

# **Annual Report**

**1994-1995**



## **Official Languages**

**Seventh Annual Report to Parliament  
with Respect to Part VII  
of the *Official Languages Act***

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**Supplement :** Summary of 1995-1996 action plans prepared by key federal institutions for implementation of section 41 of the *Official Languages Act*



# I. Introduction

Fiscal year 1994-95 saw a number of significant changes that are having a major impact on the official-language minority communities. One of the key changes relates to an announcement made in August 1994 at the World Acadian Congress in Moncton by the Minister of Canadian Heritage whereby the federal government would undertake an important initiative to promote the participation of all federal institutions in the development of these communities, as stipulated in the *Official Languages Act*. The communities felt it was vital that the government adopt a concerted approach this initiative to implement sections 41 and 42 of the *Act* became reality. Details are provided in Section II under the heading "Special Initiative: Interdepartmental Coordination". A summary of the action plans submitted by the key federal institutions for the implementation of section 41 of the *Act* are contained in the *Supplement to the Annual Report*.

School management has always been a priority for the official-language minority communities, thus prompting the federal government to spare school management and post-secondary French-language education from planned budget cuts to show its commitment to support what the communities consider important to their development. A summary by province and territory on what has been accomplished during the year in the area of school management is presented under "Key Issues" in Section III.

The efforts of the Department of Canadian Heritage to establish a renewed cooperation framework with the minority communities to make more efficient use of federal resources (otherwise known as the "repositioning exercise") have resulted in remarkable progress in

the Department's relations with the minority communities. More detailed information on this important issue is provided in Section III under "Key Issues".


The 1994-95 annual report is taking on a new look with emphasis on the three key issues outlined above. A great deal of headway has also been made this year in the area of promoting our two official languages. Activities ranging from the production of publications and other promotional material to involvement in national and international projects, the Department has been busy communicating the advantages of living in a bilingual country. Key promotional activities that have taken place both nationally and in the regions are described in Section IV under "Highlights".

In order to provide the reader with the most up-to-date facts on the topics dealt with, we have included windows of information summarizing significant events that have taken place since March 31, 1995, but which do not fall within the time period covered by the report.

Information on federal-provincial/territorial cooperation (for both education and services) as well as on promotion and community development in the regions is found in Section IV under the heading "On the Regional Scene", while brief discussions on such topics as the conference, *Official Languages and the Economy: New Canadian Perspectives*, are provided in Section V under "Strategic Support Activities". Tables showing federal contributions for education and services in the official languages for each of the provinces and territories are provided in the Appendix under "Budget Data".

## II. Special Initiative: Interdepartmental Coordination

August 16, 1994, was a red-letter day for official-language minority communities. On that day, the Prime Minister of Canada, the

 *The governments of which I have been a member have always made it a point of honour to protect official-language minorities everywhere in Canada - Francophones outside Quebec and Anglophones in Quebec. I recently had the opportunity to meet with representatives of more than one million francophones living outside Quebec and I reiterated the federal government's commitment to continue defending and promoting the rights of official-language minorities across Canada."*

**Prime Minister Jean Chrétien,  
at the installation ceremony of  
Governor General Roméo Leblanc,  
February 8, 1995**

Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, announced at the World Acadian Congress in Moncton that Cabinet had two weeks earlier adopted a series of measures. The measures, long awaited by Canada's English and French minority communities, conveyed the federal government's desire to speed up the implementation of sections 41 and 42 of the *Official Languages Act* and thus strengthen the foundation of Canada's linguistic duality.

Section 41, of course, sets out the government's commitment to enhancing the vitality and supporting and assisting the development of official-language minority communities and promoting the official languages in Canadian society. Under section 42, the Secretary of State (now the Minister of Canadian Heritage) is responsible for encouraging and promoting a coordinated approach to official languages by the federal government.

This initiative is a general policy coupled with a work plan that calls on federal departments and agencies to become involved in promoting the official languages and to contribute to the development of minority English and French communities in Canada.

Sections 41 and 42 are the result of an important change in Canadian official languages policy. The various parts of the *Official Languages Act* show how such a policy helps guide interaction between the federal government and Canadian society. The 1969 *Act* initially focused on service to the public in both official languages. A 1973 resolution by Parliament that was later entrenched in the 1988 *Act* broadened the objective to include equitable participation of Anglophones and Francophones in federal institutions and the use of English and French as languages of work in those institutions. The annual report of the President of Treasury Board on the situation of official languages in the federal government describes the progress that has been made in these areas (Parts IV, V and VI of the *Act*).

### Since March 31, 1995


The Minister of Canadian Heritage will be working closely with the President of the Treasury Board to emphasize the importance that the government places on its obligations with regard to the development of official-language minority communities, the promotion of linguistic duality in Canada and the availability of federal services in the minority language.

Sections 41 and 42 of Part VII add a dimension to public access to federal institutions by taking into account the varied and specific needs of official-language communities. As a complement to Part IV of the *Official Languages Act*, which pertains to communications with and services to the public, Part VII, in particular the measures for implementing sections 41 and 42, represents a master plan that the federal government can use to support and assist the development and enhance the vitality of official-language minority communities.

## Content of the Government's Initiative

The aim of the measures announced by the government is to broaden the promotion of the official languages in Canadian society as a whole. The measures are also designed to make the programs and services of federal departments and agencies fully accessible to minority official-language communities. To meet these goals, Cabinet has agreed to put in place an accountability framework that comprises five main elements:

- Measures which target key departments and agencies and areas of intervention which are vital to the minority-language communities and which have the greatest impact. These areas are economic, human resources and cultural development.
- Each key department and agency develops an annual or a multi-year action plan for implementing section 41 which takes into account the specific needs of the communities concerned.
- The action plans are developed following consultations with the communities concerned to identify their needs and enable the departments and agencies to consider those needs in planning their activities.
- The key departments and agencies submit their plans to the Minister of Canadian Heritage and report annually on the results.
- The Minister of Canadian Heritage, in his or her annual report on official languages, reports to Parliament on implementation of the government's commitment. The annual report describes each key federal institution's action plan and gives an account of the results attained during the previous year.

