



Status Report 2005-2006

Implementation of Section 41 of the *Official Languages Act*

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OF CANADA
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| STATUS REPORT 2005-2006 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CANADA |
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2005-2006 STATUS REPORT

General information

1. Identification of the institution

The Department of Justice is one of the federal departments and institutions designated by the Department of Canadian Heritage and, as such, it is required to report to Canadian Heritage each year on its achievements regarding the implementation of section 41 of the OLA.

The report outlines the achievements of the Department of Justice for the year 2005-2006, in accordance with the objectives set out in its 2005-2010 Action Plan for the implementation of section 41.

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**Responsible Minister: The Honourable Vic Toews
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada**

2. Brief description of the institution's mandate

The Department of Justice works to ensure that Canada's justice system is as fair, accessible and efficient as possible. The Department of Justice serves Canadians indirectly by acting as the government's law firm rather than taking care of citizens' personal or individual business directly. The Department's responsibilities reflect the double role of the [Minister of Justice](#), who is also the Attorney General of Canada.

3. Responsible Officers

| Associate Deputy Minister of Justice | National Coordination | Senior Counsel and Manager |
|---|--|--|
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4. Period covered

This report covers the period from April 1, 2005, to March 31, 2006.

5. Summary of the main outcomes achieved

Team 41 of the Office of the Francophonie, Justice in Official Languages and Legal Dualism coordinates the implementation of section 41 of the OLA at the Department of Justice.

The Department's achievements for 2005-2006 selected for this report include those activities that are directly related to the implementation of section 41 of the Act.

The Department's achievements are summarized under six themes:

1. Raising employee and senior management awareness regarding the linguistic duality and priorities of official language minority communities.
2. Consulting official language minority communities on their priorities and on new departmental initiatives, policies or programs.
3. Communicating with official language minority communities regarding departmental programs and services.
4. Coordinating and liaising with other government authorities.
5. Funding and delivering programs to official language minority communities.

6. Accountability.

The achievements of the Department of Justice in relation to the above themes are set out below.

Raising awareness

The Department organized the third annual meeting of Departmental Coordinators responsible for the implementation of section 41 of the *OLA* at Justice Canada. This meeting was held on December 15 and 16, 2005 in Ottawa. The network also communicates the news from each region via teleconferences held at six-week intervals.

Awareness-raising sessions on the requirements of Part VII of the *OLA* (amended) were presented to:

- the Council of the Network of Champions;
- the network of coordinators and regional offices;
- lawyers from the Department of Justice;
- lawyers from outside the Department of Justice;
- various stakeholders within the Department of Justice.

In addition, as part of the Department's continuing legal education program, a session entitled "Essential Language Rights — a primer on fundamental official language rights in Canada" was given to the Department's legal staff in September and February 2005.

Consultation

Our representatives took part in various consultation forums during the year in order to promote departmental initiatives and hear the communities' priorities. Among other events, they took part in the Ontario Federal Council's Official Languages Committee Forum and attended the annual meetings of the Association des juristes d'expression française de la Colombie-Britannique, the Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada, the Fédération de la jeunesse franco-ontarienne, the Acadian and Francophone community of Prince Edward Island, the Commission nationale des parents francophones and the Quebec Community Groups Network.

Meetings with representing organizations were held through the Advisory committee – Justice in Official Languages and the Advisory Sub-Committee – Access to Justice in Both Official Languages and Section 41, community component. Meeting were also held with our government partners through the federal-provincial-territorial (FPT) Working Group on Access to Justice in Both Official languages.

Consultations were held with the Manitoba and PEI communities in order to determine their needs and promote the new Family Justice Initiative.

The Department of Justice organized the first meeting of public legal education and information organizations (PLEIs) and associations of French-speaking jurists (AJEF) on March 20 and 21, 2006 in Ottawa. This new initiative gave participants a chance to get better acquainted and to highlight some of the collaborative efforts that have been undertaken and are or soon will be underway.

Communications

Several changes were made to the Department's communication strategy for the implementation of section 41. The Department reviewed its communication plan for the implementation of section 41 in order to reflect amendments to the OLA.

The section 41 component of the Department's website was modified to make it more accessible and user-friendly. A "What's New" section was added.

Bookmarks were designed as an internal awareness-raising tool. These were distributed during the information tour on amendments to the OLA and the role of the Department's team 41. The bookmarks will be used again at future events, including annual coordinators' meetings and the Rendez-vous de la Francophonie.

Two articles were written for Canadian Heritage's Bulletin 41-42 to inform communities about the Department's initiatives as part of section 41 implementation.

The Department created an electronic mailing list to communicate effectively with community organizations. This new approach replaces regular mailings.

Coordination and liaison

During the period covered by this report, the Department took part in several conferences, seminars and other educational and training activities designed to raise the awareness level of federal institutions regarding their linguistic obligations. In addition, the Department took an active part in the meetings of the national coordinators responsible for the implementation of section 41.

The Department took an active part in the work of the supervisory committee for the "Environmental Scan French-language services in Ontario's Justice Sector" conducted by the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario. The results of this study were presented in February 2006 in Toronto.

The Department took part in education and training activities on language rights in Canada, as part of courses given at the Faculty of Law of the University of Ottawa during the fall 2005 semester.

The Department sent each public legal education and information organization a letter asking them to indicate how they would respond to the needs of the communities. This was accompanied by a copy of our Action Plan on Official Languages.

Through its various committees, meetings and other special events, the Department maintains direct and regular contact with all the main stakeholders in the area of access to justice in both official languages.

Funding and delivery of programs

The following six departmental initiatives were targeted by official language minority communities: the Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund, the Youth Justice Renewal Initiative, the Child-centred Family Justice Fund, the Family Violence Initiative, the Victims of Crime Initiative and the Justice Partnership and Innovation Fund. The Public Legal Education and Information component is part of each of the targeted initiatives.

The structure of the Department's 41 Coordinators Network allows representatives from the regions to be in touch with our departmental coordinators in order to find out about departmental initiatives.

In 2006, the Department, through the Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund, increased by 25% its core funding to associations of French-speaking jurists and their national federation. This increase enabled the Department to support the Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Alberta and provided more funding to the Fédération des associations de juristes d'expression française and its member associations.

Accountability

The Five-Year Action Plan was updated and reflects changes in the initiatives concerned. The Department added two new initiatives, i.e. the Victims of Crime Initiative and the Justice Partnership and Innovation Fund. The addition of these initiatives bring to six the number of components targeted by the Department's Action Plan for the Implementation of Section 41 of the OLA.

On the Contraventions front, the Department is pursuing its efforts to secure, as part of each of its agreements with the provinces and territories, a commitment to the effect that all linguistic rights of the defendants, both under the *Criminal Code* and Part IV of the *Official Languages Act*, will be respected for contraventions prosecuted under the provincial or territorial penal system.

A new agreement including these commitments was signed with Nova Scotia in June 2005. In addition, a change was made to Part II of the *Application of Provincial Laws Regulations* regarding that province's penal system so that the language rights of defendants under the *Criminal Code* are guaranteed for defendants prosecuted for contraventions under this system. Finally, negotiations on similar agreements have also been initiated with Alberta, Saskatchewan, Newfoundland and Labrador and the Territories.

In January 2006 the Department's Senior Management Board approved the creation of an Official Languages Coordination Committee chaired by the Champion of Official Languages. This new structure will allow for a concerted view on all official language issues at the Department.

The Department added two performance indicators to the Results-Based Management and Accountability Framework for certain initiatives:

- The level of involvement of target groups from official language minority communities in the development, implementation and evaluation of programs targeted in the strategic plan.
- The level of involvement of target groups from official language minority communities in the development of Justice Department policies that impact their development.

Note: In this report, the use of the masculine form is intended to refer to both women and men.

