the Acadian and Francophone community and the English-speaking majority, making further projects possible in the future.
  - 11 ■ The Office of French Services was set up, and the position of Minister Responsible for Francophone Affairs was created within the Government of Newfoundland-and-Labrador in 1998.
  - 12 ■ In 1999, the provincial government declared May 30<sup>th</sup> as Francophone Day (« Journée provinciale de la francophonie »).
  - 13 ■ The Francophone Affairs Steering Committee (Comité d'orientation aux affaires francophones - COAF), which brings together community organizations and federal and provincial departments, is established and maintained; there is no comparable collaboration forum throughout Canada.
  - 14 ■ Sectoral groups are emerging and becoming more visible: women's, seniors' and cultural groups, community radio, etc.
  - 15 ■ In April 2005, the Acadian and Francophone community of St. John's signed a memorandum of understanding to become a member of the Alliance française network.

- 16 As a community development architect, the community sector is one of three pillars of Canadian society, along with the public and private sectors. Our quality of life, our economic strength and the vitality of our democratic institutions depend on the vibrancy of these interdependent sectors and the support they provide to one another. Volunteers and staff working in Acadian and Francophone organizations are actively involved in making a difference and improving their communities. They deliver services critical to Canadians, advocate for common causes, and support economic and community development in Canada.
- 17 The Canadian community sector has also been instrumental in the development of most of the public services we rely on today as essential manifestations of a caring society, such as schools, hospitals, support for the underprivileged, and care for children in need. All of these services began as volunteer initiatives. Currently, the public and volunteer sectors both take part in providing these services. In many communities, the community sector still remains the key purveyor of services in the minority official language. The Department acknowledges the important contribution of the Acadian and Francophone community sector to the vitality of Newfoundland-and-Labrador's Acadian and Francophone communities.
- 18 Acadian and Francophone community organizations bring their knowledge, expertise and compassion in working with communities and individuals to public policy debates and identify priorities to governments. By encouraging people to participate and work together for common causes, Acadian and Francophone organizations strengthen citizen involvement, give voice to the voiceless, allow for multiple perspectives to be heard on a variety of issues, and provide opportunities for people to practice the skills of democratic life.
- 19 Acadian and Francophone organizations provide opportunities for volunteers to contribute to the life of their communities. The term "volunteer" refers to all who work by choice, without remuneration, on causes or for people outside their personal sphere. People volunteer formally, through organizations, or informally by participating and helping others. Volunteering takes different forms in different cultures and different regions of the country. Women and men who volunteer are committed to making a difference and believe deeply in the work they are doing.
- 20 Volunteers are involved in all three sectors, but the community sector is the only one developed by volunteers and that fully solicits their involvement. The rich network of organizations, called the community sector, helps make Canada the humane, caring and prosperous nation it is, and is one of the strengths for which Canada is known around the world.

### ***The Parties to this Accord***

#### **The Community Sector of Newfoundland-and-Labrador's Acadian and Francophone Community**

- 21 This Accord applies to the community sector of the Acadian and Francophone community of Newfoundland-and-Labrador. The Acadian and Francophone community sector consists of organizations that exist to serve a public benefit, are self-governing, do not distribute any profits to members, and depend to a meaningful degree on volunteers. Membership or involvement in these organizations is not compulsory, and they are independent and distinct, as institutions, from the formal structures of government and the private sector. Although many Acadian and Francophone organizations rely on paid staff to carry out their work, all depend on volunteers, at least for their governance.

#### **The Department of Canadian Heritage**

- 22 This Accord applies to the Department of Canadian Heritage, by virtue of the *Official Languages Act*.

### ***Scope of the Accord***

- 23 The Accord's focus is on the relationship between the Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage. Both the Department and the Acadian and Francophone community sector have relationships with other federal departments and agencies, other levels of government (provincial and local), private sector entities and government and quasi-government bodies. Each of these relationships has its own history and dynamics. The Accord recognizes the importance of these relationships but has no bearing on them.
- 24 The Accord also recognizes that many Acadian and Francophone community organizations do not work directly, or solely, with Canadian Heritage but nevertheless contribute to enhancing the vitality of Newfoundland-and-Labrador's Acadian and Francophone community. The parties acknowledge that there are circumstances where Canadian Heritage and the Acadian and Francophone community organizations may advocate different courses of action or choose to tackle issues of common interest separately.

***Reason for the Accord***

- 25 Newfoundland-and-Labrador’s Acadian and Francophone community sector and the Government of Canada, including Canadian Heritage, share a long tradition of joining forces to achieve common goals, as defined in the Official Languages Act and developed in other framework documents. These goals include contributing to the development and vitality of the Acadian and Francophone community and promoting the equal status of Canada’s two official languages. These goals have been embodied in documents such as the community’s Global Development Plan and the federal government’s *Action Plan for Official Languages*. The community sector and the Department believe, however, that there is benefit in formalizing the relationship with an accord that will facilitate greater mutual understanding and more cooperative ways of working together. These means of working together include community cooperation, collaboration with the Department of Canadian Heritage, collaboration with other federal departments and collaboration with the provincial government; they are detailed in Part V of the Accord.
- 26 Both the Acadian and Francophone community sector and the Department of Canadian Heritage are large and diverse. It is important for each to know what to expect from the other, and to appreciate the roles, goals, and perspectives of the other.
- 27 Ten years of cooperation through two cycles of Canada-Community Agreements have helped the relationship between the Department and the Acadian and Francophone community sector evolve towards the shared goal of community-driven development. This Accord builds on previous efforts and seeks to improve the relationship by building on opportunities and growth potential, while respecting limitations of each party.



# **THE ACCORD**

## **PART I - PURPOSE OF THE ACCORD**

- 28 The purpose of the Accord is to strengthen the ability of both Newfoundland-and-Labrador's Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage to better serve French-speaking Canadians living in Newfoundland-and-Labrador.
- 29 This Accord derives its strength from the evolving relationship between the Acadian and Francophone community and the Department of Canadian Heritage. While the Accord is not a legal document, it is designed to guide the evolution of this relationship by identifying the common values, principles and commitments that will shape future practices. It focuses on what unites the Acadian and Francophone community sector and government, honours the contributions of both, and respects their unique strengths and different ways of working.
- 30 The Accord attests to a public commitment of Canadian Heritage and of Acadian and Francophone organizations to work together in an open, transparent, consistent and collaborative way. When working together, Canadian Heritage and Acadian and Francophone organizations seek to fulfil the commitments set out in the Accord, and in so doing enhance the quality of life of French-speaking Canadians living Newfoundland-and-Labrador.