 *Support for the development of the official-language minority communities should not be the responsibility of the Department of Canadian Heritage alone. The Department of Human Resources Development, like any other federal institution, should be sensitive to the specific needs of these communities and seek ways to support their development within the framework of its programs.”*

**The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy,  
Minister of Human Resources  
Development, at the signature of the  
Canada-community agreement with the  
Franco-Manitoban community,  
June 27, 1994**

Cabinet's decision applies to the entire government, but especially to the key departments and agencies listed below.

- Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
- Business Development Bank of Canada
- Canada Council
- Canada Post Corporation
- Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
- Canadian International Development Agency
- Cape Breton Development Corporation
- Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
- Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food
- Department of Canadian Heritage
- Department of Citizenship and Immigration
- Department of Health
- Department of Human Resources Development
- Department of Industry
- Department of Justice
- Department of Western Economic Diversification

- Federal Office of Regional Development (Quebec)
- International Development Research Centre
- National Arts Centre
- National Capital Commission
- National Film Board
- Public Works and Government Services
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
- Statistics Canada
- Status of Women Canada
- Telefilm Canada
- Treasury Board

### **Implementation of the New Measures**

The Department of Canadian Heritage has a mandate to coordinate the implementation of the new measures. The task of overseeing the application of the Cabinet directives in cooperation with the Department's regional offices has been given to the Interdepartmental Coordination Directorate of the Official Languages Support Programs Branch. The main activities of the first phase of implementation of the measures announced in August 1994 are outlined in the following paragraphs.

**Awareness** Awareness among ministers, deputy ministers and heads of the departments and agencies targeted by the initiative. Establishment of a network of national coordinators and resource people in federal departments and agencies in the regions. Promotion of the initiative and preparation of tools for officers responsible for the delivery of official languages support programs, national coordinators in designated departments and agencies, and staff in the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages. Preparation of various reference documents.

**Training** Organization of one-day sessions to discuss community development. Training for national and regional officers with the Department of Canadian Heritage.

**Coordination** Planning of consultations in the spring of 1995 in all provinces and at the national level with the designated departments and agencies in order to prepare the first action plans. Regular planning and coordination meetings with the national coordinators.

### **Submission of Action Plans**

In the summer of 1995, on schedule, the Minister of Canadian Heritage received action plans from the key departments and agencies targeted by the government's initiative. The supplement to this report gives a summary of the measures contained in each action plan for 1995-96. The plans include a number of projects that will serve to promote Canada's linguistic duality and foster the development and enhanced vitality of official-language minority communities.

The Department of Canadian Heritage also submitted its own action plan within the proper time frame. The plan, which covers the 1995-96 fiscal year, addresses a number of the communities' specific needs. It focuses on culture, education, economic development, community development and information technology. The key measures in the plan are outlined in the supplement to this report.

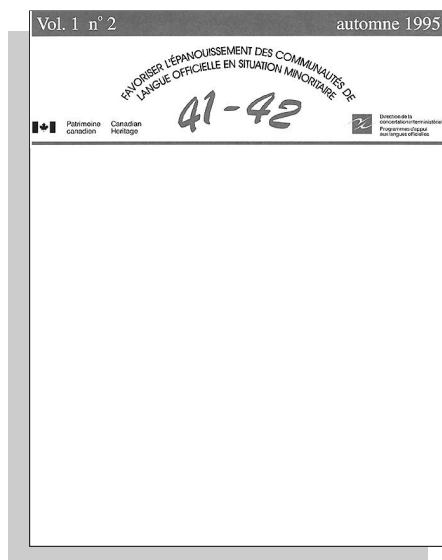
### **Steering Committee**

The Department of Canadian Heritage has set up a Steering Committee comprising eight high-profile representatives of official-language minority communities and seven senior officials of the departments and agencies targeted by the August 1994 Cabinet decision. The Committee's role is to advise the Department on ways to implement the government's initiative. The Committee plans to meet at least twice a year.



## A Tool for Coordination: the Newsletter 41-42

To foster the development of lasting ties between federal departments and agencies, official-language minority communities and



the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Interdepartmental Coordination Directorate has undertaken to publish a liaison newsletter four times a year. The first issue of 41-42, as the newsletter is called, came out in the summer of 1995. The purpose of the publication is to report on what is happening both in the regions and at head-

quarters; articles are supplied by the three parties involved in the government's initiative. The newsletter has a circulation of 1,800 and is distributed within associations representing the communities and the key federal departments and agencies.

## The Next Step

In 1995-96, the Interdepartmental Coordination Directorate hopes to encourage the key departments and agencies to include longer-term community development activities in their next annual or multi-year action plans. These activities would also give a higher profile to regional measures. The Directorate plans to help the departments and agencies work together to carry out projects that are considered priorities by the communities.

## Achievements

The new accountability framework was introduced at the same time as a number of projects were being carried out. In most cases, the Department of Canadian Heritage provided technical and financial assistance, as did the provincial governments concerned. The following are some of the main achievements.