6. Network of Coordinators

| Regional Coordinators | | |
|---|---|---|
| British Columbia | Alberta | Saskatchewan |
| Pierre Rousseau General Counsel Robson Court 900-840 Howe Street Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2S9 Tel.: (604) 666-6009 Fax: (604) 666-7121 pierre.rousseau@justice.gc.ca | Richard Keswick Counsel Bank of Montreal Building 10199 – 101 st Street Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3Y4 Tel.: (780) 495-5358 Fax: (780) 495-2854 richard.keswick@justice.gc.ca | Joseph McHattie Counsel 123 – 2 nd Avenue South, 10 th Floor Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 7E6 Tel.: (306) 975-8991 Fax: (306) 975-6499 joseph.mchattie@justice.gc.ca |
| Prairies (Manitoba) | Ontario | Quebec |
| Julien Bédard Counsel Centennial House 310 Broadway Avenue Room 301 Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0S6 Tel.: (204) 983-0984 Fax: (204) 984-7003 julien.bedard@justice.gc.ca | Adel Ghié Policy Analyst 275 Sparks St. Room SAT-5025 Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H8 Tel.: (613) 954-3723 Fax: (613) 946-3106 aghie@justice.gc.ca | Cristina Damiani Coordinator Quebec Regional Office Complexe Guy Favreau East Tower, 9th floor 200, René Lévesque Blvd. West Montreal, Quebec H2Z 1X4 Tel. : (514) 496-2335 Fax : (514) 283-9690 cristina.damiani@justice.gc.ca |
| Atlantic | Yukon and Nunavut | Northwest Territories |
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| Departmental Program and Policy Coordinators | | |
|---|---|---|
| Intergovernmental relations, Policy and Planning | Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund | Youth Justice Policy |
| Cyril McIntyre Legal Counsel 284 Wellington Street Room EMB-5248 Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H8 Tel.: (613) 952-8315 Fax: (613) 941-4165 cyril.mcintyre@justice.gc.ca | Sylvie Bourgault Counsel 284 Wellington Street Room TSA-5022 Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H8 Tel.: (613) 946-7016 Fax: (613) 946-3106 sylvie.bourgault@justice.gc.ca | Pauline Cormier Program Analyst 180 Elgin St., 7 th Floor Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H8 Tel.: (613) 946-9452 Fax: (613) 954-3275 pauline.cormier@justice.gc.ca |
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| Justice Partnership and Innovation Fund | Victims of Crime Initiative | Family Violence Initiative |
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| Research Representative | Communications Representative |
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SIGNATURE

Original signed by Michel Bouchard

Michel Bouchard
Associate Deputy Minister of Justice
Official Languages Champion

September 18, 2006

Date

Francophonie, Justice in Official Languages and Legal Dualism

OBJECTIVE: Within the Department of Justice, ensure that the accountability framework for the implementation of section 41 of the *Official Languages Act* (OLA), the implementation of which was approved by Cabinet in 1994, is respected.

OUTPUTS 2005-2006

RAISING AWARENESS

- The Department organized the annual meeting of departmental coordinators responsible for the implementation of section 41 of the *OLA*. This meeting was held on December 15 and 16, 2005 in Ottawa and involved contributors from central agencies.
- Conference calls are held every six weeks in order to share knowledge and discuss strategies aimed at achieving the following strategic plan objectives:
 - Establish a durable relationship between the Department of Justice and official language minority communities and with the organizations representing them.
 - Support the development of useful information, tools and resources useful to official language minority communities in the area of justice.
 - Promote the creation of local, regional and national partnerships to implement initiatives related to justice in the minority language.
- Representatives from the Office of the Francophonie, Justice in Official Languages and Legal Dualism and from the Official Languages Law Group gave presentations on the *Act amending the Official Languages Act* in each of the Department's regional offices and sectors.
- An article was published in *JustInfo*, the Department's internal publication, to promote the Rendez-vous de la Francophonie.
- Several posters were put up in the various Justice Canada buildings to promote the Rendez-vous de la Francophonie.

Francophonie, Justice in Official Languages and Legal Dualism

- Team 41 met with the people responsible for the six initiatives targeted by the Five-Year Action Plan in order to:
 - ensure they have a clear understanding of their roles as 41 Coordinators in their respective fields;
 - define the tools that could be useful to them in their role as coordinators. Among the tools defined were a data collection chart for the Status Report and a separate chart to collect data to update the Action Plan. Other tools will be developed in 2006.

CONSULTATIONS

- The Department attended the annual general meetings (AGM's) of several community groups in order to promote its initiatives. Among other events, he participated in the Ontario Regional Council's Official Languages Committee Forum and attended the annual meetings of the Association des juristes d'expression française de la Colombie-Britannique, the Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada, the Fédération de la jeunesse franco-ontarienne, Prince Edward Island's Acadian and Francophone community, the Commission nationale des parents francophones and the Quebec Community Groups Network.
- The second meeting of the Advisory Sub-Committee – section 41 – Francophone was held on October 12, 2005.
- A meeting with the Quebec Community Network Groups (QCGN) was held on November 15, 2005 to define a new consultation structure with Quebec's Anglophone communities.

COMMUNICATIONS

- The minutes of the advisory committee meetings and the annual meetings of the Network of Coordinators are distributed to all participants as well as to regional directors and general managers. They are also posted on the Department's intranet and website.
- The Office of the Francophonie wrote two articles for Canadian Heritage's Bulletin 41-42 to inform communities about its initiatives as part of the implementation of section 41.

Francophonie, Justice in Official Languages and Legal Dualism

- Quarterly mailings were replaced by the distribution list which allows faster and more efficient communications with official language minority communities. The distribution list is updated on a monthly basis. It contains the names of over 250 organizations who work in the areas targeted by the Department's six initiatives.
- A communications plan for the implementation of section 41 at the Department was developed in cooperation with the Communications Branch.
- Fact sheets were developed to serve as a communication tool to promote better understanding of the implementation of section 41 at the Department.

COORDINATION AND LIAISON

- The Department took an active part in the meetings of national coordinators responsible for the implementation of section 41.
- In addition, the Champion of Official Languages, Michel Bouchard, will chair the new coordination committee created in January 2006. This committee will allow for a concerted view on all official language issues within the Department.
- Regional and program coordinators have access to an official languages minority community data bank.
- The Champion of Official Languages and Associate Deputy Minister of Justice, Michel Bouchard, attended the meetings of Champions and the Committee of Deputy Ministers on Official Languages.
- Representatives from the Office of the Francophonie, Justice in Official Languages and Legal Dualism sit on the steering committee and on the Survey on the vitality of Official Language Minorities Working Group. The Department funded questions on the language used in the public sphere (concerning police and lawyers) for this post-census survey.

FUNDING AND DELIVERY OF PROGRAMS

- The Office of the Francophonie manages the Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund. This fund is covered in a separate section of this report.

Francophonie, Justice in Official Languages and Legal Dualism

ACCOUNTABILITY

- The Five-Year Action Plan was updated and reflects the evolution of the programs targeted.
- The Department adopted the two performance indicators contained in the Results-Based Management and Accountability Framework:
 - The level of involvement of target groups from official language minority communities in the development, implementation and evaluation of programs targeted in the strategic plan.
 - The level of involvement of target groups from official language minority communities in the development of Justice Department policies that impact their development.
- The Department is developing a plan to recruit members who will sit on the Advisory Sub-Committees, Community component, section 41. The requirements and procedures will be completed for fiscal 2006-2007.
- Two initiatives were added to the Action Plan for the Implementation of section 41 at the Department, i.e. the Victims of Crime Initiative and the Justice Partnership and Innovation Fund.

RESULTS

The Department is better known to communities and is better acquainted with their needs.

Department employees are educated about the impact of the amendments made to the *Official Languages Act*.

Creation of a departmental committee to manage all official languages files.

Creation of a data bank of over 250 organizations with an interest in the area of justice.

Fact sheets are useful in understanding the procedure chosen by the Department for the implementation of section 41.

Person responsible:

Andrée Duchesne, Senior Counsel and Manager, Francophonie, Justice in Official Languages and Legal Dualism

Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund

OBJECTIVES: Increase the capacity of the Justice Department's partners to develop innovative solutions to emerging access to justice in both official languages related issues;

Raise awareness among the legal community and official language minority communities on exercising their rights and the issues related to access to justice in both official languages.

OUTPUTS 2005-2006

CONSULTATIONS

- Annual meetings of the Advisory Committee – Justice in Official Languages and of the Advisory Sub-Committee – Access to Justice in Both Official Languages were held respectively on June 6 and November 4, 2005. The minutes are distributed to participants and sometimes to other stakeholders for their information where appropriate.
- We meet each year with representative organizations through the meetings of the Advisory Committee – Justice in Official Languages, the Advisory Sub-Committee – Access to Justice in Both Official Languages and the Federal-Provincial-Territorial (FPT) Working Group on Access to Justice in Both Official Languages.

COMMUNICATIONS

- The Promoting Access to Justice in Both Official Languages (PAJLO) Information Kit is available. It is handed out at events or upon request.
- The website is updated regularly.
- The information is regularly sent to associations of French-speaking jurists and their National Federation and to the Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne, to the Quebec Community Groups Network and to public legal education and information organizations, using the Department's website and the Network of 41 Regional and Departmental Coordinators.
- Semi-annual meetings are also held between the Department's Associate Deputy Minister and Champion of Official Languages and the Fédération des associations de juristes d'expression française de common law. In addition, Support Fund officials maintain ongoing contact with the federation.

Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund

COORDINATION AND LIAISON

- Through our various committees, meetings and other events, we maintain direct and regular contact with all the main stakeholders in the area of access to justice in both official languages.