## **PART II - VALUES**

- 31 The Accord is based on the following seven Canadian values that are most relevant to the relationship between Canadian Heritage and the Acadian and Francophone community sector. These values are closely interrelated and together create a climate for improving and enhancing the lives of all Canadians:

### **Linguistic Duality**

- 32
- Enhancing the vitality of official-language minority communities, supporting and assisting their development, and promoting the full recognition and use of both official languages in Canadian society;

### **Democracy**

- 33 ▪ Upholding the right to associate freely, to express views freely and to engage in advocacy;

### **Active Citizenship**

- 34 ▪ Promoting the active involvement or engagement of individuals and communities in shaping society, whether through political or voluntary activity or both;

### **Equality**

- 35 ▪ Respecting the rights of Canadians under the *Constitution Act of 1982*, the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, the *Canadian Human Rights Act*, and the *Official Languages Act*;

### **Diversity**

- 36 ▪ Respecting the rich variety of cultures, languages, identities, interests, views, abilities, and communities in Canada;

### **Inclusion**

- 37 ▪ Promoting the expression and representation of diversity and upholding the right of each to speak and be heard; and

### **Social Justice**

- 38 ▪ Ensuring full participation in the social, economic and political life of communities.

## **PART III - PRINCIPLES**

39 The Accord is based on the following guiding principles:

### **Independence**

40 Canadian Heritage and the Acadian and Francophone community sector are autonomous, have unique strengths and separate accountabilities, and agree that:

- 41 ▪ Canadian Heritage, within the mandate given to it by Parliament, is accountable to all Canadians for its actions, and has a responsibility to identify issues of national concern and mobilize resources to address them, establish policies and make decisions in the best interest of all Canadians;
- 42 ▪ Acadian and Francophone community organizations are accountable to their supporters and to those they serve in providing services, organizing activities and giving collective voice at the local, provincial, national and international level;
- 43 ▪ The independence of Acadian and Francophone organizations includes their right within the law to challenge public policies, programs and legislation and to advocate for change; and
- 44 ▪ Advocacy is inherent to debate and change in a democratic society and, subject to the above principles, it should not affect any funding relationship that might exist.

### **Interdependence**

45 The Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage recognize that:

- 46 ▪ The actions of one can directly or indirectly affect the other, since both often share the same objective of common good, operate in the same areas of Canadian life, and serve the same clients; and

- 47   ▪   Each has complex and important relationships with others (such as other federal departments and agencies, provincial, territorial and local governments, business, labour, etc.), and the Accord is not meant to affect these relationships, but rather facilitate them.

### **Dialogue**

- 48   The Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage, recognizing that sharing of ideas, perspectives, and experiences contributes to better understanding, improved identification of priorities, and sound public policy, agree that:
- 49   ▪   Dialogue should be open, respectful, informed, sustained and welcoming of a range of viewpoints;
- 50   ▪   Dialogue should respect each party's confidential information, should build and maintain trust; and
- 51   ▪   Appropriately designed processes and governance structures are necessary to achieve sustained dialogue.

### **Cooperation and Collaboration**

- 52   Canadian Heritage and the Acadian and Francophone community sector agree that the social fabric of communities is strengthened and civic engagement is increased when they work together to address issues of mutual concern identified as priority issues by the Acadian and Francophone community, and that:
- 53   ▪   Working together to identify common priorities or complementary objectives will facilitate cooperation and collaboration; and
- 54   ▪   Working relationships should be flexible and respect what others contribute, as well as the challenges and constraints under which they operate.

### **Accounting to Canadians**

- 55 In addition to their separate accountabilities, the Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage are accountable for maintaining the trust and confidence of Canadians by:
- 56 ■ Ensuring transparency, high standards of conduct and sound management in their work together; and
- 57 ■ Monitoring and reporting on the results.

### **Transparency**

- 58 Canadian Heritage and the Acadian and Francophone community sector must promote a mutual understanding of the context in which they operate, and a clear understanding of the factors affecting decisions on each side. They agree that Acadian and Francophone organizations and the Department must communicate information on their functioning, practices, intentions, objectives and results in a timely manner.

## **PART IV – COMMITMENTS TO ACTION**

- 59 The values and principles of the Accord are the basis for the development of the relationship between Canadian Heritage and the Acadian and Francophone community. Success in building the relationship will depend on the actions and practices of both Canadian Heritage and the Acadian and Francophone community sector for the benefit of French-speaking Canadians living in Newfoundland-and-Labrador. In moving forward, the following commitments will be essential.

### **Shared Commitments**

- 60 The Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage commit to:
- 61 ■ Act in a manner consistent with the values and principles in this Accord;
- 62 ■ Develop the mechanisms and processes required to implement the Accord;

- 63 ▪ Work together as appropriate to achieve shared goals and objectives;
- 64 ▪ Support community-driven development;
- 65 ▪ Promote awareness and understanding of the contributions that each makes to Canadian society.

### **Canadian Heritage Commitments**

- 66 Canadian Heritage, within its mandate under Part VII of the *Official Languages Act*, commits to:
- 67 ▪ Recognize and consider the implications of its legislation, regulations, policies and programs on the Acadian and Francophone community, including the importance of funding policies and practices for the further development of the relationship and the strengthening of the Acadian and Francophone community sector's capacity; and
  - 68 ▪ Recognize its need to engage the Acadian and Francophone community, through the Forum, in open, informed and sustained dialogue so that the sector may contribute its experience, expertise, knowledge, and ideas in developing better public policies, in the design and delivery of programs, and in the implementation of the interdepartmental and intergovernmental roles as defined in Part VII of the *Official Languages Act*.

### **Newfoundland-and-Labrador Acadian and Francophone Community Sector Commitments**

- 69 The Acadian and Francophone community sector of Newfoundland-and-Labrador commits to:
- 70 ▪ Continue to identify important or emerging issues and trends in communities, and act on them or bring them to the attention of Canadian Heritage, under its mandate (Part VII of the *Official Languages Act*), and of the Government of Canada, in keeping with its *Action Plan on Official Languages*;
  - 71 ▪ Serve as a means for the voices and views of all components of the Acadian and Francophone community sector to be represented and be heard by Canadian Heritage and the Government of Canada, ensuring the mobilization and engagement of the various elements of the community; and

- 72   ▪ Recognize its need to engage an open, transparent, informed and sustained dialogue within the Acadian and Francophone community sector, so that it may:
- 73   ▪ Articulate a common vision with respect to its overall development and update the sequencing of strategic priorities, in the form of the Global Development Plan; and consequently
- 74   ▪ Make informed choices required for the Forum to account for results targeted in the Plan.