## National Activities

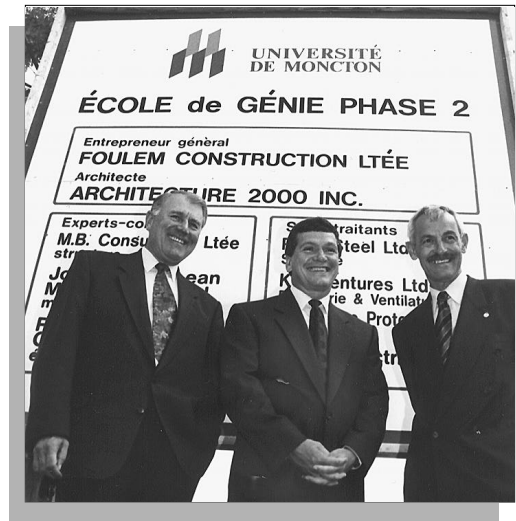
- Continuation of the activities of the *Comité d'adaptation des ressources humaines de la francophonie canadienne*. Support from Human Resources Development Canada.
- *Semaine nationale de la francophonie* held from March 20 to 26, 1995. Organizer: *Association canadienne d'éducation de langue française*. Support from Industry Canada, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Canadian International Development Agency, Human Resources Development Canada, Treasury Board and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.
- Participation by the *Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada* at a fall 1994 conference of international non-governmental organizations staged by the *Agence de coopération culturelle et technique* in Paris. Support from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.
- Development of a francization program for young children by the *Commission nationale des parents francophones*. Support from Health Canada.

- Study on equity in physical education through partnership and the creation of a non-sexist environment for young Francophones conducted by the *Réseau national d'Action Éducation Femmes*. Support from Human Resources Development Canada and Health Canada (Fitness).
- Gatherings of the *Association nationale des théâtres francophones hors Québec* held in the spring of 1995. Support from the National Arts Centre and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

## Regional Activities

### Atlantic

- Preparation of a project to implement the economic development plan for the Francophone community on the Port-au-Port Peninsula. Support from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency.
- Construction of *La Picasse* multiservice centre in Île Madame, Nova Scotia. Support from Human Resources Development Canada and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency.
- Creation of a provincial adult training centre (*Collège de l'Acadie*) in Prince Edward Island. Support from the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, Human Resources Development Canada, the Government of Nova Scotia and Maritime Tel & Tel.
- Announcement of financing for the construction of the electrical engineering school at the *Université de Moncton*. Support from Human Resources Development Canada.



Premier Frank McKenna flanked by Raymond Frenette, New Brunswick's Minister of Justice, and Fernand Robichaud, federal Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, in front of the École de Génie of the Université de Moncton.

- World Acadian Congress held in New Brunswick in August 1994. Support from Human Resources Development Canada and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency.

### Quebec

- Completion of Phase II of a joint initiative by the Department of Canadian Heritage and Human Resources Development Canada to improve the employability of young Quebec Anglophones in Quebec's mostly French labour market. Several projects were carried out: a study to determine the needs of employers (Quebec City and Gaspé), research on future labour force training needs (Eastern Townships), and the opening of an employment assistance service centre (Montreal).

- Promotion of farm management among members of the Quebec Farmers' Association: publication of 13 articles in the Quebec Farmer's Advocate between January 1994 and March 1995; "kitchen-table meetings" held to discuss the advantages of farm management unions. Support from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.
- Establishment of a community program for children and single mothers in rural areas of Manitoba. Support from Health Canada.
- Training sessions for Francophone senior citizens in Saskatchewan. Support from Health Canada (Healthy Aging).

## **Ontario**

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- Production of a series of 13 television programs on owning your own business. Support from Human Resources Development Canada and Industry Canada.
- Technical support for the *Association canadienne-française de l'Ontario* to move its head office to Toronto. Participation by Public Works and Government Services Canada.
- Establishment of a Francophone job search club in Vancouver. Support from Human Resources Development Canada.
- Implementation of a cultural tourism pilot project in the Niagara region: a cultural centre called *Le Griffon*. Cooperation from Human Resources Development Canada.
- Launch of a project under which the 11 tenants of the *Maison de la francophonie* in Vancouver will share photocopying services. Support from Human Resources Development Canada.

## **West**

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- Economic symposium organized by the Manitoba Association of Bilingual Municipalities with support from Human Resources Development Canada.
- Implementation of the *Jeunes en plein soleil* project, the aim of which is to improve spoken and written French among young Francophones in the Northwest Territories. Support from Health Canada.

### III. Key Issues

#### A. School Management

Two Supreme Court of Canada decisions (*Mahé 1990* and *Manitoba 1993*) confirmed that section 23 of the *Canadian Charter of*

“For Francophones in minority situations, French-language schools are the guarantee of a better future. But, in order for our schools to truly represent our values and our aspirations, it is imperative that the community itself be able to manage those schools.”

**Ronald Duhamel, M.P., from a speech given on Opposition Day in the House of Commons, April 18, 1994**

*Rights and Freedoms* guarantees official-language minorities the right to manage their own schools where numbers warrant. The implementation of school management throughout Canada remains a critical issue for the federal government, which has continued

to cooperate with the provinces and territories in this area. In 1994-95, school management became fully operational in three more provinces: Alberta,

Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Nova Scotia continued the process of reforming its school system and created a provincial French school board. In British Columbia, parents decided to resume their court challenge, while in Newfoundland, the issue remained on hold as the overhaul of the school system came up against opposition from the churches to the elimination of denominational school boards.

Again this year, the special measures on school management and post-secondary education in French were spared budget cuts because of the importance the government attaches to the issue.

The following paragraphs give an overview of the situation in the provinces and territories in 1994-95.

#### NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

The *Schools Act* was amended in 1991 to include provisions to comply with section 23 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, but without granting school management. School management for Francophones is one of the issues being studied as part of the overhaul of the province's school system, a process that is being hampered by the churches' opposition to the elimination of denominational schools.