FUNDING AND DELIVERY OF PROGRAMS

- More than thirty funding agreements have been signed with organizations working with official language minority communities, including the Fédération des associations de juristes d'expression française and its provincial associations.
- Core funding allocated by the Department to associations of French-speaking jurists and their national federation increased from \$600,000 to \$750,000 this year.
- The Federal-Provincial-Territorial Working Group on Access to Justice in Both Official Languages has created the Institut de développement professionnel en langue française, an institute for bilingual Crown prosecutors and others involved in the criminal justice system. This joint project with Justice Ontario allows 15 bilingual Crown prosecutors from provinces other than Ontario to attend a full week of professional training in French. The Working Group is working on the creation of a network of bilingual Crown prosecutors across Canada.
- We are working jointly with other departmental programs, for instance by directing project submissions to the program(s) best suited to meet the objectives of the project in question. Several projects are funded in partnership with other departmental programs.

Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund

RESULTS

The projects funded by the Support Fund meet the needs of the legal community at the service of official language minority citizens.

Communities are becoming better educated about access to justice in their official language.

Jurists at the service of communities have increased access to training and tools.

Person responsible:

Andrée Duchesne, Senior Counsel and Manager, Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund

| Official Languages Law Group |
|---|
| OBJECTIVE: To inform the public, and more specifically the legal community and Official Language Minority Communities, regarding language rights, particularly rights relating to the administration of justice, and to raise awareness of those rights. |
| OBJECTIVE: To inform public servants, both inside the Department and in the client departments, regarding language rights, and raise their awareness of the importance of those rights. |
| OBJECTIVE: To support and coordinate various policy initiatives designed to advance language rights in the administration of justice and within the government. |
| OUTPUTS 2005-2006 |

RAISING AWARENESS

- Information session on the amended Part VII of the Official Languages Act, presented to the FPT Working Group on Access to Justice in Both Official Languages (March 24, 2006).
- Developed and updated case law summaries, case law analyses, and other training and information tools.
- Justice Continuing Legal Education, “Essential Language Rights – a primer on fundamental official language rights in Canada” (English and French sessions) (September and February 2005).
- Justice Continuing Legal Education, “Incorporation by Reference in Regulations: language requirements”, presented at the workshop on the substantive rules applicable to regulations, Legislative Services Unit (May 2005).
- Information sessions on the requirements of the amended Part VII of the OLA to the OL networks and client-departments: Champions (November 28, 2005); Crown Corporations Advisory Committee on Official Languages (November 29, 2005); Council of the Network of Departmental Official Languages Champions (January 30, 2006) Federal Council of Nova Scotia (February 13, 2006), Network of “Part VII” coordinators (February 16, 2006); Treasury Board – Official Languages Directorate (February 17, 2006); Program officers– Canadian Heritage for the West (February 21, 2006) and for the East (February 22, 2006); Federal Council of New Brunswick – Official languages committee (March 2, 2006); ACOA (March 6, 2006).Conference of the Departmental Advisory Committee on Official Languages (March 7, 2006); Crown Corporations and other agencies in the

Official Languages Law Group

Canadian Heritage portfolio (March 9, 2006); Interdepartmental Forum on Transfer Payments (March 16, 2006); Federal Council for the NWT (March 22, 2006); Annual Conference of Champions, Vancouver (March 23, 2006); Federal departments of the NWT (March 23, 2006); Federal Council for Quebec – committee on official languages (March 31, 2006).

- Legal training workshops on the requirements of the amended Part VII of the OLA for Justice lawyers: S-3 Conference (February 20, 2006); Quebec Regional Office (March 20, 2006); Law Day for the Legal Services at HRSDC (March 28, 2006).
- Legal training workshops on the requirements of the amended Part VII of the OLA for federal lawyers not active within the Justice Department: S-3 Conference pour Crown Corporation lawyers and their clients (March 1, 2006).
- Information sessions on the requirements of the amended Part VII of the OLA for various interested sectors of the DOJ: “Part VII” coordinators (December 15, 2005); Deputy Minister’s Breakfast meeting (February 14, 2006); BC Regional Office (February 23, 2006); Prairie Regional Office – Senior Management meeting (March 3, 2006); Business and Regulatory Law Portfolio management team (March 6, 2006); Quebec Regional Office – Senior Management meeting (March 7, 2006); Policy Sector management team (March 13, 2006); Saskatchewan Regional Office – Senior Management (March 14, 2006); Edmonton Regional Office – Senior Management (March 15, 2006); Halifax Regional Office – Senior Management and French-language Practice Group (March 29, 2006).

CONSULTATIONS

- Speaker at Nova Scotia French Jurists’ Association consultations on section 530 of the *Criminal Code* (November 2005).
- In November 2005, the Department held consultations with the provinces and territories as well as the principal interested minority groups, including the Commissioner of Official Languages, on possible amendments to the *Criminal Code*.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Publication of the French version of “Language rights in the field of criminal law: where do we stand following the *Beaulac* decision? Or “The end of an ephemeral era of judicial torment”, in Braën, Foucher and Le Bouthillier (Eds), *Languages, Constitutionalism and Minorities* (Markham: Butterworths, 2006) at pp. 393 to 432 (English version available on request).

Official Languages Law Group

COORDINATION AND LIAISON

- Participated in teaching and training activities: “Recent developments in federal law: Official Languages Rights in Canada”, Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa, November 2005; “Introduction aux droits linguistiques” given in the context of “Droit constitutionnel I”, Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa, October 2005; “Problèmes choisis de droits de la personne II – Les droits linguistiques”, Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa, Fall Semester 2005.
- Active participation in the various interdepartmental groups and networks: Research Group on Official Languages; Interdepartmental Advisory Committee on the Official Languages; Support Committee to the Committee of Deputy Ministers on Official Languages; Interdepartmental Working Group on the Implementation of the amended Part VII of the *Official Languages Act*.
- Speaker at Conference on the *Legislative Instruments Re-enactment Act*, December 15, 2005.
- Speaker at Annual Conference of the Economic Development Agencies, Quebec, September 12, 2005.
- Speaker at the Annual Conference of the Departmental Advisory Committee on Official Languages, Lac Carling, October 20, 2005.
- OLLG shares information with key departments.
- OLLG provides legal and legal policy advice to clients.
- OLLG present case law and trends analysis, as well as their implications on the governmental operation management, to the Committee of Deputy Ministers on Official Languages.
- Follow up to conference on “Access to Justice in Both Official Languages: English and French Before Federal Courts” of April 2003: A working group has been established by the tribunal chairs, with the support of the Department of Justice, to ensure a follow up of the Conference. The working group reached a number of conclusions and formulated some recommendations in May 2004, along the lines of those previously made by the Commissioner. The tribunal chairs asked the Department of Justice to re-examine the scope of paragraph 20(2) of the

Official Languages Law Group

Official Languages Act as currently drafted. In March 2006, the Associate Deputy Minister asked the OLLG to undertake a re-examination of this issue.

ACCOUNTABILITY

- Participation in the implementation of the Official Languages Accountability and Coordination Framework within the context of the Action Plan for Official Languages.
- Support from the Official Languages Law Group to the horizontal coordination structure created by the Accountability Framework.

RESULTS

Department employees have a better understanding of the scope of Part VII (amended) of the OLA.

The Department of Justice's client departments are kept informed about the progress of language rights and the scope of Part VII (amended) of the OLA.

Person responsible:

Marc Tremblay, General Counsel and Director, Official Languages Law Group

Child-centred Family Justice Strategy

OBJECTIVE: The Child-centred Family Justice Strategy is composed of three pillars: legislative reform; expansion of Unified Family Courts; and, funding for family justice services.

The Child-centred Family Justice Fund supports the development, implementation, delivery, monitoring and evaluation of family justice services to assist parents making decisions about their children's care and to help them work out child-focused parenting arrangements. This is achieved through grants and contributions funding to provinces and territories and to non-governmental organizations.

OUTPUTS 2005-2006

RAISING AWARENESS

- CCFJS coordinators were kept informed of the federal administration's obligations under the *Official Languages Act* through regular discussions on the new bill which amended Part VII of the Act.

COMMUNICATIONS

- The Federal-Provincial-Territorial Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials (Family Justice) is kept informed of the obligations created by section 41 through feedback on proposals for funding by contribution and through the negotiation of agreements made pursuant to section 25.1 of the *Divorce Act*.

CONSULTATIONS

- CCFJS officials at the Department consulted with Francophone minorities in Manitoba (February 8, 2006) and Prince Edward Island (February 16, 2006) in order to learn about their needs and inform them about a new family justice initiative launched in their province. The information thus gathered was used in negotiating agreements with these provinces pursuant of section 25.1 of the *Divorce Act*.
- The Evaluation Division is currently conducting a survey with the provinces and territories regarding the nature of the family justice services offer. The survey includes questions about accessibility and about the language in which services are offered. The results of this survey will be useful in the debate on official languages.
- Meetings were also held with the Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario (August 3, 2005) and with the Fédération des juristes d'expression française (September 28, 2005) to discuss ways of gathering information on the needs of official language communities.