## **PART V - APPLICATION OF THE ACCORD**

- 75 The Acadian and Francophone community sector of Newfoundland-and-Labrador and Canadian Heritage agree on:
  - 76   ▪ The common results they wish to attain to enhance the development and vitality of Newfoundland-and-Labrador's Acadian and Francophone community, taking into account the key community issues they have identified;
  - 77   ▪ The appropriate organizational structures to implement the provisions of the Accord, at the Department of Canadian Heritage and in the Acadian and Francophone community sector; and
  - 78   ▪ The processes for implementing the Accord, for reporting to Canadians on the status of the relationship and the results that have been achieved, for agreeing on next steps, and for considering strategic opportunities for future collaboration.
- 79 The aim is that the Accord and its implementation plan will provide a framework for helping the Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage better serve French-speaking Canadians living in Newfoundland-and-Labrador.

### ***1. Key Community Issues and Common Results***

- 80 The Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage take note of the key issues affecting the Acadian and Francophone community and agree that the Global Development Plan articulates a series of results that contribute to the development and vitality of the Acadian and Francophone community of Newfoundland-and-Labrador.

## 1.1. Key Community Issues

- 81 The key community issues facing the Acadian and Francophone community  
in Newfoundland-and-Labrador are the following:
- 82     ▪ The French-speaking population is concentrated in three small  
geographical with very different dynamics; the rhythm of assimilation  
into the majority community is very rapid in all three communities.
  - 83     ▪ The community is small, but stable in relative terms: the proportion of  
0.5% of total population has been maintained for several years, despite  
the general depopulation of the province.
  - 84     ▪ There is lack of a critical mass of Francophones, which leads to many  
difficulties:
    - 85         ▪ Lack of political power on a provincial scale;
    - 86         ▪ Little justification for French-language services;
    - 87         ▪ Shortage of professional personnel with French-language training to  
meet the requirements of a developing Acadian and Francophone  
community and of the French-language school system;
    - 88         ▪ Need to recruit staff from outside the province to fill community and  
school positions, an expensive process; all too often, these people do  
not stay over the long term;
    - 89         ▪ Lack of training and meaningful experiences for youth who could take  
over: young people must leave to attend university or to find  
employment; in most cases, they never return to their communities;
    - 90         ▪ Lack of a critical mass in terms of a Francophone audience, which  
makes cultural and artistic animation difficult;
    - 91         ▪ Shortage of successors to fill Francophone volunteer positions, which  
leads to stress and exhaustion.
  - 92     ▪ Francophones are used to receiving English-language services and do not  
instinctively ask for French-language services or file official complaints  
with the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages.
  - 93     ▪ Francophone communities are geographically far apart from one another;  
this makes communication and collaboration difficult.



## 1.2. Common Results

94 Canadian Heritage takes note of the results set out in the Acadian and Francophone community's Global Development Plan, in the following six priority areas: communications, culture, economic development, education, youth training, and health and community and social affairs. These results are as follows:

- 95   ▪ The implementation of an efficient, community-building and modern communications infrastructure;
- 96   ▪ The strengthening of the Acadian and Francophone community's education system, in its own language and environment;
- 97   ▪ The securing of quality health services for the Acadian and Francophone community, in its own language and environment;
- 98   ▪ The strengthening of community economic development;
- 99   ▪ The strengthening of training programs and services to build the capacities of youth; and
- 100  ▪ The development and professional growth of the province's Francophone artists, which includes:
  - 101    ▪ the celebration and promotion of Newfoundland-and-Labrador's French-language arts and culture; and
  - 102    ▪ increased access to artistic and cultural events that respond to the needs and expectations of the Acadian and Francophone community, regionally.

103 As part of its legislative mandate, Canadian Heritage will use the tools at its disposal to support the community sector's efforts to achieve these results. These tools notably include collaboration with the community sector and interdepartmental and intergovernmental cooperation, as described in Part V below.

104 The community sector is responsible for calling on the resources of the various departments and levels of government and initiating dialogue with representatives based on their areas of expertise and responsibilities in the provision of public services.

- 105 Furthermore, the community sector and the Department will work together to support initiatives that enable increased community exchanges and cohesion in the province's Acadian and Francophone communities.

## **2. Cooperation and Collaboration**

### **2.1. Community Cooperation and Cohesion**

- 106 The vitality of Newfoundland-and-Labrador's Acadian and Francophone community hinges on the joint efforts of many development architects, namely community networks and their individual organizations, community institutions, public and para-public institutions (at the federal, provincial and municipal levels), and the private sector. It also hinges on getting people to volunteer their time and effort for a cause or the public good, and thus contribute to the life of their community.
- 107 This collaboration Accord aims at encouraging community cooperation and cohesion among all architects of community development. It will require the joint effort of all community development architects. These may include groups that are funded by *Cooperation with the Community Sector*, as well as institutions and organizational networks that do not receive funding from that budget envelope, for example, seniors groups and organizations working in the health, economic development and education sectors.

#### **Forum communautaire francophone de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador: Nature and Role**

- 108 The Acadian and Francophone community sector of Newfoundland-and-Labrador promotes a cooperative approach and seeks optimal efficiency among all development architects of the Acadian and Francophone community of Newfoundland-and-Labrador. To do so, it entrusts the Fédération des francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador with the responsibility to establish and maintain a preferred mechanism for provincial community cooperation called the Forum communautaire francophone de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador.
- 109 In Newfoundland-and-Labrador, the foundations of a community forum currently exist in the form of ongoing community consultation activities led by the Fédération des francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador. Presently, this forum is the most encompassing mechanism, bringing together the majority of community-based and institutional development architects. Some informal groups and emerging organizations do not take part in this forum at this time.