##### Since March 31, 1995

On January 4, 1996, in the wake of the September 5, 1995, referendum in which the people of Newfoundland and Labrador voted to end denominational school boards, the province introduced new legislation to restructure the school system. The bill includes provisions dealing with the creation of French schools which the *Fédération des parents francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador* claims do not comply with section 23 of the *Charter*.

On January 31, 1996, the *Fédération* initiated legal proceedings to challenge the legislation and secure the right to school management.

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

The schools legislation passed in February 1990 gives the Francophone minority the right to manage its own schools. A provincial school board has been in place since July 1990.

### Since March 31, 1995

Unable to obtain a French school, parents in Summerside filed suit against the province on November 30, 1995, to secure French-language education for their children.

## NOVA SCOTIA

In February 1995, the provincial government tabled its white paper on school reform entitled *Horizons*. Among the suggested changes, the province is proposing to create a separate provincial school board to manage French-language education throughout the province; the board would be supported by school committees that would give parents a say in decisions affecting the education of their children.

In March 1995, a special adviser on Acadian and Francophone school management was appointed. The adviser reports directly to the Minister of Education and Culture and the Minister of Acadian Affairs and is responsible for the implementation and operation of the new French school structure. A new Acadian and French-Language Services Directorate was created within the Department of Education; the executive director of the Directorate reports to the Deputy Minister of Education.

### Since March 31, 1995

Draft legislation including provisions to create a French school board was tabled in the Nova Scotia legislature on November 3, 1995, and passed on January 8, 1996.

On October 23, 1995, the federal government and Nova Scotia signed a special agreement on school management that clears the way for the implementation of school management and the establishment of refrancization programs and teacher training and development programs.

## NEW BRUNSWICK

Two parallel structures headed by two deputy ministers of Education have been in place in the school system since 1984. In the 11 regions of the province, separate school boards have been established for the Anglophone (12) and Francophone (6) communities.

## QUEBEC

In the summer of 1993, the Supreme Court of Canada upheld the provisions of Bill 107 dealing with the establishment of linguistic school boards alongside existing denominational school boards and the right of dissent. The Quebec government has yet to give any clear indication of its plans regarding implementation of the legislation.

## ONTARIO

In 1986, Bill 75 on school management guaranteed Franco-Ontarians proportional representation on English school boards and some control over the budgets and curriculum of French schools. There are currently four full French school boards in operation: Toronto, Ottawa (2) and Prescott-Russell.

In the wake of the report of the Royal Commission on Learning, released on January 26, 1995, the provincial government set up a committee to submit to the minister by December 31, 1995, recommendations on a number of matters, among them restructuring of the province's school boards and the creation of French boards. According to the proposed action plan, the new French school boards are to be in place before the 1997 municipal elections.

### Since March 31, 1995

In February 1996, the Ontario School Board Reduction Task Force submitted to Ontario's Minister of Education its report (Sweeney report) recommending the creation of 15 French school boards to replace the 77 French boards, sections and advisory committees currently in place.

## MANITOBA

The *Act to amend the Public Schools Act (Manitoba) (management of French schools)* was passed in July 1993. All of the school boards have been fully operational since September 1994.

In November 1994, the Department signed a special agreement with the Manitoba government on the implementation of French school management. The agreement is intended to help Manitoba set up a school management system in accordance with section 23 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and allows Canada to support various initiatives aimed at improving education in French as a first language.

**Since March 31,1995**

In August 1995, through the determination of local Francophone parents, the Laurier school became the twenty-first school to join the Franco-Manitoban School Division.

In the fall of 1995, the Franco-Manitoban School Division and the *Fédération provinciale des comités de parents* joined forces in a major awareness program for parents entitled *La communauté et l'école* [community and school]. Meetings are planned in 19 Francophone communities.

Some Franco-Manitoban School Division schools took advantage of the wider range of courses available through the distance teaching consortium to meet the needs of students who, because of small numbers, would not otherwise have access to such programs.

## **SASKATCHEWAN**

Saskatchewan's *Education Act* was amended on June 2, 1993, to include provisions on school management, making Saskatchewan the first western province to comply fully with section 23 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. Eight Francophone communities in Saskatchewan joined the new Francophone school management component and, in August 1994, the province created eight French school boards and a general schools council; the boards and the council officially went into operation in January 1995. In 1994-95, enrolment in the eight elementary and secondary schools was 851.

The federal government and the province amended the 1993 special agreement on school management to provide additional assistance for the community component of two schools (Regina and Prince Albert). Under the agreement, the province undertook construction and renovation projects in five schools. The work was to be completed by the fall of 1995.

**Since March 31,1995**

The province undertook construction and renovation projects in five schools in 1994: Gravelbourg, Bellegarde, Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert. The new facilities opened in the fall of 1995, and two other projects will be started in 1996-97.

## **ALBERTA**

In November 1993, the Alberta government passed Bill 8 amending the *School Act* to give the Francophone minority the right to manage its own schools. Following adoption of the *Act*, three Francophone Regional Authorities and three Francophone Co-ordinating Councils were created.

Francophone school board trustees were elected in February and March 1994, and the three regional school authorities became fully operational the following September. In the few schools that indicated they wished to continue being managed by the existing school boards (Calgary, in particular), an elected committee of parents referred to as a coordinating committee has the right to review any decisions (administrative and educational) that affect French programs.

Under the special agreement signed in the fall of 1993, the federal government continued to cooperate with the province to implement school management and improve post-secondary education.

**Since March 31, 1995**

A French-language education program using leading-edge technology has been set up in East-Central School Authority 3 for small, widely scattered groups of Francophone students.

