

**2nd Annual Meeting of Regional Program and Policy Coordinators,
Implementation of Section 41 of the Official Languages Act (OLA)
Department of Justice of Canada
Meeting Report**

Monday, December 13, 2004

Meeting Objectives:

1. Strengthen the Network of Regional and Program Coordinators for the implementation of section 41.
2. Review the following aspects:
 - a. Components targeted by section 41 of the OLA
 - b. Accountability and Coordination Framework
 - c. Role of coordinators

Opening by meeting facilitator Diane Desaulniers.

Word of welcome by Lucie Charron, National Coordinator responsible for the Implementation of Section 41 of the Official Languages Act (OLA) at the Department of Justice Canada.

Presentation by Renée Soublière, Official Languages Law Group, Justice Canada – *The Accountability and Coordination Framework, a brief update on Bill S-3, the forum of mayors, Part IV and the impact on Part VII, Section 41.*

- Reference: Appended document entitled: Presentation by the Official Languages Law Group – Me Renée Soublière

Presentation by Magalie Brabant, Senior Policy Advisor, Staffing, Official Languages and Recognition Section, Justice Canada – *Overview of the Implementation of Parts IV, V and VI of the OLA at the Department of Justice*

- Reference: Appended document entitled: Presentation by Magalie Brabant of the Human Resources Branch

Presentation by Sheila MacDonald, Associate Director **and Pierrette Jutras**, Senior Analyst, Canadian Heritage, Interdepartmental Coordination Directorate – *Role of Canadian Heritage with respect to Part VII of the OLA (sect. 41); Interdepartmental partnerships with official language communities (IPLC)*

- Reference: Appended document entitled: Presentation by Sheila Macdonald and Pierrette Jutras of Canadian Heritage

Presentation by Anne Scotton, Director General, Privy Council Office – *Role of the Privy Council Office with respect to Part VII (sect. 41) and the governance structure for official languages*

- Reference: Appended document entitled: Presentation by Anne Scotton of the Privy Council Office

Presentation of the programs targeted in the Strategic Plan (2004-2009) for the Implementation of Section 41 of the OLA:

Presentation by Marc Rozon – *Justice Partnership and Innovation Fund*

Presentation by Nahid Roboubi – *Family Violence Initiative (Justice component)*

Presentation by Danielle Bruyère – *Child-Centred Family Justice Strategy*

Presentation by Marc Dubois and Sylvie Bourgault – *Access to Justice in Both Official Languages Support Fund*

Presentation by Pauline Cormier – *Youth Justice Renewal Fund*

Presentation by Lise Lafrenière-Henrie – *Unified Family Courts*

- Reference: Appended document entitled: Presentation of programs

Exchanges between Coordinators and Dyane Adam,
Commissioner of Official Languages (COL)

Exchanges between the Commissioner of Official Languages and the coordinators concerning their roles and challenges.

Discussion points:

- Each part of the Official Languages Act (Parts IV, V, VI, VII) is important and is part of a whole.
- Part VII of the OLA is not understood by federal institutions. Coordinators therefore have a role to play as ambassadors; they act as educators and mentors to ensure that all citizens are treated with fairness and dignity.
- Program managers must be accountable regarding official languages.
- The importance of maintaining links with the community.

- **What are the challenges for coordinators:**
 - Program officers are in Ottawa, at the national headquarters. The regions feel isolated. The regional-central problem could be eliminated if program officers visited the regions.
 - Would it be possible to include Section 41 in the evaluation of managers (performance agreement) and senior officials.
 - Regions have to be given the tools to reach Part VII objectives.
 - Afraid of creating false hopes due to the lack of resources to offer them.
 - Coordinators have an obligation to **act as advocates for the implementation of Part VII of the OLA.**

**2nd Annual Meeting of Regional Program and Policy Coordinators, Implementation
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Department of Justice of Canada
Meeting Report**

Tuesday, December 14, 2004

Meeting Objectives:

1. Strengthen the Network of Regional and Program Coordinators for the implementation of section 41.
2. Review the following aspects:
 - a. Components targeted by section 41 of the OLA
 - b. Accountability and Coordination Framework
 - c. Role of coordinators

Word of welcome by Michel Bouchard, Associate Deputy Minister, Champion of Official Languages, Justice Canada.

Presentation by Marie-Claude Bureau, Policy Analyst, Department of Justice -
Regional Coordinators' Guide.

- Reference: Appended document entitled: Regional Coordinators' Guide presented by Marie-Claude Bureau.

Presentation by Lucie Charron, Senior Policy Analyst – *2004-2009 Strategic Plan, The Next Steps*

- Reference: Appended document entitled: Meeting package

Presentation by Michel Costisella, Policy Analyst – 2004-2005 Status Report

- Michel Costisella will be the coordinators' contact for the coordination of the 2004-2005 Status Report. The template will be sent to Regional and Program Coordinators at the beginning of February.

Discussion between Regional Coordinators and Program Coordinators on ways to collaborate (definition of individual roles and responsibilities) when OLMC organizations have interesting projects.