Child-centred Family Justice Strategy

COORDINATION AND LIAISON

- *Unified Family Courts (UFC)*: Ask provinces and territories, in the development of their proposals, to consider the improvement of access to the family justice system in both official languages, particularly in relation to family justice services.
- The letter requesting Unified Family Courts proposals from jurisdictions informed jurisdictions that one of the key federal objectives is to ensure that access to services is maintained, both geographically and in terms of the diversity of services offered and communities served. Jurisdictions were advised that the unified family court model is intended to improve both the quality of justice and access to justice for participants in the family law system. It would be important for proposals to demonstrate how the jurisdiction's expansion plans have taken into the account the issues of access and diversity (for example, urban v. rural locations, the language of service, etc). Jurisdictions addressed this objective in their proposals as follows:

Ontario: Family mediation services are provided by an external service provider in each Family Court location. Ontario's proposal indicates that the service provider must ensure that the Ministry's requirements regarding mediator qualifications and service delivery are met. These requirements dictate that mediation service providers must deliver mediation services in French, if such is the language of choice of the client. Such mediation services are to be provided directly to the client and not through the use of interpreters or translators. In addition, we have been advised that the staff of the Family Law Information Centers must be bilingual in the Ottawa, Cornwall and l'Orignal locations.

New Brunswick: Proposal confirms that there is access to services in both official languages throughout the province and that each judicial district provides the same range of services.

Nova Scotia: Proposal states that research and evaluation will ensure that services in the Family Division are sensitive to diversity and gender concerns and reflective of the needs and experiences of different social and cultural groups, equity groups and diverse communities. It notes that Nova Scotia has a higher rural population than the Canadian average (affecting geographical accessibility) and that 9% of the population speaks both English and French or French only.

Child-centred Family Justice Strategy

Newfoundland: Proposal does not address language of service specifically. However, significant consideration is given to how to expand the Unified Family Courts to provide the most extensive geographical access with the limited judicial resources available. Considerable attention is also given to ensuring access for aboriginal communities, particularly in the Labrador region.

ACCOUNTABILITY

- The Quadcomm Bill was tabled in May 2005 and introduced legislation to amend the *Judges Act* to permit the expansion of Unified Family Courts (UFCs) in Canada. The proposed reforms would authorize the salaries for 27 additional judges to be appointed to these specialized courts to respond to the need identified in the provinces and territories. The Judicial Affairs section distributed information materials to various groups to allow them the opportunity to communicate the details of the proposed initiative to interested organizations and individuals. The UFC expansion intends to better serve the community in the context of improved support to families within the justice system. Groups included on the distribution list for the information materials include the members of parliament and senators, provincial ministers of justice, the Canadian Bar Association, law societies, and the Provincial Judges Association.
- **Evaluation:** All jurisdictions have agreed to work collaboratively with the federal government in an evaluation of the Unified Family Courts model. As part of the evaluation, we will be attempting to measure the impact on accessibility in terms of diverse communities, geographic areas served, language of service, and costs.

RESULT

Child-centred Family Justice Strategy officials took official language minority community considerations into account in managing the Strategy.

Persons responsible :

Lise Lafrenière Henrie, Senior Counsel and Coordinator, Family Law Policy (FCY)

Barbara Stewart, A/Coordinator, Program Development Unit (FCY)

Danielle Bruyère, Program Analyst, Program Development Unit (FCY)

Ginette Thibault, Program Analyst, Program Development Unit (FCY)

Jean Marquis, Program Manager, Communications (FCY)

Catherine McKinnon, Counsel, Judicial Affairs

Louise Panet-Raymond, Counsel, Judicial Affairs

Victims of Crime Initiative

OBJECTIVE: To improve the experience of the victim and to increase the confidence of victims of crime in the criminal justice system by ensuring that victims become more aware of their role in the criminal justice system and the laws, services and assistance applicable to them; increasing overall awareness about the needs of victims of crime and effective approaches in Canada and internationally; and, improving the ability of the Department of Justice to develop laws and policy that take into consideration the perspectives of victims.

OUTPUTS 2005-2006

RAISING AWARENESS

- Discussions with Francophone community organizations to explain the objectives and procedures of the Victims of Crime Fund.

CONSULTATIONS

- Participation in the meeting of the 41 Advisory Sub-Committee – Francophone.

ACCOUNTABILITY

- In negotiating funding agreements, the Department ensured that relevant projects took into consideration the needs of official language minority communities.

*Person responsible:
Penney Baxter, Program Analyst, Programs Branch*

Justice Partnership and Innovation Fund

OBJECTIVE: To promote the improvement of the Canadian justice system.

OUTPUTS 2005-2006

CONSULTATIONS

- Letters were sent to all public legal education and information organizations inviting them to describe the manner in which they will address the needs of official language minority communities. Also, the Department sent them a copy of its Action Plan and the Strategic Plan on the implementation of section 41 of the OLA so that these organizations are better informed about the Department's commitment to official language minority communities.

ACCOUNTABILITY

- Agreements were signed with the public legal education and information organizations that receive core funding. These agreements aim to ensure that activities undertaken by these organizations also reflect the needs of official language minority communities.
- Public legal education and information organizations were invited to a meeting in March 2006 to meet associations of French-speaking jurists and consolidate potential partnerships. The Department paid for transportation and lodging expenses for community participants.

RESULT

This meeting allowed the representatives of associations of French-speaking jurists and their national federation to take part in the annual meeting of public legal education and information organizations in June 2006 and to maintain contacts between these two networks.

Person responsible:

Marc Rozon, Senior Program Analyst, Programs Branch

Youth Justice Renewal Initiative

OBJECTIVE: The Youth Justice Renewal Fund was set up to facilitate, help and support the successful implementation of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and the Youth Justice Renewal Initiative. The "Cities and Community Partnerships" Component of the Fund is aimed at enabling greater citizen and community participation in the youth justice system. The Fund helps reinforce and increase participation by a large number of organizations, associations and community groups who are directly or indirectly involved in youth justice because they serve the needs of youth who come into conflict with the law.

OUTPUTS 2005-2006

COMMUNICATIONS

- Attendance at the AGM of the Fédération de la jeunesse canadienne-française in Cap-Pelé (NB) August 26-28, 2005: distribution of information kits on the Initiative; discussion with management members of the organization on the Initiative's funding program; opportunity to meet representatives from other organizations within the Canadian francophonie (including the Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada and the Alliance des femmes de la francophonie canadienne).
- Mailing of approximately 2,500 information tools to the Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario (AJEFO) for their 'Law Day' event, held in April 2005. We ensured linkage between the AJEFO and Community Legal Education of Ontario (CLEO) for this mailing.
- Participation in Justice Canada's booth at the Jeux de la Francophonie canadienne held in Winnipeg July 20-24, 2005: a total of 150 copies of about twenty information tools on the Initiative and on the youth justice system were made available to the booth.
- Participation in the convention of the Commission nationale des parents francophones (February 9-11, 2006) in Manitoba, including by making 300 copies of a set of documents intended for parents of teenagers available to participants.
- Participation in the meeting of public legal education and information organizations and associations of French-speaking jurists held March 20-21, 2006 in Ottawa.

Youth Justice Renewal Initiative

COORDINATION AND LIAISON

- With the help of the 41 regional coordinator for British Columbia, communication and follow-up were ensured with *La Boussole* concerning funding opportunities for this non-government organization that works with young Francophones in Vancouver: mailing of samples of information tools on youth justice; mailing of our funding priorities (PLEI component) and application for general funding; invitation to apply for project funding.

FUNDING AND DELIVERY OF PROGRAMS

- There is no specific project submission form for the fund's public legal education and information (PLEI) component. However, official language minority communities are mentioned as a funding priority for this component.

ACCOUNTABILITY

- Addition of performance indicators related to section 41 in the Results-Based Management and Accountability Framework (RMAF) of the Youth Justice Renewal Fund.

RESULT

Performance indicators will allow us to know to what extent section 41 has been integrated to the Initiative

Person responsible:

Catherine Latimer, General Counsel and Director General, Youth Justice Policy, Criminal Law Policy and Community Justice Branch

Family Violence Initiative

OBJECTIVE: To strengthen the criminal justice system's response to family violence.

OUTPUTS 2005-2006

COMMUNICATIONS

- The Initiative's website is maintained and includes a section on the "Implementation of section 41 of the Official Languages Act". The generic Programs Branch site already includes this heading.
- Initiative representatives distributed information tools when they attended the annual meetings of the Network of 41 Coordinators and at conferences.
- Initiative representatives gave presentations at the annual meeting of the section 41 Sub-Committee, at the meeting of public legal education and information organizations and of associations of French-speaking jurists in March 2006, as well as to 41 regional coordinators to give them an update on the Initiative.
- Initiative representatives use the list of communities developed by the Department's Team 41 to encourage majority communities to consult official language minority communities and to involve them in their projects. This is now current practice for the Initiative.