Meetings of the various partners in Francophone education (community groups, school boards, Ministry of Education, Faculté Saint-Jean) were held to clarify the complementary roles of the players involved in French-language education in Alberta.

The *Fédération des conseils scolaires et de coordination de l'Alberta* was created to encourage the sharing of information on issues related to the implementation of school management in Alberta.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA

In the fall of 1993, the provincial government presented Francophone parents with a model for school management that they felt was unacceptable. The situation led to the suspension of negotiations between the federal government and the province on a school management agreement that until then had been going well.

Frustrated by the provincial government's inaction, the parents officially notified the provincial government in April 1994 that they planned to resume the legal proceedings that were launched in 1989 and suspended during the work of the Gallant Committee on the implementation of school management.

In September 1994, the parents submitted an amendment to the original request to include \$4 million in compensation for damages caused by the provincial government's failure to act.

The Commissioner of Official Languages, driven by the province's delay in complying with section 23, has obtained intervenor status in the case so that he can support the parents. This will be the first time the Commissioner has intervened in a case at the trial division level.

The Attorney General of Canada has also requested and been granted intervenor status at the trial division level; this, too, is a precedent.



**Since March 31,1995**

In July 1995, British Columbia announced plans to create a structure for Francophone school management that would cover only some of the students in the *Programme cadre de français*. Francophone parents decided to pursue their case in the courts. The federal government and the province resumed negotiations on an agreement on federal funding for the establishment of the school management structure.

New regulations were approved in November 1995, and the first five directors for the French school board were appointed on December 14, 1995.

## YUKON

The *Education Act*, passed in 1990, sets out specific steps for the implementation of school management, among them the creation of a school board when the population concerned requests such a board through a referendum. There are no school boards in the Yukon at present. The *École Émilie-Tremblay* continues to be managed by the school council.

**Since March 31,1995**

In a referendum on June 7, 1995, a majority of Francophone parents voted for the creation of a French school board. The five new trustees were sworn in on December 4, 1995. The new school board will begin operations on June 30, 1996, thus becoming the first school board in the Yukon.

## NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Courses in French as a mother tongue are offered at the *École Allain St-Cyr* in Yellowknife and in Iqaluit. Only in Yellowknife do parents have partial management of their school, under an agreement with Yellowknife School Board No 1.

In 1993, the territorial government began a comprehensive review of the *School Act*. In the spring of 1995, a legislative committee was struck to hold consultations on the draft legislation tabled in November 1994. Francophone parents claim the new bill does not comply with section 23 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, mainly because it does not contain clear guarantees and too many key issues are left for the regulations.

**Since March 31,1995**

The Northwest Territories' *School Act* was passed in June 1995 and will come into force in the summer of 1996. Francophone parents are currently taking part in consultations on the regulations accompanying the *Act*.

## B. Repositioning of Direct Support for Official-Language Communities

What can be done to narrow the gap between the needs of official-language minority communities and the dwindling resources of Official Languages Support Programs? This was one of the big questions the Department of Canadian Heritage had to tackle in 1994-95. The challenge was especially daunting because the Department felt it was unacceptable to ignore 25 years of close cooperation and impose some type of procedure on the communities.

Knowing that it could not and should not put an end to its activities, the Department under-



*This process involves repositioning the relationship between Canadian Heritage and official-language communities in a way that reflects the experience we have acquired over the years and the challenges we must now face. It means initiating a new partnership, which preserves past accomplishments and ensures that communities can continue to progress."*

**Department of Canadian Heritage,  
Confidence in the Future, May-June 1994**

took to "reposition" its direct support for official-language communities by working with the communities to come up with new, more effective approaches. The exercise began with the May 1994 release of a discussion paper entitled

*Confidence in the Future: Redefining the Department's Relations with its Client Groups.*

In the discussion paper, the Department of Canadian Heritage stated its desire to put in place new mechanisms for cooperation and funding in a context of declining resources, but without reneging on its constitutional and legislative commitments or neglecting its other areas of intervention (for example, interdepartmental coordination). It explained the reasons for the exercise (the progress made to date, the financial status of the Official Languages Support Programs, the budget context, etc), set

out the principles and objectives of the repositioning and offered the communities a variety of options.

The discussion paper served as the backdrop for a round of consultations with the communities in each province and both territories as well as national Francophone organizations. The consultations, which began on May 27, 1994, in Prince Edward Island and ended on June 23, 1994, in Manitoba, drew large numbers of participants representing a good cross-section of community groups. Among the highlights of the consultations:

- the organizations recognized the urgent need for action in view of the new fiscal reality;
- the communities indicated they were willing to explore a new partnership with the Department of Canadian Heritage;
- the communities said they were prepared to do more to coordinate their efforts and set real priorities in light of available funds;
- there was an expression of strong interest in approaches based on a larger role for the communities in management;
- some communities reported that they had already pooled their resources and others agreed that savings could be made;
- the organizations acknowledged that across-the-board budget cuts would be ineffective and that a better solution would have to be found;
- the communities insisted that all available information be put on the table in order to ensure the transparency of the repositioning exercise;



*By signing the Canada-community agreement, the community indicates that it is accepting to reposition its operations and its financing on a long-term basis."*

**Patricia Courcelles, president of the  
Société franco-manitobaine,  
at the signature of the  
Canada-community agreement,  
June 27, 1994**

● the participants expressed the view that the exercise was necessary and would probably be beneficial provided the parties could come up with mechanisms that would meet the communities' new development needs.

Rationalizing resources and developing new forms of cooperation eliminate duplication among organizations and prevent energy being spent on projects that are not priorities. Consolidation of long-term community development means, of course, that the communities will have to become less reliant on government funds and develop their ability to fund on their own any projects they wish to undertake.