Discussion points:

- The organizations' limited resources have to be taken into account.
- The importance of meeting communities in their environment and listening to them.
- The importance of human contact with communities
- The role of coordinators is to act as liaison with the community. They represent the face of the Department and ensure linkage with program officers. They identify those organizations that need us. Coordinators take part in sectoral and interdepartmental meetings, which helps them discharge their duties.
- The role of program coordinators is to establish a good relationship with the community.
- AGMs should be attended by regional coordinators and program coordinators should follow-up with communities.
- Regional coordinators should provide ongoing feedback to program coordinators. The Policy Sector should provide more extensive support for program activities.
- Regional coordinators should be kept informed of the project evaluation process and be aware of the resources and tools (Department-funded) available to them.
- Regional coordinators should have a list of major stakeholders in the Programs Section. Meetings should be organized between regional coordinators and the programs.
- Presentations on programs should be prepared and sent to regional coordinators.

Presentation by Pierre Millette – *Update on the activities of the Communications*

- Reference: Appended document entitled: Presentation on the Communications Branch by Pierre Millette

Presentation by Lucie Charron – *Update on the new visual signature and booths.*

- Lucie Charron introduces the new visual identity.

Presentation by Marielle Beaulieu, Executive Director, Fédération des communautés francophones et acadiennes du Canada (FCFA) – *Activating the Potential for Department-Community Cooperation («Activer le potentiel de coopération ministères – communautés»).*

- Reference: Appended document entitled: Presentation by Marielle Beaulieu – Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada

Presentation by Deborah Hook, Executive Director, Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN) –*Overview of the History and Needs of Quebec’s Anglo Community.*

- Reference: Appended document entitled: Presentation by Deborah Hook – Quebec Community Groups Network

Presentation by Sylvie Bourgault, *History of and Update on the Activities of the Advisory Committee, Justice in Official Languages*

Presentation by Sylvie Bourgault, *History of and Update on the activities of the Advisory Sub-Committee, Access to Justice in Both Official Languages*

- Reference: Appended document entitled: Meeting package

Presentation by Lucie Charron, *History of and Update on the Activities of the Advisory Sub-Committee, Section 41 of the OLA.*

- Reference: Appended document entitled: Meeting package

Evaluation:

The annual meeting helped strengthen the Network of Coordinators and to familiarize them further with the programs targeted by Section 41, the Accountability and Coordination Framework and the role of Coordinators. In addition it provided participants with an opportunity to network, the annual meeting allowed coordinators to meet with the major stakeholders in the area of official languages (government and community).

Overall, participants declared themselves very pleased with the usefulness and relevance of the meeting, with an 87% satisfaction rate. Participants especially appreciated the exchange with the Commissioner of Official Languages (94%) and the presentation by the Director General of the Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada (92%). The presentation of the programs targeted by Section 41 drew a 91% satisfaction rate.

During the meeting evaluation, participants voiced a few suggestions for the next meeting. They would like to have more workshops and participative discussions in small groups to promote exchanges between participants.

Closing by Lucie Charron

Next meeting:

- The next annual meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2005.

Annexes:

Appendix 1: List of participants

Appendix 2: Table of Contents of binder handed out at meeting on December 13 and 14, 2004. You may obtain this by contacting M. Costisella by email at: michel.costisella@justice.gc.ca or by phone at (613) 954-3723.

**2nd Annual Meeting of Regional Program and Policy Coordinators, Implementation
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Appendix 2

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DECEMBER 13

MEETING PACKAGE

**PRESENTATION BY THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGES LAW GROUP
ME RENÉE SOUBLIÈRE REPLACING ME MARC TREMBLAY**

PRESENTATION BY MAGALIE BRABANT OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES BRANCH

- Human Resources Branch packages

**PRESENTATION BY SHEILA MACDONALD AND PIERRETTE JUSTRAS OF CANADIAN
HERITAGE**

PRESENTATION BY ANNE SCOTTON OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE

PRESENTATION OF PROGRAMS.....

- JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP AND INNOVATION FUND / MARC ROZON

- FAMILY VIOLENCE INITIATIVE (JUSTICE COMPONENT) / NAHID ROBOUBI

- CHILD-CENTRED FAMILY JUSTICE STRATEGY / DANIELLE BRUYÈRE

- ACCESS FO JUSTICE IN BOTH OFFICIAL LANGAUGES SUPPORT FUND /
MARC DUBOIS - SYLVIE BOURGALT

- YOUTH JUSTICE RENEWAL FUND / PAULINE CORMIER

- UNIFIED FAMILY COURTS / LISE LAFRENIÈRE-HENRIE

DECEMBER 14

REGIONAL COORDINATORS' GUIDE PRESENTED BY MARIE-CLAUDE BUREAU

**COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH PRESENTATION BY PIERRE MILLETTE
AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.....**

**PRESENTATION BY MARIELLE BEAULIEU / FÉDÉRATION DES COMMUNAUTÉS
FRANCOPHONES ET ACADIENNE DU CANADA.....**

PRESENTATION BY DEBORAH HOOK / QUEBEC COMMUNITY GROUPS NETWORK.....