- 110 The Forum communautaire francophone de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador gives structure to the community development process and the selection and sequencing of strategic priorities. It facilitates the crafting of a Global Development Plan that integrates the contributions of all community development architects.
- 111 The Forum communautaire francophone de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador is a key mechanism where dialogue with various institutions is initiated. The forum seeks to include and integrate emerging or marginalized groups in Acadian and Francophone networks and institutions of Newfoundland-and-Labrador, and to welcome any group wishing to contribute to the social project of the Acadian and Francophone community of the province, such as the Réseau de développement économique et d'employabilité (RDÉE), Conseil scolaire francophone provincial, Femmes francophones de l'ouest du Labrador, Radio communautaire du Labrador, and informal Francophone seniors' groups and French-speaking individuals who are not members of associations.
- 112 The Forum communautaire francophone de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador develops consultation mechanisms that reflect local, regional and sectoral realities and target clientele and take into account factors such as demography, geography, gender, and racial and ethnocultural minorities. The Community Forum encourages cooperation within natural networks; it takes into account the negotiating and priority-setting ability of some sectors.
- 113 The Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage set as a common objective for the period 2005-2009 to mobilize community development architects to be actively involved in articulating the global vision, in the setting of strategic priorities, and in the achievement of Community Development Plan objectives, where applicable.
- 114 The Forum communautaire francophone de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador brings together Acadian and Francophone organizations and individuals of Newfoundland-and-Labrador and defines the major development priorities of the province's Acadian and Francophone community. The Forum is therefore a mechanism for collaboration whose members meet to:
- 115 ■ ensure the effective implementation of the Global Development Plan of Newfoundland-and-Labrador's Acadian and Francophone community;
  - 116 ■ take positions on the major issues affecting the Acadian and Francophone community; and
  - 117 ■ discuss issues relating to the development of Newfoundland-and-Labrador's Acadian and Francophone community.

### **Operational Responsibility**

- 118 The Acadian and Francophone community sector recognizes the Fédération des francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador (FFTNL) as the organization responsible for the operational management of province-wide community cooperation, and for mobilizing the community forum and ensuring its administrative management.
- 119 The Fédération des francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador will convene the Forum communautaire francophone de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador in the context of its annual general meeting, which normally takes place during the fall.
- 120 On behalf of the Forum, the Fédération des francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador:
- 121 ▪ Implements appropriate consultation mechanisms;
  - 122 ▪ Ensures the global administrative efficiency of cooperation mechanisms within the Acadian and Francophone community sector; and
  - 123 ▪ Develops a communications strategy in order to inform French-speaking citizens living in Newfoundland-and-Labrador and to promote community cooperation and cohesion.

### **Governance and Democratic Representation**

- 124 The Acadian and Francophone community of Newfoundland-and-Labrador defines the fora and structures where community cooperation takes place, as well as governance and democratic representation mechanisms. The Acadian and Francophone community may redefine these fora, structures and mechanisms as needed. Decisions will be communicated to the Department of Canadian Heritage. The Department recognizes the democratic choices of Newfoundland-and-Labrador's Acadian and Francophone community.

## **2.2. Canadian Heritage-Acadian and Francophone Community Sector Collaboration**

- 125 The broad social project and the achievement of specific objectives within the community's Global Development Plan sometimes require the collaboration or contribution of other stakeholders. These may include public, para-public, private, institutional and community organizations, Francophone or non-Francophone. This collaboration is most likely to be productive when all appropriate parties bring their services, programs, resources and knowledge to the table. This Accord promotes adopting this approach by creating a flexible, dynamic mechanism called the Collaborative Circle.

### **Collaborative Circle**

- 126 The Acadian and Francophone community sector and the Department of Canadian Heritage agree to create a Collaborative Circle to serve as an active forum for the sharing of information, promotion of awareness, planning of initiatives, and discussion of their relationship.
- 127 The community sector and the Department agree to achieve this through the Francophone Affairs Steering Committee (Comité d'orientation aux affaires francophones - COAF). The COAF is recognized as a best practice in tripartite collaboration between the Acadian and Francophone community and the federal and provincial governments.
- 128 The Collaboration Circle's efforts, as well as discussions held at its annual meeting, will notably be nourished by the community forum's discussions.
- 129 The Francophone Affairs Steering Committee meets once every six weeks during a half-day for discussions, information sharing, and updates. Canadian Heritage and the community sector agree the Collaborative Circle consists of an annual meeting of the COAF that will include all regular members of the COAF. The participation of other stakeholders shall be flexible; they will be called upon based on the nature, extent, and reach of the objectives to be pursued. Federal and provincial departments that are not regular members of the COAF will also be invited. Other emerging or marginalized francophone groups will be invited from time to time according to circumstances and themes to be discussed.
- 130 The workings of the Collaborative Circle will be agreed upon by the Forum communautaire francophone and the Department in accordance with results to be pursued, and with respect to principles of independence, interdependence, dialogue, cooperation and collaboration, and accountability to all Canadians.

- 131 The Acadian and Francophone community sector will define the process of designating community participants in the Collaborative Circle from time to time, depending on the nature, scope and extent of objectives. The identity of designated participants, depending on the issues at hand, will be communicated to Canadian Heritage so as to promote constructive exchange.

**Mobilizing Public Resources: Interdepartmental and Intergovernmental Cooperation**

- 132 The Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage recognize the importance of working to mobilize public resources at all levels of government in order to advance toward the achievement of common results and of the community's development objectives. Some efforts to mobilize public resources will stem from the work of the Collaborative Circle. Some initiatives will aim to mobilize resources in order to help various types of community organizations provide services to the public.

***Relationship Between the Acadian and Francophone Community Sector and the Government of Canada at the Provincial Level***

- 133 As stipulated in Part VII of the *Official Languages Act*, the Minister of Canadian Heritage, in consultation with other ministers of the Crown, shall encourage and promote a coordinated approach to the implementation by federal institutions of the commitments to enhance the vitality of the English and French linguistic minority communities in Canada, to support and assist their development, and to foster the full recognition and use of both English and French in Canadian society.
- 134 The Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage will work together to ensure that the members of the community have a better knowledge of the programs and services offered by federal institutions, and that the federal institutions get better acquainted with the Acadian and Francophone community of Newfoundland-and-Labrador, its mechanisms and structures, its developmental priorities and its particular characteristics in relation to their activities, programs and services.