Once the general framework for the repositioning exercise was presented, the communities and national organizations were asked to work with departmental representatives to set the terms and conditions for new cooperation with the Department of Canadian Heritage. This cooperation was to be in the form of agreements between the Department and all of the organizations in a given community.

The approach calls for the community to take greater control. The agreements make it easier to take into account the different situations faced by official-language minority communities in different regions and provinces. These differences have a determining effect on the approaches needed to foster community development, the type of objectives that are set and the speed with which those objectives can be met.

Greater coordination will enable the community to acquire and present a coherent vision of its needs and come to terms on development priorities. This vision will guide the joint Department-community committee in allocating available funds. The Department of Canadian Heritage can thus be assured that its actions are producing better results.

#### **A Canada-community agreement:**

- sets multi-year funding for the entire community in a province or territory;
- outlines the Department's commitments related to community development, federal-provincial cooperation and interdepartmental coordination;
- establishes the mechanisms through which community organizations together set their own priorities and suggest how available funds should be allocated (an agreement therefore encourages rationalized use of funds);
- creates a forum in which the community and the Department can review priorities and discuss the distribution of available funds.

## Developments Related to Repositioning in 1994-95

### NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK

In eastern Canada, the Francophone community in Newfoundland and Labrador and the Francophone and Acadian communities in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island set up task forces that reviewed the proposed options and then began negotiating Canada-community agreements with the Department of Canadian Heritage.

#### Since March 31, 1995

Canada-community agreements have been signed with the Acadian community in Nova Scotia, represented by the *Fédération acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse* (August 24, 1995); the Francophone community in Newfoundland and Labrador, represented by the *Fédération des francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador* (October 24, 1995); the Acadian community in New Brunswick, represented by the *Forum de concertation des organismes acadiens et francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick* (January 24, 1996); and the Acadian and Francophone community in Prince Edward Island, represented by the *Société Saint-Thomas d'Aquin* (January 24, 1996).

### QUEBEC

The Anglophone community in Quebec is also negotiating a Canada-community agreement with the federal government. The community is being represented in the negotiations by the Quebec Community Groups Network, which comprises 13 English-Quebec organizations.

#### Since March 31, 1995

A Canada-community agreement has been signed with the Anglophone community in Quebec, represented by the Quebec Community Groups Network, on November 19, 1995.

### ONTARIO

Created in June 1994, the *Coalition pour le développement et l'épanouissement de la communauté franco-ontarienne et des minorités raciales francophones de l'Ontario* is an alliance of 55 organizations representing today's Franco-Ontarian community. The *Coalition* and the Department have begun discussions aimed at signing a Canada-community agreement.

**Since March 31,1995**

Discussions are continuing, particularly among the organizations, in order to come up with a structure that would serve to represent community interests in the agreement. A study commissioned by the *Association canadienne-française de l'Ontario* will be carried out to clarify the issues.

**MANITOBA**



*Signature of the Canada-community agreement with Manitoba's Francophone community.*

The *Framework Agreement for Supporting and Assisting the Development and Enhancing the Vitality of Manitoba's French-Speaking Community* was signed on June 27, 1994, with the *Société franco-manitobaine*. In the fall of 1994, the Franco-Manitoban community started looking for ways to optimize the resources allocated under the agreement, reviewing the division of roles among organizations and examining coordination practices. The results of the study, released in December 1994 in the report *Un tournant qu'il ne faut surtout pas rater...*, served as a base in reviewing community structures, establishing a community profile and setting specific development priorities.

**Since March 31,1995**

The community has reviewed the mechanism for managing the agreement in order to include more community representatives in the process of setting priorities. The Franco-Manitoban community has adopted a rigorous framework for review in order to determine how financial resources should be allocated to organizations in light of the established priorities.

**SASKATCHEWAN**

A pioneer in the field, the Francophone community in Saskatchewan now has its second Canada-community agreement. In 1994-95, the organizations reviewed and simplified their coordination and planning framework.

**Since March 31,1995**

A third Canada-community agreement has been signed with the Fransaskois community, represented by the *Association culturelle franco-canadienne de la Saskatchewan*, on April 26, 1996.

## ALBERTA

The *Framework Agreement for Supporting and Assisting the Development and Enhancing the Vitality of Alberta's French-Speaking Community* was signed on September 17, 1994, with the *Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta*. A joint committee was set up in the province to manage the agreement, make recommendations to the Minister of Canadian Heritage on core and project funding and determine whether the objectives of the agreement were being met.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA

The *Fédération des francophones de la Colombie-Britannique*, mandated to put together a community coordination project and a comprehensive development plan for the period from 1995 to 2000, conducted extensive consultations with Francophones in the province with a view to negotiating a Canada-community agreement.

### Since March 31, 1995

A Canada-community agreement has been signed with the Francophone community in British Columbia, represented by the *Fédération des francophones de la Colombie-Britannique*, on March 22, 1996.

## YUKON

The repositioning exercise got under way in the Yukon in November 1994. The 1995-2000 development plan for the Francophone community in the Yukon served as a base in negotiating the Canada-community agreement.

### Since March 31, 1995

A Canada-community agreement has been signed with the Francophone community in the Yukon, represented by the *Association franco-yukonnaise*, on March 29, 1996.

## NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

In anticipation of the signing of the Canada-Northwest Territories agreement, the text of which was drawn up in 1994-95, a policy on managing the funds provided under the agreement was drafted and approved by the *Fédération franco-ténoise* at a special meeting in February 1995.