FUNDING AND DELIVERY OF PROGRAMS

- Initiative representatives continued to support official language minority communities submitting applications for financial assistance. In fact, the representatives helped the Fédération nationale des femmes canadiennes françaises submit an application which received financial assistance.
- Initiative representatives continue to encourage partnerships between designated public legal education and information organizations in each province, associations of French-speaking jurists and official language minority communities.

ACCOUNTABILITY

- The general description of initiatives at the Department now includes a statement on the importance of taking the needs of official language minority communities into account.

Family Violence Initiative

RESULT

Awareness of the Family Violence Initiative has increased in official language minority communities.

Person responsible:

Francine Dumas, Program Manager, Innovations, Analysis and Integration Directorate

Intergovernmental and External Relations Division

OBJECTIVE: To consider Official Language Minority Communities in planning consultation or public participation initiatives

OUTPUTS 2005-2006

CONSULTATIONS

- Consultation processes took into consideration official languages in stakeholder representation. Examples:
 - Meeting of the Ad Hoc Ministerial Advisory Group (April 26-27, 2005)
 - Meeting of Organizations Interested in Pro Bono Legal Services (June 28, 2005)
 - Consultations with External Experts (ongoing).

Person responsible:

Bonnie Lidstone, Senior Policy Officer, Intergovernmental and External Relations Division

| Research and Statistics Division |
|---|
| OBJECTIVE: Conduct socio-legal research that takes into account and promotes section 41 of the OLA. |
| OBJECTIVE: Represent the Research and Statistics Division on the Network of Regional and Departmental Program and Policy Coordinators (Implementation of section 41 of the OLA) and meet their research data requirements. |
| OUTPUTS 2005-2006 |

RAISING AWARENESS

- Talks between the Research and Statistics Division and the Network of Regional and Departmental Programs and Policy Coordinators for the implementation of section 41 of the OLA.
- Discussions were initiated in December 2005 by a representative of the Research and Statistics Division within the Network, to inform Team 41 of the role of the Research Division and see how it can contribute to the Network in terms of research or advice in this area.

COORDINATION AND LIAISON

- Support the Network of Regional and Departmental Programs and Policy Coordinators for the implementation of section 41 of the OLA.
- A member of our division sits as representative and coordinator responsible for research within the Network of Regional and Departmental Programs and Policy Coordinators for the implementation of section 41 of the OLA. As such, she represents the division and attends the Network's monthly and annual meetings as well as any other activity.

RESULT

Division members are part of the Network of Regional and Departmental Programs and Policy Coordinators.

Person responsible:

Steve Mihorean, Acting Director, Research and Statistics Division

| Outputs of Regional Coordinators |
|---|
| Alberta Regional Office (Edmonton) |
| Outreach and Liaison <p>The regional coordinator was involved in several activities which contributed to the enhancement, vitality and support of official language minority communities in Alberta.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In March 2005, the regional coordinator participated in the interdepartmental and Francophone community meeting, involving Alberta offices and various federal departments, agencies and Crown corporations, and Alberta Francophone organizations.• He participated in meetings with Canadian Heritage on the implementation of the Department's responsibilities under the <i>OLA</i>.• The regional coordinator participated in meetings with the directors of the Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Alberta. |
| Liaison with Headquarters <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The regional coordinator participated in the conference calls of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the <i>OLA</i>.• The regional coordinator participated in the annual meeting of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the <i>OLA</i> held in Ottawa in December 2005. |
| <i>Person responsible:</i> <i>Richard Keswick, Regional Coordinator, Alberta Region</i> |

Atlantic Regional Office (N.B., N.S., P.E.I. and N.L.)

Outreach and Liaison

The regional coordinator was involved in several activities which contributed to the enhancement, vitality and support of official language minority communities in Atlantic Canada.

For all four provinces:

- Sent a letter to target organizations introducing the new regional coordinator and the various programs offered by the Department of Justice.
- The new regional coordinator first participated in an orientation session with Canadian Heritage in order to get an overview of the challenges and issues facing Francophone community organizations in Atlantic Canada. This session helped create solid ties and get an information kit and an invitation to attend a retreat on official languages, an event organized by the Nova Scotia Federal Council, which the coordinator attended.
- The regional coordinator attended meetings involving federal departments and community representatives and participated in internal activities.
- Each year the regional coordinator meets with the organization representing each province and territory and the organization representing jurists in each province and territory where such an organization exists. For New Brunswick, an initial contact was made by phone and in writing with the Association des juristes d'expression française du N-B.

For Prince Edward Island:

- The regional coordinator attended a meeting of the Official Languages Committee of the Prince Edward Island Federal Council in November 2005. This meeting helped create solid ties with other stakeholders from various federal departments and organizations, including the Société St-Thomas d'Aquin (SSTA). At this meeting, the manager of this agency gave a presentation on one of their main concerns: the May 2006 national census and the reduction in services available in French if PEI's Francophone population ever went below 5,000.

Atlantic Regional Office (N.B., N.S., P.E.I. and N.L.)

For Nova Scotia:

- The regional coordinator attended the forum *Langues officielles... plus que de belles paroles*. The Department's presence at this meeting helped initiate contact and create durable ties with other stakeholders in various federal departments.
- The regional coordinator attended the 2005 retreat on official languages. This event helped create ties with the various stakeholders directly or indirectly involved with this issue. The 2005-2006 Action Plan for Official Languages was examined and several recommendations were made.
- The regional coordinator attended several meetings of the Official Languages Committee of the Nova Scotia Federal Council. The Department's presence at these meetings not only helped initiate contact and create durable ties with stakeholders from other departments, but it also provided an opportunity to learn about the programs and services offered by each department that can contribute to the development of minority communities. In addition, productive exchanges helped identify effective methods to better serve our mandate such as participating in a sectoral table of the Fédération des Acadiens de la Nouvelle-Écosse (FANE).
- The regional coordinator met with the general manager of the Association des juristes d'expression française de la Nouvelle-Écosse. This meeting helped establish initial contact and to gain a better understanding of the organization and its needs. It provided a good opportunity to present Justice Department programs and to get helpful advice on ways in which to reach official language minority communities.
- The regional coordinator joined the French practice group and all the members of this group were invited to attend a meeting between the Official Languages Law Group and senior regional management which was held in March 2006.

Atlantic Regional Office (N.B., N.S., P.E.I. and N.L.)

For Newfoundland and Labrador:

- Contact was made with the person responsible for the Official Languages Committee to join this committee and receive the minutes of all the meetings in order to be able to follow up when attendance is not possible at meetings.

For New Brunswick:

- The Department's National Coordinator for section 41 and a representative of the regional coordinator attended a meeting of the Federal Departments/NB Acadian Community committee. This provided an opportunity to make contact with representatives from other federal departments, with the organization representing New Brunswick, the Société des Acadiens et Acadiennes du Nouveau-Brunswick (SAANB), and with other organizations attendance and to learn about their needs.
- A presentation was held in March 2006 by the official languages team in order to raise employee and senior management awareness of the role of regional coordinator and of community priorities.

Liaison with Headquarters

- The regional coordinator participated in the conference calls of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the OLA.
- The regional coordinator attended the annual meeting of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the OLA held in December 2005.

Person responsible

Susan Murtagh, Regional Coordinator, Atlantic Region

British Columbia Regional Office

Outreach and Liaison

The regional coordinator was involved in several activities which contributed to the enhancement, vitality and support of official language minority communities in British Columbia.

- The regional coordinator participated in the regular meetings of the Federal Interdepartmental Sub-Committee for section 41 OLA and, as of January 2006, participated in the Official Languages Sub-Committee of the Pacific Federal Council.
- He participated in the Law Day of the Association des juristes d'expression française de la Colombie-Britannique in April 2005 and in the general meeting of the Fédération des Francophones de C.-B. in June 2005, where discussions involved the priorities of the province's Francophones and in a study day on the identity of Francophone British Columbians.
- He represented regional coordinators at the meeting of the Advisory Sub-Committee, Community component, section 41 OLA with Francophone minority communities held in Ottawa in the fall of 2005.
- He established a link between Francophone community organization La Boussole and departmental programs.

Liaison with Headquarters

- The regional coordinator participated in the conference calls of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the *OLA*.
- The regional coordinator participated in the annual meeting of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the *OLA* held in Ottawa in December 2005.

Person responsible:

Pierre Rousseau, Regional Coordinator, British Columbia Region

Quebec Regional Office

Outreach and Liaison

The regional coordinator was involved in several activities which contributed to the enhancement, vitality and support of official language minority communities in Quebec.

- The regional coordinator sits as a member of the Sub-Committee on Relations with Anglophone communities.
- The regional coordinator is a member of the Montreal Bar Association Committee on Access to Justice in English.
- The regional coordinator is a member of the Official Languages Committee of the Quebec Federal Council.
- The regional coordinator met the representatives of Anglophone communities.