- 135 The Department of Canadian Heritage supports Newfoundland-and-Labrador's Acadian and Francophone community sector organizations' efforts to work with other federal institutions in order to facilitate the implementation of the Global Development Plan's expected results. Notably, Canadian Heritage leads the *Interdepartmental Partnership with the Official-Language Communities*, an element of the *Community Life* program component which aims to encourage lasting partnerships between federal departments and official-language minority community associations or organizations. Canadian Heritage will use various levers at its disposal to support the efforts of the Acadian and Francophone community sector of Newfoundland-and-Labrador.
- 136 The Acadian and Francophone community sector of Newfoundland-and-Labrador and Canadian Heritage work together to identify those community development priorities which require an interdepartmental approach. The means of consultation and collaboration depend on the issues and on structures established at the federal, provincial or local levels, according to the areas of responsibility.
- 137 The Department of Canadian Heritage will continue to support the Newfoundland-and-Labrador Federal Council in developing a sustainable relationship with the Acadian and Francophone community of Newfoundland-and-Labrador, so that, as provincial forum for federal government interdepartmental matters, it can fully contribute to the implementation of the Global Development Plan and the vitality of the community.

***Relationship Between the Acadian and Francophone Community Sector and the Government of Newfoundland-and-Labrador and its Bodies***

- 138 In addition to *Cooperation with the Community Sector*, Canadian Heritage leads another key element of the *Community Life* program component – *Intergovernmental Cooperation on Minority-Language Services*, which aims to help provincial and territorial governments and municipalities provide official-language minority communities with services in their own language, along with the necessary infrastructure to provide these services.
- 139 Canadian Heritage encourages the provincial government to take the objectives of the community's Global Development Plan into account in its French-language services plan. Canadian Heritage maintains close ties with officials of the Office of French Services of Newfoundland-and-Labrador to assert the importance of the expected results of the Global Development Plan and the common results aimed for in this Accord.

- 140 Canadian Heritage also leads *Intergovernmental Cooperation on Minority-Language Education*, which aims to help provincial and territorial governments, directly or through the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC), to offer to members of official-language minority communities an education in their own language.
- 141 The Acadian and Francophone community sector of Newfoundland-and-Labrador is responsible for mobilizing resources in the areas of responsibility of other levels of government. It strives to emphasize those aspects of its Global Development Plan that normally require the involvement of provincial or arm's length public agencies in providing public services. This exercise may inform the Acadian and Francophone community sector's cooperation and advocacy efforts. Canadian Heritage will use various levers at its disposal to support the efforts of the Acadian and Francophone community sector.

***Interdepartmental and Intergovernmental Collaboration Forum***

- 142 The Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage agree that the Francophone Affairs Steering Committee (COAF) is a best practice in tripartite collaboration and that it constitutes the appropriate mechanism to promote sustained interdepartmental and intergovernmental collaboration.

**2.3. Advocacy**

- 143 In keeping with the values and principles stated in this Accord, the Acadian and Francophone community sector of Newfoundland-and-Labrador seeks to engage in a dialogue on public policy. It hopes to interact with the different levels of government through the various stages of the public policy process in order to promote the exchange of knowledge and experience, and develop the best possible public policies that take fully into account the aspirations of French-speaking citizens living in Newfoundland-and-Labrador
- 144 The Acadian and Francophone community sector of Newfoundland-and-Labrador and the Department acknowledge the importance of advocacy. The strengthening of the sector's advocacy capacities aims at a better understanding of the processes through which governments and public institutions make their decisions; a greater ability to influence these processes; a better understanding of the determining factors in community development; and knowledge-based decision making.



### **Key Community Advocates**

- 145 The Acadian and Francophone community sector of Newfoundland-and-Labrador recognizes the Fédération des francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador (FFTNL) as the community forum's key interlocutor in advocacy and dialogue on public policy.
- 146 The Acadian and Francophone community sector of Newfoundland-and-Labrador further recognizes community network leaders as key advocates on issues of special interest.
- 147 The Department of Canadian Heritage recognizes the Newfoundland-and-Labrador Acadian and Francophone community's democratic choices in selecting its key advocates.

## **3. Implementation of the Accord**

- 148 In addition to the tools described in the previous sections, the collaboration between the Newfoundland-and-Labrador Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage includes a financial component. This section describes the financial elements of the *Cooperation with the Community Sector* and the accompanying accountability mechanisms.

### **3.1. Commitment of a Budget Envelope**

- 149 The budget envelope set aside for *Cooperation with the Community Sector* in Newfoundland-and-Labrador comes from the *Development of Official-Language Communities* Program and falls under its *Community Life* component. The program will be reviewed by Treasury Board in 2008-2009, with a view to its renewal.
- 150 The amounts, allocation and duration of this budget envelope are set out in Appendix B.
- 151 The size of the budget envelope is subject to the annual approval of appropriations by Parliament and to the continuance of current and projected budgets of the *Development of Official-Language Communities* Program.
- 152 Canadian Heritage will seek to harmonize procedures to facilitate joint funding of projects when several departments or government entities are working on the same initiative, or on several initiatives with the same Acadian and Francophone community organization.

153 Canadian Heritage's financial commitments will be made by means of contribution agreements and grants. The Department may use multiyear funding agreements, when the situation is appropriate and in accordance to its policies and procedures, in order to enhance the stability of organizations and their ability to engage in long-term planning. Canadian Heritage commits to introduce a reasonable and flexible period of transition when major changes to funding must be made.

### **3.2. Program - Supporting Action**

154 According to the Program's terms and conditions, these investments are intended to support the communities' involvement in their own development and to provide community organizations with the ability to take action to achieve concrete and measurable outcomes that will contribute to the sustainability of the communities.

155 The Department is primarily interested in supporting activities that:

- 156 ■ Provide structure or have a structural effect on the overall development of the communities or of a particular sector;
- 157 ■ Contribute to enriching community life, developing a sense of identity and welcoming diversity; and
- 158 ■ Target outcomes compatible with the objectives of the *Community Life* component and conform to the Department's priorities.

159 The Department will give priority to supporting activities aimed at achieving the common results of collaboration identified in this Accord.

160 The community forum, all the organizations receiving such support, and the organization managing the forum, can have access to multiyear funding in order to carry out their mandates and implement their action plans.

### **3.3. Project - Supporting Innovation**

161 According to the Program's terms and conditions, these investments are intended to encourage innovation in the development of official-language minority communities.

162 The Department is primarily interested in supporting projects that:

- 163 ■ Are innovative and target the development of best practices;

- 164   ▪ Are compatible with the Department's priorities; or
- 165   ▪ Address topical issues.
- 166   The Department will give priority to supporting projects aimed at achieving the common results of collaboration identified in this Accord.
- 167   The Funding Evaluation and Recommendations Committee referred to in this Accord may recommend support for ad hoc or cyclical activities for which implementation does not require ongoing funding.