**Since March 31,1995**

A Canada-community agreement has been signed with the Francophone community in the Northwest Territories, represented by the *Fédération franco-ténoise*, on November 4, 1995.

## **NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

In June 1994, national Francophone organizations appointed six of their representatives to the joint committee set up to negotiate the Canada-national organizations agreement. Two consultation meetings on the coordination mechanism were held: one in December 1994, the other in April 1995. A survey of 18 national Francophone organizations was conducted in March 1995 in anticipation of the April meeting. The results from the questionnaire helped bring about the consensus needed to negotiate an agreement.

**Since March 31,1995**

A Canada-community agreement has been signed with national Francophone organizations on February 9, 1996.

Adopting a new approach to coordinating their efforts, setting priorities and managing available resources gives official-language minority communities and the Department of Canadian Heritage another tool they can use to narrow the gap between their respective expectations and resources. Of course, the success of the exercise depends to a large degree on the spirit of cooperation that the parties have displayed for the past quarter-century.

## **IV. Highlights**

### **Introduction**

Through the initiative of groups and individuals involved in education and community action, many projects were carried out locally, regionally and nationally. The vitality of the organizations representing sectors concerned with official languages made it possible to implement a large number of projects during the year and move forward on key issues, as witnessed by the results achieved in the areas of school management and Canada-community agreements.

The Department acts as a facilitator and catalyst for groups. The projects bring many benefits and enhance all aspects of Canada's official languages: learning of English and French as second languages; teaching of French as a mother tongue in minority communities; strengthening of minority communities in

terms of economic development, culture, etc. The Department of Canadian Heritage is also working with various partners to encourage all Canadians, Anglophones and Francophones alike, to learn more about and form ties with one another. After all, the English and French languages and cultures are the cornerstones of Canadian identity.

The projects described below are grouped into three broad categories: cooperation with the provinces, partnership with minority communities, and promotion and dialogue. Whether regional or national in scope, the projects carried out during the past year all contributed to the full recognition of the two official languages and helped ensure that both English- and French-speaking Canadians participate fully in Canadian society.

### **A. On the regional scene**

The official-language minority communities - Anglophones in Quebec and Francophones in the rest of Canada - are living proof of the presence of Canada's linguistic duality, whether it be in the area of education, official languages services, or relating to activities

designed to preserve their language and enhance their collective development. The following are some of the key activities that took place in 1994-95 in all of the provinces and the territories.



## NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

### Federal-Provincial Cooperation

- In September 1994, Francophone parents in Goose Bay (Labrador) were pleased to see the opening of a French minority-language class in their community, bringing to five the number of communities in the province where Francophones have access to education in their own language.
- In December 1994, the Department of Canadian Heritage signed a five-year cooperation agreement with the provincial Department of Justice to assist in the French-language training of provincial judges.

### Community Development

- On Newfoundland's west coast, Francophones continued their five-year economic development initiative with a project focusing on training and development in the areas of entrepreneurship and tourism. As a result of an idea put forward by the Francophone community on the Port-au-Port Peninsula, the provincial government has agreed to develop a themed tourist route to reflect the French heritage of the region. The logo for the trail will be the flag of French Newfoundlanders.
- Labrador West is home to approximately 500 Francophones. For the past several years, the volunteer-run *Radio communautaire du Labrador* has been providing the region with community programming in

French. A project was approved to help the 30 volunteers with the radio to organize a series of training workshops.

### Promotion

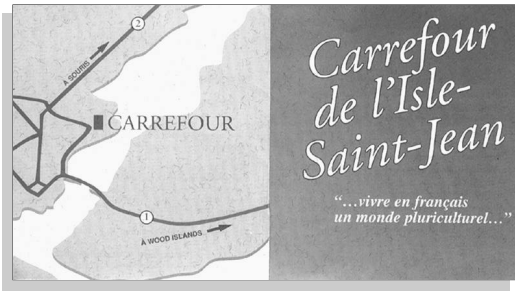
- The Placentia Area *Théâtre d'Héritage* Committee was the key player in the development of a bilingual theatrical pageant on the efforts of the French to establish a colony in Newfoundland. The group was assisted by the *Association francophone de St-Jean* and the pageant was performed at Castle Hill National Historic Site in Placentia, the French capital of Newfoundland in the 1600s. The show was well-received by the approximately 1,900 people who saw it during the summer.



## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

### Federal-Provincial Cooperation

- The *Carrefour de l'Isle-Saint-Jean* school/community centre is well rooted in the community of Charlottetown-Rustico. The community centre offers a very diversified cultural and social program along with a daycare service and kindergarten. The school awarded its first diplomas to six students in June 1994 and welcomed almost 170 students in September 1994.



- The Canada-Prince Edward Island agreement on the promotion of official languages facilitated the establishment of a number of bilingual services for the province's Acadian and Francophone community. Thus, the number of provincial government employees capable of offering services in both official languages increased from approximately ten in 1988 to approximately one hundred in 1995.
- The *Centre provincial de formation pour adultes* opened in Wellington in the winter of 1995. A distance education network using the most up-to-date technology provides the Acadian and Francophone population of the region with fair and inexpensive access to a full-time French-language college education. The project is considered a success by both the community and the two orders of government.

