

## 2006-2009 British Columbia Strategic Plan on Francophone Affairs

### A Collaboration Agreement on Francophone Affairs between the Government of Canada and the Government of British Columbia

#### 1. General Orientation, Objectives, and Priorities of British Columbia

The Government of British Columbia wishes to continue its cooperation with the Government of Canada to both support and further develop British Columbia's official language minority community. The Government of British Columbia has put together the *2006-2009 Strategic Plan on Francophone Affairs* to meet this objective. This Strategic Plan is an extension to the previous *2005-2006 Strategic Plan on Francophone Affairs*.

The *2006-2009 Strategic Plan on Francophone Affairs* continues to promote a coordinated approach to maximize the effectiveness of the initiatives undertaken to enhance the vitality and further support the development of British Columbia's French language community. The *2006-2009 Strategic Plan on Francophone Affairs* will also be instrumental for the development of partnerships in support of the general direction and objective.

In 2001, following the signing of the first *Canada-British Columbia General Agreement on the Promotion of Official Languages*, the BC government consulted the community on its needs and priorities. During the life of the first agreement, the Francophone Affairs Program, the MLA Responsible for Francophone Affairs and several government officials have met and consulted community groups numerous times to keep abreast of their needs and receive feedback on accomplishments. Since 2001, the Francophone community has expressed the need for increased availability of services in French in priority sectors such as health, economic development, justice, social services, early childhood and immigration. The British Columbia francophone community's 2004-2009 Plan de Développement Global (*Strategic Development Plan*) reflects these same needs and priorities. In 2005, the BC Francophone Affairs Program conducted a consultation of community groups to determine current and future priorities and needs.

The *2006-2009 Strategic Plan on Francophone Affairs* also focuses on the needs and priorities identified by the francophone community as a result of the 2005 consultation.

#### 2 Strategic Objective

The *2006-2009 British Columbia Strategic Plan on Francophone Affairs* will enable British Columbia to increase its capacity to support the BC Francophone community by continuing to promote the start-up and development of a basic service infrastructure in priority areas. By enhancing the BC Francophone Affairs Program, and strengthening collaboration with ministries and agencies, the strategic plan strives to increase the availability of services to the Francophone community in the following priority areas: Health, Economic Development, Social Services, and Justice. One priority also expressed by the Francophone community during the 2005 consultation is the need to increase the capacity of its arts and cultural sector to realize its social and economical potential.

This Strategic Plan is consistent with the general purpose of the 2006-2009 Agreement which is to provide funding through a mechanism for coordination and joint planning of initiatives and activities aimed at contributing to the development of British Columbia's Francophone community.

In developing this Strategic Plan, the needs of the community, the priorities of the BC Government and the priorities of the *Federal Government Action Plan for Official Languages* were taken into consideration. The strategic plan describes the initiatives and activities that British Columbia intends to pursue over the life of the *Cooperation Agreement on Official Languages* and indicates the expected results of these undertakings. British Columbia will survey and evaluate the outcomes of these initiatives. The Strategic Plan serves as a roadmap for the planning, implementation and assessment of various initiatives and activities.

### 3. Strategic Plan

Planned Actions/Measures 2006-09	Expected Results	Performance Indicators for Objective 1	Annual Provincial and Federal Contributions
<b>Objective 1: Strengthen the Administrative Capacity of the Francophone Affairs Program</b>			Federal: \$220,000 Provincial: \$80,000 <b>Total: \$300,000</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consult with and assist B.C. ministries, agencies, independent members of the legislative assembly (Ombudsman, Chief Electoral Officer, etc) and municipalities in the planning and delivering of services to the B.C. Francophone community.</li> <li>• Promote use of both official languages in government communications when appropriate.</li> <li>• Develop and monitor planning and service delivery to the B.C. Francophone community by ministries and agencies in key areas such as: Health, Economic Development, Justice, and Social Services (including child care, early childhood development, immigration, and literacy).</li> <li>• Encourage collaboration and partnerships between B.C. and Canada, and between B.C. and other provinces and territories to strengthen the vitality of the Francophone community in B.C. and increase delivery of services to the Francophone community.</li> <li>• Encourage French-language awareness activities and provincial ministries' participation to raise visibility of the community and to increase collaboration between ministries and community groups.</li> <li>• Manage the <i>2006-2009 Canada-British Columbia Agreement on Official Languages</i>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanded availability of French-language services in priority sectors.</li> <li>• Increased B.C. government capacity to deliver services to its Francophone community.</li> <li>• Increased vitality of the French-language community and increased profile/awareness of the community.</li> <li>• Participation of Francophone groups / operational partnerships between ministries and agencies are maintained or created.</li> <li>• Increased awareness and understanding of B.C. government ministries and agencies, of the BC Francophone Affairs Program and the B.C. Francophone community.</li> <li>• Improved communication between provincial ministries and agencies, the Francophone community, and their French-speaking counterparts in other P/T.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Francophone community level of satisfaction on services available and delivered by ministries and agencies.</li> <li>• Number of operational partnerships created or maintained over 3 years</li> </ul>	