### **3.4. Interprovincial Collaboration**

- 168   Canadian Heritage and the Acadian and Francophone community sector agree that the development of Newfoundland-and-Labrador's Acadian and Francophone community is stimulated by joint action with the minority Francophone communities in other provinces. The Acadian and Francophone community sector of Newfoundland-and-Labrador will seek to support, through the provincial budget envelope, activities of an interprovincial nature that contribute to the implementation of the Global Development Plan and the realization of common results. The terms and conditions governing these projects will be subject to prior agreements between the participating provincial communities.

### **3.5. Process for Recommendations and Decisions**

#### **Community Proposals**

- 169   Over the last two Canada-Community agreements (1994-2004), best practices across the country have shown that a community-based process of resource allocation can become a great strength for community cohesion. In Newfoundland-and-Labrador, the Acadian and Francophone community sector has refined its mechanism leading to choices on strategic priorities; it has also gained some experience in defining the means to be used to determine and facilitate the distribution of the budget envelope.
- 170   The Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage recognize the importance of the continuum between priority setting and funding allocation. The objective for this cycle is to fine-tune the community-based mechanisms leading to funding allocation decisions.
- 171   All funding allocation procedures will be subjected to the requirements of Treasury Board policies.

***Funding Evaluation and Recommendations Committee***

- 172 The Forum communautaire francophone de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador will establish a Funding Evaluation and Recommendations Committee. The Committee will be mandated to make proposals to the Department of Canadian Heritage regarding the distribution of funds available via the provincial *Cooperation with the Community Sector* budget envelope. These proposals concerning the allocation of funding will be linked to the objectives and priorities of the Global Development Plan and the common results sought in this Accord. Members of the Committee will be required to respect confidentiality rules.
- 173 The Committee will use evaluation criteria and analytical tools developed by the Department in collaboration with the Fédération des francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador, the organization responsible for the operational management of the community forum.
- 174 The Forum communautaire francophone de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador will establish the selection process for members of the Committee. This process will respect the principles of good governance, democracy, transparency, and independence. It may be linked to other structures of the Acadian and Francophone community and may be revised as needed. The Department will be informed of decisions regarding this process and the composition of the Committee. To ensure the impartiality of Committee proposals, the Committee will adopt a conflict-of-interest policy.
- 175 Committee members must ensure that confidential information concerning funding decisions to which they have access is not disclosed to third parties without the written consent of the Department.

**Canadian Heritage's Responsibilities**

- 176 It is the responsibility of the Department to analyze requests, examine them critically in a broader context, make final recommendations to the Minister of Canadian Heritage and manage the decisional and administrative process. In its analysis of requests, the Department will take into consideration the proposals of the Committee regarding the allocation of funding.
- 177 The Minister is responsible for making the final decision on the specific allocation of funding in accordance to terms and conditions in force at the Department.
- 178 In order to maintain transparency, the final decision regarding allocation of funds will be communicated to the Committee and to the public, following the Minister's approval.

- 179 Canadian Heritage is responsible for determining procedures and tools relating to the presentation and analysis of requests. The Department recognizes the consequences that its policies and funding practices may have on the evolution of the relationship and on the strengthening of the Acadian and Francophone community sector's capacity for action, and takes them into consideration. Tools will be developed with due attention to simplifying the administrative requirements, while respecting the terms and conditions of the Program and the Department's accountability framework, which may be modified from time to time.

### **Management Best Practices**

- 180 The Acadian and Francophone community sector and the Department agree to jointly identify management best practices.
- 181 In compliance with Treasury Board policies, the Department has adopted a risk management approach, in order to assess and monitor the initiatives and ensure that the approach suits the level of funding as well as the size and nature of the organization. The *Risk-Based Audit Framework for Official Languages Support Programs* entails a recipient audit plan. Some organizations will be asked to participate in this monitoring exercise.
- 182 With a focus on ongoing performance improvement, Canadian Heritage may ask selected Acadian and Francophone community organizations to participate in an organizational audit to be conducted according to a framework established by the Department. Participating groups will be financially compensated.

### **3.6. Results and Performance**

- 183 The Acadian and Francophone community sector and Canadian Heritage agree on the importance of reporting to Parliament and to the citizens of Canada, on the progress achieved towards results with the funds invested.
- 184 Canadian Heritage and the Acadian and Francophone community sector recognize that community development is a long-term process, that some fundamental results may be achieved only over long periods, possibly decades, and that it is important, at this time, to set strategies and means that will allow the assessment of results over the long term.

- 185 Canadian Heritage's *Official Languages Support Programs* are structured in accordance with the two types of results based on the commitments set out in Section 41 of the *Official Languages Act: Strong minority communities supported by many partners* and *Linguistic duality recognized and valued by all Canadians*.
- 186 To report on the progress achieved towards these results, Canadian Heritage must refer to the *Results-Based Management and Accountability Framework for Official Languages Support Programs*.
- 187 Activities supported by the *Cooperation with the Community Sector* sub-component must contribute to the attainment of intermediate and long-term results targeted by the *Official Languages Support Programs*.
- 188 The Government of Canada is developing community vitality indicators in consultation with the communities. These indicators will set benchmarks and allow a more precise measurement of the evolution of communities over time. Information on outputs produced by Acadian and Francophone organizations must be organized so that it feeds into the measurement of these vitality indicators.
- 189 Canadian Heritage will establish mechanisms for the standardization, gathering and management of information on outputs towards 2007-2008, in consultation with the Fédération des francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador. In establishing these processes, Canadian Heritage will be sensitive to minimizing the administrative burden.
- 190 There are three levels of performance evaluation: an annual evaluation of outputs by groups receiving funds from the *Cooperation with the Community Sector*; an evaluation of this Accord within the framework of a national evaluation of progress achieved through community sector accords in 2007-2008; and the Program evaluation, to take place in 2008-2009.

***Annual Outputs of Investments in the Cooperation with the Community Sector***

- 191 Each funded organization reports on its annual outputs as linked to its contribution to the advancement of the Global Development Plan and the common objectives of the Accord.

***Cooperation with the Community Sector Progress Evaluation***

- 192 The Department will undertake an evaluation of its collaboration with the community sector and of progress made towards common results targeted in all community sector accords. This evaluation will include a component on collaboration with the Newfoundland-and-Labrador Acadian and Francophone community sector and will focus on the efficiency of collaboration mechanisms, the clarity and relevance of respective roles, and the quality and relevance of outputs, in relation to the stated common objectives. This evaluation will be done in 2007-2008 in order to allow adjustments to the collaboration mechanisms and guide their renewal at the end of the term.
- 193 The Acadian and Francophone community sector agrees to participate in the development of evaluation parameters, and to collaborate in the evaluation itself according to the final modalities set out by Canadian Heritage. The Department will be responsible for executing the evaluation.