Liaison with Headquarters

- The regional coordinator participated in the conference calls of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the *Official Languages Act (OLA)*.
- The regional coordinator participated in the annual meeting of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the *OLA* held in Ottawa in December 2005.

Persons responsible :

Cristina Damiani, Regional Coordinator, Quebec Region

Nancy Boillat, Regional Coordinator, Quebec Region, until June 2006

Saskatchewan Regional Office (Saskatoon)

Outreach and Liaison

The regional coordinator was involved in several activities which contributed to the enhancement, vitality and support of official language minority communities in Saskatchewan.

- September 09, 2005: Annual General Meeting of the Fédération des Francophones de Saskatoon. Promoted the Department of Justice's funding for community programs to the assembly. Received and later answered queries about Department of Justice funding for Fransaskois entrepreneurs.
- December 12, 2005: Coordination with Chantal Alarie from Heritage Canada. Discussed ways to assist in the implementation of the Saskatchewan Federal Council's program for developing French language minority communities in the province.
- January 09, 2006: Meeting of the Community Development Sub-committee in Regina. Met with regional coordinators from five federal departments, a translator from the Saskatchewan provincial government and a member of the Association communautaire fransaskoise. We discussed methods for promoting the federal government's funding and programs for community development of French language communities in Saskatchewan.
- January 10, 2006: Meeting between federal department regional coordinators and members of the fransaskois community associations located in Saskatoon.
- March 11, 2006: Annual General Meeting of the Association des juristes d'expression française de la Saskatchewan in Regina.
- March 14, 2006: *Official Languages Act* information session for Saskatoon Office Management Committee. Sensitized management in Saskatoon about the department's new obligations under the amended *Act* and the fransaskois communities' motivation to hold the federal government to its obligation.

Liaison with Headquarters

- The regional coordinator participated in the conference calls of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the *OLA*.
- The regional coordinator participated in the annual meeting of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the *OLA* held in Ottawa in December 2005.

Person responsible:

Joseph McHattie, Regional Coordinator, Saskatchewan Region

Manitoba Regional Office

The regional coordinator was involved in several activities which contributed to the enhancement, vitality and support of official language minority communities in Manitoba.

Liaison with official language minority communities

- The regional coordinator contacted several Francophone community organizations in Manitoba to tell them about his role as regional coordinator within the Department of Justice of Canada.
- Regular attendance at the Association des juristes d'expression française du Manitoba (AJEFM) meetings and community activities. .
- Regular attendance at Community Legal Education Association (CLEA) meetings and community activities.
- Regular contact with the Special Advisor, French Language Services for Manitoba.
- Meetings with AJEFM and CLEA to organize joint workshops on the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*.
- Contact with the management of *Société Franco-Manitobaine* (SFM) and participation in some of their activities.
- Attendance at the annual meetings of the following organizations: AJEFM, SFM, CLEA and Réseau Action Femmes (RAF).
- Participation in Economic Development Council for Manitoba Bilingual Municipalities (EDCM) activities.
- Attended the annual banquet of Maison Gabrielle Roy.
- Attended a consultation by the Justice Department with official language minority communities and the province concerning a federal-provincial agreement on child support pursuant to section 25.1 of the *Divorce Act*.
- Attended the national convention of the Commission nationale des parents francophones (CNPF).
- Participation in Law Day at the Courthouse.
- Participation in Manitoba Interdepartmental Network of Official Languages Coordinators (MINOLC) meetings.
- Official language minority community organizations in the province received quarterly mailings promoting departmental programs under section 41 of the *OLA*.

Manitoba Regional Office

Liaison with Headquarters

- The regional coordinator participated in the conference calls of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the *OLA*.
- The regional coordinator participated in the annual meeting of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the *OLA* held in Ottawa in December 2005.

Person responsible:

Julien Bédard, Regional Coordinator, Manitoba Region

Ontario Regional Office

Outreach and Liaison

The regional coordinator was involved in several activities which contributed to the enhancement, vitality and support of official language minority communities in Ontario.

- The new regional coordinator attended the Official Languages Symposium in Ottawa in November 2005. This gave him an opportunity to meet the people involved in community organizations and in the provincial and federal governments.
- In January 2006 he participated in the planning meeting of the Official Languages Sub-Committee of the Ontario Federal Council.
- In March 2006 he attended the annual meeting of Ontario Francophone justice stakeholders, organized by Ontario's Attorney General.
- The regional coordinator initiated contact with provincial Francophone organizations in order to explain his role, The following organizations were contacted:
 - Fédération de la jeunesse franco-ontarienne
 - Associations des communautés francophones de l'Ontario
 - Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario
 - Fédération des aîné(e) s francophones de l'Ontario
 - Le Regroupement franco-ontarien de développement économique et d'employabilité.

Liaison with Headquarters

- The regional coordinator participated in the conference calls of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the *OLA*.
- The regional coordinator participated in the annual meeting of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the *OLA* held in Ottawa in December 2005.

Persons responsible:

Adel Ghié, Regional Coordinator, Ontario Region

Michel Costisella, Regional Coordinator, Ontario Region, until October 2005

Yukon Regional Office

The British Columbia regional office had agreed to extend the role of its regional coordinator, section 41 OLA to Yukon until April 2006. Since then, Richard Meredith of the Yukon Regional office has been the coordinator for that region.

Outreach and Liaison

- The coordinators from British Columbia and Yukon met with Yukon Francophone groups in May 2005 to discuss the Department's programs and the challenges faced by Yukon's Francophone community in the area of justice.

Liaison with Headquarters

- The regional coordinator participated in the conference calls of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the *OLA*.
- The regional coordinator participated in the annual meeting of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the *OLA* held in Ottawa in December 2005.

Persons responsible:

Richard Meredith, Regional Coordinator, Yukon Region
Pierre Rousseau, Regional Coordinator, until April 2006

Northwest Territories Regional Office

Outreach and Liaison

The regional coordinator was involved in certain activities which contributed to the enhancement, vitality and support of official language minority communities in the Northwest Territories.

- The regional coordinator sat as a member of the Official Languages Sub-Committee of the Northwest Territories Federal Council.
- The regional coordinator did not receive any requests from community stakeholders for information on the Department's activities.
- The regional coordinator attended the general meeting of the Association franco-ténoise in January in Yellowknife. They discussed the possibility of creating a NWT chapter of the association of French-speaking jurists. The community is interested in this, but their more immediate concern is to be able to secure legal services in French in the fields of family law and wills.

Liaison with Headquarters

- The regional coordinator participated in the conference calls of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the *OLA*.
- The regional coordinator participated in the annual meeting of the Network of Departmental Coordinators for the Implementation of section 41 of the *OLA* held in Ottawa in December 2005.

Person responsible:

Diane Sylvain, Regional Coordinator, Northwest Territories Region

Nunavut Regional Office

Outreach and Liaison

- The Department of Justice met with the president of the Association des francophones du Nunavut. It transpired that the organization's current priority is access to French schools.

Person responsible:

Richard Meredith, Regional Coordinator, Nunavut Region

| Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund |
|---|
| <p>Organization: Association des juristes d'expression française de la Colombie-Britannique (AJEFCB) Amount Committed: MULTI-YEAR \$249,150; For 2005-2006: \$55,000 Project Title: Education project for students Project Synopsis:</p> <p>This three-year project consists in education activities on issues related to access to justice in French in British Columbia. The activities are aimed primarily at encouraging high school, college and university students to consider a career in the field of justice, to study Common Law in French and to pursue a legal career in French in British Columbia. Other activities included in the Communications Plan of the Fédération des associations de juristes d'expression française de common law are aimed at educating jurists, universities and the provincial government about the language rights and legal needs of the Francophone community. The project also aims to educate the province's Francophone communities about language rights and encourage them to exercise these rights</p> |
| <p>Organization: McGill University, Quebec Research Centre of Private and Comparative Law Amount Committed: 2005-2006: \$215,771 Project Title: Linguistic and legal tools 2005-2006 Project Synopsis:</p> <p>A range of activities intended to create and increase legal resources in English, in order to improve the capacity of English-speaking jurists in Quebec.</p> |
| <p>Organization: Centre for legal translation and documentation, Ottawa Amount Committed: 2005-2006: \$249,239 Project Title: Linguistic and legal tools 2005-2006 Project Synopsis:</p> <p>A range of activities intended to create and increase legal resources in French, in order to improve the capacity of French-speaking jurists.</p> |
| <p>Organization: Centre de traduction et de terminologie juridiques, Moncton Amount Committed: 2005-2006: \$210,000 Project Title: Linguistic and legal tools 2005-2006 Project Synopsis:</p> <p>A range of activities intended to create and increase legal resources in French, in order to improve the capacity of French-speaking jurists.</p> |

| Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund |
|--|
| <p>Organization: Institut Joseph-Dubuc, Winnipeg Amount Committed: 2005-2006: \$156,500 Project Title: Linguistic and legal tools 2005-2006 Project Synopsis: A range of activities intended to create and increase legal resources in French, in order to improve the capacity of French-speaking jurists</p> |
| <p>Organization: Associations des juristes d'expression française de la Nouvelle-Écosse (AJEFNÉ) Amount Committed: 2005-2006: \$13,200 Project Title: Mission possible: Une cour en français en Nouvelle-Écosse Project Synopsis: The project consists in preparing and presenting mock trials in French in four Cape Breton high schools, including three Acadian and one English-speaking, serving a large number of students of Acadian origin. The mock trials are meant to educate students, teachers and members of the Acadian community not only about court proceedings, but also about the availability of legal services in French, language rights and legal careers. The project will also provide teachers with supporting documents that they can use for law-related courses in their schools.</p> |
| <p>Organization: Associations des juristes d'expression française de la Nouvelle-Écosse (AJEFNÉ) Amount Committed: 2005-2006: \$25,000 Project Title: Language training for Nova Scotia jurists Project Synopsis: The project consists in adapting four language training courses (judicial system, criminal law, linguistics rights and pleading) developed by Institut Joseph-Dubuc and presenting them in the southwest area of Nova Scotia and in the Halifax area. In addition, the AJEFNE will produce legal lexicons for each course and post them on the Association's website to make them accessible to the entire legal community. The courses will be given to French-speaking jurists in order to help them improve their French so that they are better able to provide legal services in French, as well as to educate participants about language rights issues.</p> |

| Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund |
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| <p>Organization: University of Ottawa Amount Committed: 2005-2006: \$71,388 Project Title: Study on French Common Law graduate contribution– Phase II Project Synopsis:</p> <p>The project consists in a study to determine the contribution of the graduates of University of Ottawa's French Common Law program to the development of French legal services in Canada. An in-depth study will determine the specific roles played by the graduates and the results obtained, and will also help better meet the needs of the Francophone community.</p> |
| <p>Organization: Fédération des Associations de juristes d'expression française Amount Committed: MULTI-YEAR \$1,236,917; For 2005-2006: \$407,170 Project Title: Communications Plan Project Synopsis:</p> <p>This project is derived from a three-year National Communications Plan in support of education about access to justice in Anglophone majority provinces. Specifically, this project consists in the activities that will be undertaken by the Federation under the Plan. These activities include managing and coordinating the overall Plan and developing national education and communication activities.</p> |
| <p>Organization: Université de Sherbrooke Amount Committed: 2005-2006: \$6440 Project Title: Summer institute in jurilinguistics Project Synopsis:</p> <p>The project consists in a forum, to be held in Montreal on August 5, 2005, that will bring together some 25 researchers and stakeholders from the field of jurilinguistics in Canada. This activity will give participants an opportunity to educate the legal community about jurilinguistic efforts that facilitate access to justice in both official languages. The forum will also provide an opportunity for participants to discuss issues relating to the holding of an annual forum with the same objectives.</p> |

Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund

Organization: Associations des juristes d'expression française de la Saskatchewan (AJEFS)

Amount Committed: 2005-2006: \$25,367

Project Title: 2006 Law Day

Project Synopsis:

The project consists in holding an activity day in Regina for grade 7 and 8 students from Saskatchewan's French and immersion schools in order to increase participants' awareness of their language rights. The schedule will include a debate contest, a mock trial and a meeting with a representative of the legal community.

Organization: Centre international de common law en français

Amount Committed: MULTI-YEAR: \$181,400; 2005-2006: \$44,000

Project Title: Encyclopaedic Dictionary

Project Synopsis:

This project consists in the development of a common law encyclopaedic dictionary in French that will provide definitions of common law terms and other useful and relevant information. The dictionary, to be written in user-friendly language, will target jurists, students, teachers, practitioners and anyone who does not necessarily have specialized training but who needs to find out about the meaning of common law concepts.

Organization: Associations des juristes d'expression française du Nouveau-Brunswick (AJEFNB)

Amount Committed: 2005-2006: \$1,500

Project Title: Seminar on language rights

Project Synopsis:

This seminar, held on September 24, 2005 in Moncton, helped educate participants about the scope of language rights and the fact that Francophones and litigants are entitled to legal services in their own language, all in an effort to promote better access to justice.

| Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund |
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| <p>Organization: Associations des juristes d'expression française de l'Alberta (AJEFA) Amount Committed: 2005-2006: \$41,000 Project Title: Manpower inventory Project Synopsis:</p> <p>The project consists in taking an inventory of available French legal manpower in Alberta, by legal field and by region, in identifying legal documents that could be of interest to Francophones and in adapting these documents to the needs of the Francophone community, in order to improve access to justice in French in Alberta.</p> |
| <p>Organization: Government of Manitoba Amount Committed: MULTI-YEAR: \$44000 approved in 2005-2006 and funding from 2006 to 2008 Project Title: Formation professionnelle – Traducteurs Project Synopsis</p> <p>The project will provide two translators and four interpreters with training on the law and the justice system as well as training on French common law legal terminology in order that they will become more efficient and accurate in providing justice related translations and interpretation services.</p> |
| <p>Organization: Associations de juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario (AJEFO) Amount Committed: MULTI-YEAR: \$270,000; 2005-2006: \$80,000 Project Title: Careers in Justice Phase II Project Synopsis:</p> <p>This project aims to educate students from French intermediate and secondary schools in Ontario about the various career choices available to them that are directly or indirectly related to justice and to increase their knowledge of the judicial system as a whole. Funding for this project will help develop a strategy and course content, hire promotion and communications experts to produce pieces on each of the professions targeted, develop a communication campaign involving school visits by professionals who work in the field of justice, build an interactive website with partners in order to improve student knowledge of the common law judicial system, and help students understand the basic work that these professionals do in French in the field of justice. The project also includes components related to facilitation of law days by professionals and television productions with TFO.</p> |

Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund

Organization: Québec Community Groups Network (QCGN)

Amount Committed: 2005-2006: \$24,000

Project Title: Assessment of Legal & Judicial Services Required to Respond to the Access Needs of Minority Language Individuals and Communities in Quebec Phase I

Project Synopsis:

This project consists in the preparatory phase of a research project to determine the needs in the area of access to justice and the offer of services in English in Quebec. The preparatory phase consists in the preparation of the documents and methodology, the creation of an advisory committee and the selection of an organization able to carry out the research.

Organization: Associations des juristes d'expression française de la Colombie-Britannique (AJEFCB)

Amount Committed: MULTI-YEAR \$139,000; Approved in 2005-2006

Project Title: Provincial consultation

Project Synopsis:

The project consists in a consultation that will collect current data, opinions and suggestions from various provincial stakeholders including the provincial government, French-speaking jurists and Francophone organisations. The consultation will feed into a provincial forum that will bring together the stakeholders and participants of the consultation. The goal of the consultation and the forum will be to take a snapshot of the current justice situation and to develop innovative and effective solutions to improve access to justice in French in British Columbia.

Organization: Associations de juristes d'expression française de la Colombie-Britannique (AJEFCB)

Amount Committed: MULTI-YEAR \$148,000; Approved in 2005-2006

Project Title: Public education project

Project Synopsis:

The project supports activities that will increase the number of legal education brochures in French, in order to provide better tools to stakeholders in British Columbia and educate this province's Francophone population about issues regarding access to justice in both official languages, family violence and family law. Activities include drafting or adapting legal information in French. The brochures will be distributed to Francophone communities and more detailed electronic versions will be available over the Internet.

Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund

Project Title: Core funding 2006-2007 for the following organizations:

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|--------|-----------|
| FAJEF | \$175,000 |
| AJEFCB | \$68,000 |
| AJEFA | \$68,000 |
| AJEFS | \$68,000 |
| AJEFM | \$68,000 |
| AJEFO | \$150,000 |
| AJEFNB | \$85,000 |
| AJEFNE | \$68,000 |

Project Synopsis:

The contribution consists in core funding that allows the recipient to continue its work in the areas of advocating, participating in committees and consultations, and increasing awareness in the legal community and official language minority communities.

Project Title: Communications Plan for the following organizations:

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|---------|----------------------|---------------|----------|
| AJEFA: | MULTI-YEAR \$91,311 | For 2005-2006 | \$29,537 |
| AJEFS: | MULTI-YEAR \$128,500 | For 2005-2006 | \$42,055 |
| AJEFM: | MULTI-YEAR \$82,575 | For 2005-2006 | \$17,525 |
| AJEFO: | MULTI-YEAR \$207,400 | For 2005-2006 | \$75,500 |
| AJEFNB: | MULTI-YEAR \$108,910 | For 2005-2006 | \$14,000 |
| AJEFNE: | MULTI-YEAR \$93,961 | For 2005-2006 | \$42,037 |

Project Synopsis:

This project is derived from a three-year National Communications Plan developed by the Fédération des associations de juristes d'expression française in support of education about access to justice in Anglophone majority provinces. Specifically, this project consists in the activities that will be undertaken by each association of French-speaking jurists under the Plan. These activities include meetings with community organizations, recruiting new members, promoting the active offer and media relations.

Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund

Organization: FAJEF

Amount Committed: 2005-2006: \$1,500

Project Title: National consultation on family law, Phase I

Project Synopsis:

This research project will identify key stakeholders in those legal areas that involve a priority for Francophone and Acadian communities.

Persons responsible :

Andrée Duchesne, Senior Counsel and Manager, Justice in Official Languages

Marc Dubois, Program Analyst, Programs Branch

Child-centred Family Justice Strategy

Organization: Institut Joseph-Dubuc, Winnipeg

Amount Committed: \$31,500

Project Title: Legal resources in French

Project Synopsis:

This project consists in a range of activities such as preparing legal instrument templates, linguistic and legal training workshops on language rights, standardization of Common Law vocabulary in French etc. designed to create and increase legal resources in French.

Person responsible:

Barbara Stewart, Acting Coordinator, Program Development Unit (FCY)

Youth Justice Renewal Initiative

Public Legal Education and Information Service of New Brunswick

Excerpt from the contribution agreement:

- Organize and deliver 4 to 6 youth justice and *Youth Criminal Justice Act* workshops for youth at-risk. The workshops will be delivered in alternative learning centres or with community groups who have programs for at-risk youth, and at least 2 of these workshops will be conducted in French for a French-speaking target audience. The workshops will bring together various justice system officials (judges, lawyers, police, and corrections officials) to speak to the targeted youth about their rights under the YCJA, the legal process and possible consequences of youth crime.
- Adapt The People's Law School's "The Consequences of a Youth Record" document for a New Brunswick audience, ensuring its availability in both official languages.
- Adapt The People's Law School's "The Consequences of a Youth Record" document for a New Brunswick audience, ensuring its availability in both official languages).
- Develop and produce two youth justice presentations for use by teachers and guest speakers to promote classroom dialogue around youth justice. The first presentation will introduce youth to the basics of youth justice and the YCJA, and the second presentation will be a more in-depth look at the rights of youth within the criminal justice system. Speaking notes, handouts, exercises and resources will also be made available for presenters in print and online.
- Update and expand the youth justice portion of the Recipient's website to incorporate the Recipient's new or existing youth justice materials that are not currently available online.

Youth Justice Renewal Initiative

Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia

Excerpt from the contribution agreement:

Youth Resources Map

- Produce and make available in print and online, a Nova Scotia map that will locate access points for services geared to youth who are vulnerable and at risk in relation to youth justice issues. The type of services listed on this map will include legal aid, restorative justice agencies, housing, etc. The map will be available in English and in French.

Teachers' Support Network for Youth Justice Issues

- Develop an internet-based Teachers' Support Network for Youth Justice Issues for high school teachers in Nova Scotia whose mandate includes legal issues in order to facilitate access to information and resources and allows educators to share their experiences for their mutual benefit;
- Consult with appropriate stakeholders with a view to exploring options to expand this service to French-language educators in Nova Scotia.

Youth criminal justice system pamphlets:

- Develop and produce, in both English and French, 4 different youth-friendly pamphlets on the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and the youth justice system dealing with topics such as the following: rights for youth while at the police station, going to court, and youth and private security guards.
- The pamphlets will be focus tested with youth prior to publication.

Youth Justice Renewal Initiative

Public Legal Information Association of Newfoundland

Excerpt from the contribution agreement:

- Update and reprint the Recipient's "For the Record" youth justice publication. The update will include current youth justice statistics as well as an expanded section devoted to youth's rights in the criminal justice system.
- Adapt the updated "For the Record" publication for the French-speaking population of Newfoundland and Labrador. The French-language version will be produced and distributed to French-speaking communities throughout Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Distribute the updated "For the Record" to all school libraries and Canadian Law teachers (high school level) in Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Update the Recipient's *Youth Criminal Justice Act*/youth justice presentation to include a rights-based perspective on the information contained in the presentation.
- Make the updated *Youth Criminal Justice Act*/youth justice presentation available in French.
- Deliver the updated *Youth Criminal Justice Act*/youth justice presentations to high school students in various communities throughout Newfoundland and Labrador (at least fifteen presentations). The Recipient will make a concerted effort to reach as many hard-to-reach and francophone rural high schools as possible with these presentations. The Recipient will also attempt to reach communities and schools that have not previously benefited from these presentations. The updated "For the Record" publication will be made available to participants at these presentations.

Community Legal Information Association of PEI

Excerpt from the contribution agreement:

- The main activities include: continuing to work with the provincial Department of Education (including a consultant for the French-language schools) to pilot, evaluate, revise, design, print and distribute the youth justice elementary teaching modules for Grade 6.

Youth Justice Renewal Initiative

Éducaloi (Québec)

Project description:

- This is the second stage of a project started in the 2004-2005 fiscal year, the goal of which was to create an English adaptation of the criminal law portion of the “Jeune pour jeunes” (youth for youth) Web site, an information tool on the YCJA and on the law as it applies to young people developed earlier by Éducaloi with funding from the Renewal Fund. This second stage consists of adapting the information on the Web site into English (about half the site, the first half having been completed previously), as well as adapting a quiz game and accompanying answer sheet, educational material intended for use by secondary school teachers, and creating an English summary of the animated cartoon BOM-343.
- A second project with Éducaloi funded in the 2005-2006 fiscal year consists of marketing strategies for their *Jeune pour jeunes* Web site. Some of these strategies will be designed to attract Anglophone users to the Web site.

Community Legal Education Association (Manitoba)

Project description:

- The Recipient is proposing to organize, promote and deliver a total of six youth justice and *Youth Criminal Justice Act* workshops, with previously-approved presentation materials and handouts, to youth justice intermediaries in various communities in Manitoba. Two of the workshops will be delivered in French (in partnership with the *AJEFM*) in the communities of St. Boniface and St. Pierre, and the remaining four will be delivered in English in Cross Lake, Winnipeg, Melita and Brandon.

Youth Justice Renewal Initiative

Community Legal Education Ontario (Ontario)

Project description :

- The Recipient is proposing to compile an Ontario-specific inventory of public legal education materials related to youth justice that will contain a list of relevant materials produced by community organizations, government and other organizations. The Recipient will perform outreach activities in relation to this project (including agencies that serve Francophone communities, Aboriginal communities, other language communities, and other ethnic, racial or cultural communities) with a view to ensuring the inventory is comprehensive and that it captures as many of the available youth justice PLEI resources as possible. The next phase of this project will integrate the inventory produced under this agreement into the CLEONet.ca web site, a larger project that will result in a community-driven, interactive, database-driven web site containing a wealth of news and community legal education resources on a variety of legal topics

Public Legal Education Association of Saskatchewan (Saskatchewan)

Project description:

- The Recipient is proposing to develop an interactive, electronic youth justice intermediary training module by adapting a previously-developed (hard copy only) intermediary training tool, supplementing it with rights-based information for youth, making it available online and linking it to other PLEA youth justice online materials. This module is targeted at those working with youth, (especially youth at risk or youth who are already involved in the criminal justice system), such as youth court workers, victims services personnel, mediators, social workers, First Nations community justice committees, law enforcement and justice personnel. The module will be made available in both English and French.

Youth Justice Renewal Initiative

Public Legal Education Network of Alberta (PLENA) (Alberta)

Project description (excerpt) :

- Under this agreement, the Recipient will develop a legal education script regarding the rights and obligations of young people in the criminal justice system to be used in the educational program, as well as accompanying and “take home” resources. The Recipient will also identify and orient at least five prospective youth troupe producers/directors from various segments of the Alberta population such as First Nations/aboriginal, French language, justice system experienced, rural/remote, urban, etc.

Person responsible:

Catherine Latimer, General Counsel and Director General, Youth Justice Policy, Policy Sector

| Family Violence Initiative |
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| <p>Organization: Fédération nationale des femmes canadiennes françaises Amount Committed: \$37,404 Project Title: Francophone women in minority situations Project Synopsis: Networking/training and sharing of information on violence against women for Francophone women in minority situations.</p> |
| <p>Organization: Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario Amount Committed: \$50,000 Project Title: Professional Development in French Project Synopsis The project consists in preparing teaching material for language training aimed at police officers, lawyers, court staff, prosecutors and judges who already know French but who lack experience speaking in court or who wish to strengthen their legal vocabulary. The project also has a “partnership” segment that aims to raise awareness of provincial ministries regarding language rights. Some 450 to 600 participants are expected to increase their ability to work in legal French and be more aware of language rights in order to help Ontario’s justice system to better serve Francophones in that province.</p> |
| <p><i>Person responsible</i> <i>Francine Dumas, Program Manager, Innovations, Analysis and Integration Directorate</i></p> |