Planned Actions/Measures 2006-09	Expected Results	Performance Indicators For Objective 2	Annual Provincial and Federal Contributions
<b>Objective 2: Support Service Development, Planning and Delivery in Five Priority Areas</b>			Federal: \$480,000 Provincial: \$620,000 <b>Total: \$1,100,000</b>
<p><b>Priority 1: Health</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the Ministry of Health Services and Health Services Authorities in their efforts to maintain and/or improve health services to the Francophone community.</li> </ul> <p>Example of planned measures for 2006-2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with and support initiatives of the Ministry of Health Services, Population Health and Wellness Program to maintain availability and promotion of GuideSanté and BC Health Files.</li> <li>Collaboration with the BC Public Health Services Agency to maintain and increase access to and delivery of health services in French.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthening and increased access to services available to the BC French-language community.</li> <li>Provincial and Stakeholder partnership projects are maintained or increased.</li> </ul>	<p>Number of initiatives and activities undertaken to support service delivery to the BC French-Language community</p>	

Planned Actions/Measures 2006-09	Expected Results	Performance Indicators For Objective 2	
<b>Objective 2: Support Service Development, Planning and Delivery in Five Priority Areas</b>			
<p><b>Priority 2: Economic Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the Ministry of Economic Development and the Ministry of Small Business and Revenue in initiatives focusing on identifying projects facilitating job creation for the Francophone community and marketing BC as a preferred place to live, visit, invest and do business.</li> <li>Support programs and strategies (2010 related or not) initiated by Ministries, Agencies, Crown Corporations or municipalities aiming to enhance Francophone community's economic development in rural and urban areas.</li> </ul> <p><u>2.1 Immigration</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the Ministry of Attorney General and the Ministry of Economic Development both sharing immigration duties in their efforts to recruit, integrate and retain French-speaking newcomers.</li> </ul> <p><u>2.2 Arts and Culture</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the Ministry of Tourism, Sports and Culture in its mandate to develop programs that enable the arts and cultural sector to realize its social and economic potential</li> </ul> <p>Example of planned measures for 2006-2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaboration with the Ministry of Economic Development, for the bilingual tourism initiative of the Nanaimo region.</li> <li>Collaboration with the city of Coquitlam for its Francophone revitalization initiative in Maillardville.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased opportunities for job creation.</li> <li>Increased exposure of BC's Francophone business community to national and international markets.</li> <li>Economic benefits of immigration are maximized.</li> <li>Increased access to services and information for Francophone newcomers</li> <li>Francophone artists, arts and cultural organizations are assisted to reach existing and new markets and develop new products and services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of francophone related economic development initiatives that have been identified or enhanced.</li> <li>Number of initiatives contained in the <i>Comité Directeur Regional de la C.-B.</i> to foster francophone immigration that have been achieved or worked on.</li> <li>Number of initiatives celebrating the presence and contributions of the BC Francophone community</li> </ul>	

Planned Actions/Measures 2006-09	Expected Results	Performance Indicators	
<p><b>Priority 3: Social Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist BC ministries and agencies in their efforts to improving access to services for Francophone families, children, women, seniors and newcomers.</li> </ul> <p><u>3.1 Early Childhood</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support ministries and agencies in the development of early childhood initiatives relating to the Francophone community.</li> </ul> <p><u>3.2 Literacy:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support Ministries in their efforts to help children and adults gain the literacy skills they need for full participation in society.</li> </ul> <p>Example of planned measures for 2006-2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with provincial ministries to facilitate training and credential recognition of Francophone Early Childhood Educators.</li> <li>Collaborate with the Ministry of Education and Advanced Education to maintain Vancouver's Francophone Literacy Center.</li> <li>Collaborate with the Ministry of Community Services to promote and support French-speaking women's participation in every facet of life in BC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased number of early childhood services for the Francophone community.</li> <li>Improved access to resources materials in French for family, children, adults and tutors.</li> <li>Improved access to services for French-speaking women and family</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One bilingual social support worker position in the city of Vancouver is maintained.</li> <li>Number of initiatives and programs in place or being developed supporting early childhood services for the Francophone community.</li> <li>2005 staffing level of the Vancouver Francophone Literacy Center is maintained.</li> <li>Number of initiatives in place or being developed to support the need of francophone families, women, and seniors.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Priority 4: Justice</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the Ministry of Attorney General in the implementation of its service plan relating to French-language services</li> </ul> <p>Example of planned measures for 2006-2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support Court Service Branch to facilitate linguistic training of staff, translation of justice related material and the compilation of bilingual jurors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved access to justice in both official languages as provided for under Part XVII of the Criminal Code.</li> </ul>	<p>Number of bilingual employees capable of providing services to the public in French</p>	

Planned Actions/Measures 2006-09	Expected Results	Performance Indicators for Objective 2	
<p><b>Priority 5: Communication, Information and Consultation</b></p> <p><u>5.1 Communication and Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist ministries to ensure that information about government programs and services is accessible to the Francophone community.</li> <li>Current publications in French are updated and new publications are translated.</li> </ul> <p><u>5.2 Consultation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage and monitor consultation between the BC Government and the BC Francophone community.</li> </ul> <p>Example of planned measures for 2006-2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaboration with the Public Affairs Bureau for production, distribution and/or promotion of material relevant to the Francophone community.</li> <li>Annual consultation / meeting of the Francophone Affairs Program with main Francophone stakeholders (i.e. BC Francophone Federation, Educacentre, CPF) to keep abreast of their needs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased availability of documents and information available in French</li> <li>Increased awareness and profile of the French-language community</li> <li>Active involvement and positive contribution of the BC Francophone community to the BC government “5 Great Goals for the Golden Decade”</li> <li>Identification of key provincial public servants capable of offering a service in both official languages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of new public information materials available in French</li> <li>Annual meeting with main BC Francophone stakeholders</li> </ul>	