***Official-Language Communities Program Evaluation***

- 194 At term end in 2008-2009, the Department of Canadian Heritage must provide the Treasury Board with a summative evaluation of the *Development of Official-Language Communities* Program. The Corporate Review Branch, a third party independent of the Official Languages Support Branch, is responsible for conducting this evaluation.
- 195 To conduct program evaluations, the Department uses several methods. These include:
- 196     ▪ A review of relevant documents (e.g., record of achievements, annual report, plan of action);
- 197     ▪ A review of literature (e.g., sociological research, statistical studies);
- 198     ▪ Gathering and compiling of information (e.g., analysis of financial data, compilation of outputs, trend studies);
- 199     ▪ Interviews with key contributors (e.g., representatives of community organizations and institutions, program managers, researchers);
- 200     ▪ Polling (e.g., public opinion polls, questionnaires); and
- 201     ▪ Discussion groups (for example, with parents, with young people).

- 202 The Forum communautaire francophone de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador will be called upon to participate in many of these evaluation activities.

## **CONCLUSION**

- 203 Canadians expect a strong, vibrant and engaged Newfoundland-and-Labrador Acadian and Francophone community, and seek to build a solid, just and inclusive society where values and principles count, where the full range of human activities is encouraged, and where individuals and communities can realize their full potential. To better serve Canadians and help them achieve the society they want, Canadian Heritage and Newfoundland-and-Labrador's Acadian and Francophone community sector seek to strengthen their relationship. This Accord is the start of that journey.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Minister of Canadian Heritage and Minister responsible for Status of Women and the President of the Fédération des francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador, on behalf of the Acadian and Francophone community sector of Newfoundland-and-Labrador, have signed this Collaboration Accord.

This Accord was concluded this 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 2005.

(Signed) Liza Frulla

(Signed) Jean-Guy Dionne

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Minister of Canadian Heritage and Minister responsible for Status of Women

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President, Fédération des francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador

**IN THE PRESENCE OF:**

**IN THE PRESENCE OF:**

(Signed) Rose-Marie Losier-Cool

(Signed) Gillian Beaulieu

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Witness

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Witness

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Signature

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Signature

## **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

### **Accountability**

- 204 The basic rules that the Department must follow in making decisions, allocating funding, and demonstrating the results achieved through the use of public funds. Many of these rules also apply to the organizations that receive these public funds. These organizations also have their own accountability frameworks defined by legislation, by their own by-laws, and by their internal governance policies.

### **Advocacy**

- 205 Advocacy is defined as “the act of speaking or of disseminating information intended to influence individual behaviour or opinion, corporate conduct or public policy and law.” Advocacy is one of many ways of participating in the process of developing public policies.  
(see: [www.vsi-isbc.ca/eng/relationship/accord.cfm](http://www.vsi-isbc.ca/eng/relationship/accord.cfm))

### **Community development architects**

- 206 Community development architects are individuals and institutions and organizations in the community, private, government, and quasi-government sectors that contribute to the development of their communities. Prominent among these architects are the leaders of community associations and institutions, as well as community opinion leaders and different levels of government.

### **Evaluation**

- 207 The systematic collection and analysis of information on the performance of a policy, program or initiative to make judgements about relevance, progress or success and cost-effectiveness and/or to inform future programming decisions about design and implementation.

### **Indicator**

- 208 A statistic or parameter that provides information on trends in the condition of a phenomenon and has significance extending beyond that associated with the properties of the statistic itself.

**Output**

- 209 Direct products or services stemming from the activities of a policy, program or initiative, and delivered to a target group or population.

**Planned Results (Targets)**

- 210 Clear and concrete statement of results (including outputs and outcomes) to be achieved within the time frame of parliamentary and departmental planning and reporting (1-3 years), against which actual results can be compared.

**Quasi-governmental bodies  
or arm's length public agencies**

- 211 Public agencies refers to schools, hospitals, etc. that are at arm's length (to varying degrees) from government, but are mandated and funded by government.

**Result**

- 212 The consequence attributed to the activities of an organization, policy, program or initiative. Results is a general term that often includes both outputs produced and outcomes achieved by a given organization, policy, program or initiative. In the government's agenda for results-based management and in Results For Canadians, the term result is more specific and does not include outputs. Results may be described as immediate, intermediate or final, direct or indirect, intended or unintended.

**Strategic Outcome**

- 213 A long-term and enduring benefit to Canadians that stems from a department's mandate, vision and efforts. It represents the difference a department or agency wants to make for Canadians and should be a clear measurable outcome within the department or agency's sphere of influence.

**Support for action: details**

- 214 Funds in support of action shall aid regular and continuing activities such as:
- 215 ■ Citizens' participation and good governance (e.g., elements of democratic life – AGM and Board of Directors, administrative infrastructure, statements of account);

- 216   ▪ Basic activities of the organization serving the development and improvement of community life (e.g., leadership training in youth groups, basic operations of a community centre, large public events);
- 217   ▪ Mobilization of community and public resources (e.g., analysis and research into support for advocacy and the skills needed to request support from various funding bodies).

**Support for innovation: details**

- 218   Funds to support innovation shall aid intermittent or cyclical activities that do not require permanent funding. Such activities are of limited duration ranging from a few months to a few years. For example:
  - 219   ▪ Pilot or demonstration projects designed to learn about influences on development and about services to the public;
  - 220   ▪ Establishing and building new construction sites for community development;
  - 221   ▪ Retooling the Acadian and Francophone community sector to respond to new challenges;
  - 222   ▪ Development of advocacy strategies linked to a particular initiative or a major decision in public policy.

## Appendix A: Official Languages Support Programs - Expected Outcomes and Program Components

<p><b>Development of Official-Language Communities Program</b></p> <p><b>Objective of the <i>Official Languages Act</i>:</b> To enhance the vitality of English and French linguistic minority communities in Canada and support and assist their development.</p>	<p><b>Enhancement of Official Languages Program</b></p> <p><b>Objective of the <i>Official Languages Act</i>:</b> To promote the full recognition and use of English and French in Canadian society.</p>
<p>(See Part VII of the Official Languages Act on the next page)</p>	
<p><b>Expected outcomes</b></p> <p><b>Medium term</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Members of minority communities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have greater access to quality education in their own language, in their community;</li> <li>• have greater access to programs and services offered, in their language, by federal departments and agencies, provincial and territorial governments, and municipalities;</li> <li>• have a greater ability to live in their own language, to participate in Canadian society and to ensure their long-term development.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ The multiple partners working to foster community growth and vitality work together to better co-ordinate and target their efforts to support the development of the official-language minority communities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Long term</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The sustainability of official-language minority communities in Canada is guaranteed.</li> <li>▪ Social cohesion in Canada is increased.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Expected outcomes</b></p> <p><b>Medium term</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A greater proportion of Canadians: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have a working knowledge of both official languages;</li> <li>• have a better understanding and appreciation of the benefits of linguistic duality;</li> <li>• accept the rights of linguistic minorities and encourage their participation in Canadian society.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Federal departments and agencies become more aware of their responsibilities with respect to linguistic duality and more active in this regard.</li> <li>▪ The many partners fostering linguistic duality and the French language will work together to better co-ordinate and target their efforts in this regard.</li> </ul> <p><b>Long term</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Canada is recognized at home and abroad as an officially bilingual country.</li> <li>▪ All Canadians recognize and support linguistic duality.</li> <li>▪ Social cohesion in Canada is increased.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Two program components</b></p> <p><b><i>Community Life</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cooperation with the Community Sector</li> <li>▪ Intergovernmental Cooperation on Minority-Language Services</li> <li>▪ Interdepartmental Partnership with Official-Language Communities</li> <li>▪ Strategic Funds</li> <li>▪ Young Canada Works</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Minority-Language Education</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intergovernmental Cooperation</li> <li>▪ Cooperation with the Non-Governmental Sector</li> </ul>	<p><b>Two program components</b></p> <p><b><i>Promotion of Linguistic Duality</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cooperation on Promotion</li> <li>▪ Support for Innovation</li> <li>▪ Support for Interpretation and Translation</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Second-Language Learning</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intergovernmental Cooperation</li> <li>▪ Cooperation with the Non-Governmental Sector</li> <li>▪ Young Canada Works</li> </ul>
<p><b>Other actions</b></p> <p><i>Coordination of the federal commitment</i></p> <p><i>Research</i></p>	<p><b>Other actions</b></p> <p><i>Coordination of the federal commitment</i></p> <p><i>Research</i></p> <p><i>Promotion</i></p>

*Official Languages Act*

**PART VII – ADVANCEMENT OF ENGLISH AND FRENCH**

Government policy

41. (1) The Government of Canada is committed to (a) enhancing the vitality of the English and French linguistic minority communities in Canada and supporting and assisting their development; and (b) fostering the full recognition and use of both English and French in Canadian society.
- (2) Every federal institution has the duty to ensure that positive measures are taken for the implementation of the commitments under subsection (1). For greater certainty, this implementation shall be carried out while respecting the jurisdiction and powers of the provinces.
- (3) The Governor in Council may make regulations in respect of federal institutions, other than the Senate, House of Commons, Library of Parliament, office of the Senate Ethics Officer or office of the Ethics Commissioner, prescribing the manner in which any duties of those institutions under this Part are to be carried out.

Coordination

42. The Minister of Canadian Heritage, in consultation with other ministers of the Crown, shall encourage and promote a coordinated approach to the implementation by federal institutions of the commitments set out in section 41.

Specific mandate of Minister of Canadian Heritage

43. (1) The Minister of Canadian Heritage shall take such measures as that Minister considers appropriate to advance the equality of status and use of English and French in Canadian society and, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, may take measures to
- a) Enhance the vitality of the English and French linguistic minority communities in Canada and support and assist their development;
  - b) Encourage and support the learning of English and French by members of the public;
  - c) Foster an acceptance and appreciation of both English and French by members of the public;
  - d) Encourage and assist provincial governments to support the development of English and French linguistic minority communities generally and, in particular, to offer provincial and municipal services in both English and French and to provide opportunities for members of English or French linguistic minority communities to be educated in their own language;
  - e) Encourage and assist provincial governments to provide opportunities for everyone in Canada to learn both English and French;
  - f) Encourage and cooperate with the business community, labour organizations, voluntary organizations and other organizations or institutions to provide services in both English and French and to foster the recognition and use of these languages;
  - g) Encourage and assist organizations and institutions to project the bilingual character of Canada in their activities in Canada or elsewhere;
  - h) With the approval of the Governor in Council, enter into agreements or arrangements that recognize and advance the bilingual character of Canada within the governments of foreign states.

Consultation

- (2) The Minister of Canadian Heritage shall take such measures as that Minister considers appropriate to ensure public consultation in the development of policies and review of programs relating to the advancement and the equality of status and use of English and French in Canadian society.

Annual report to Parliament

44. The Minister of Canadian Heritage shall, within such time as is reasonably practicable after the termination of each financial year, submit an annual report to Parliament on the matters relating to official languages for which that Minister is responsible.

Consultations and negotiations with the provinces

45. Any minister of the Crown designated by the Governor in Council may consult and may negotiate agreements with the provincial governments to ensure, to the greatest practical extent but subject to Part IV, that the provision of federal, provincial, municipal and education services in both official languages is coordinated and that regard is had to the needs of the recipients of those services.

## **Appendix B: 2005-2006 *Cooperation with the Community Sector* Budget Envelope for Newfoundland-and-Labrador**

- 223 At the request of the Canadian Francophone and Acadian community sector, the Department of Canadian Heritage's financial commitment in support of the implementation of this Accord is identified for 2005-2006 only.
- 224 The budget envelope reserved for *Cooperation with the Community Sector* in Newfoundland-and-Labrador is \$1,039,000 for the twelve-month period from April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006. It is allocated as follows:
- 225     ▪ the "Support for Action" component represents a maximum of 80 percent of the budget envelope; and
- 226     ▪ the "Support for Innovation" component represents a minimum of 20 percent of the budget envelope and includes interprovincial investments.
- 227 An additional budget envelope of \$2 million is used to support structuring initiatives by the Canadian Francophone and Acadian community sector. Newfoundland-and-Labrador Acadian and Francophone organizations have been invited to submit their projects in accordance with established procedures.
- 228 The size of the budget envelope is subject to the annual approval of appropriations by Parliament. In case of a change in existing or planned budget levels for the Development of Official-Language Communities Program, this appendix may be amended by common agreement between the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Acadian and Francophone community sector.