### Community Development

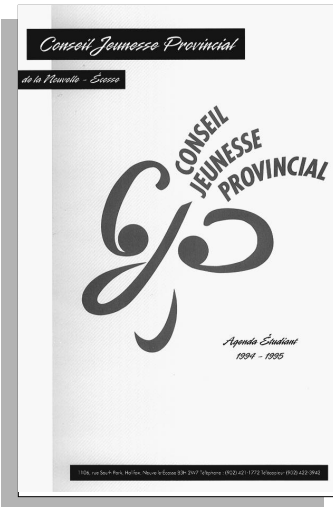
- For the second consecutive year, the *Fédération culturelle de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard* set up an arts training project to improve Acadian and Francophone artistic production in the province by offering intensive workshops in disciplines related to the performing arts.
- The regional *La Belle Alliance* committee organized a project entitled *Entre Cousins* in order to mount a production of the play *Port LaJoye*. The play depicts the deportation of the Acadians from Prince Edward Island. The play, which was presented during the World Acadian Congress, was such a success that the organization will continue to stage the production during events such as the international fair in Louisiana.

### Promotion

- In November 1994, following the renewal of the Canada-Prince Edward Island agreement on the promotion of official languages for a five-year period, the *Conseil consultatif des communautés acadiennes* organized *Forum '94* to improve communication, cooperation and partnership between the provincial government and the Acadian and Francophone community of Prince Edward Island. During the forum, Premier Catherine Callbeck presented a plaque to the *Société Saint-Thomas d'Aquin* in recognition of its contribution to the Acadian and Francophone community of the province.
- The *Semaine provinciale de la francophonie* has become an annual event in Prince Edward Island where activities are organized to promote the French language and culture with the entire population of the island.

## NOVA SCOTIA

### Federal-Provincial Cooperation



- The Department of Education, the *Conseil jeunesse provincial* and the Department of Canadian Heritage cooperated in the autumn of 1994 in order to develop and offer a leadership course for members of student councils in Acadian schools.
- The (five-year) Canada-Nova Scotia agreement on the promotion of official languages was renewed in August 1994. The aim of the agreement is to promote the implementation of the provincial policy on French-language government services adopted in 1987.
- The Nova Scotia Sector on Acadian Affairs, in cooperation with the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Acadian community, organized *Colloque-Échange 95* in February 1995 in order to begin a process of reflection on the future direction for this sector.
- The third *Gala provinciale de la chanson* - the largest musical event in the province - took place in May 1994. This competition is organized by the *Conseil culturel acadien de la Nouvelle-Écosse*, with the participation and cooperation of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation Production Centre in Halifax, the *Festival acadien d'Halifax-Dartmouth*, the *Carrefour du Grand-Havre* and the Department of Canadian Heritage.
- In June 1994, the *Association des Acadiennes de la Nouvelle-Écosse* presented its *Étude des besoins sur la violence familiale*, in five Acadian regions of the province, in order to identify avenues for intervention and orient future lobbying efforts.
- In June 1994, the theatre troupe *Les araignées du boui-boui* put on the play *Évangéline*, which recalls the most significant event in the history of Acadia. The production was made possible by the cooperation of the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Nova Scotia Department of Acadian Affairs, the municipality of Clare and the private sector.
- In May 1994, a sod-turning ceremony marked the start of construction on the multi-functional *La Picasse* centre. This is an important initiative that will contribute greatly to the cultural and economic development of the Acadian community of Petite-Grat, Richmond County, in Cape Breton.

### Community Development

- In 1994, a survey was conducted on the needs of the elderly Acadians and Francophones of Nova Scotia and a provincial colloquium was organized, during which the *Regroupement des aînés* was formally established.

### Promotion

- Each year, the provincial office of the Department of Canadian Heritage in Nova Scotia promotes the *Semaine nationale de la francophonie* by sending out information kits to clients of the Department and to regional offices of other federal departments.

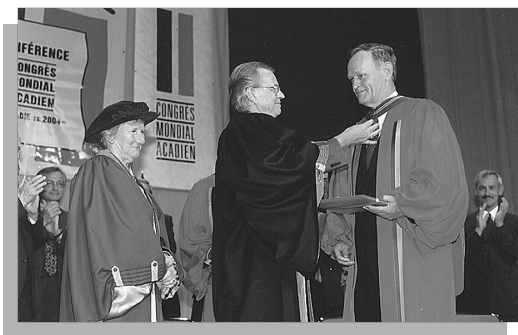
- Canadian Parents for French continues its efforts to promote closer ties and awareness of issues with respect to the Acadian community of Nova Scotia. This year, representatives of the group took part in the annual

assembly of the *Fédération des parents acadiens de la Nouvelle-Écosse* in order to gain a greater understanding of Acadian parents' interests with regard to school management.

## NEW BRUNSWICK

### World Acadian Congress

- The *Retrouvailles* and the World Acadian Congress took place from August 12 to 22,



Prime Minister Jean Chrétien receives honorary doctorate from the Université de Moncton in the presence of Acadian writer Antonine Maillet.

1994, in nine host municipalities in south-eastern New Brunswick. This event, the first of its kind in the history of the Acadians since the *Grand Dérangement* of 1755, had a major national

and international impact. It is estimated that more than 300,000 people attended, in addition to the 2,000 Congress participants and the 58,000 people registered for family reunions.

- An impressive number of national and international political leaders attended the event and delivered important messages on the advancement of the French language and culture in Canada. In a speech to the Congress, the Canadian Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, said that in celebrating Acadia they were celebrating "the triumph of the French fact in America". During the official opening of the Conference component of the World Acadian Congress, the Secretary General of the United Nations, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, spoke at length about the Acadians, their

attachment to their language, and their openness to the world. The French Minister of Culture and *la francophonie*, Jacques Toubon, said he considered Acadia a model for the international Francophone movement.

### Federal-Provincial Cooperation

- On August 16, 1994, the Minister of Canadian Heritage was on hand to announce the Department's involvement in the project to build the electrical engineering building at the *Université de Moncton*. This project will provide the university with modern facilities such as micro-electronic, computer, energy, and communications laboratories.
- The New Brunswick Provincial Archives began a project to make research aids and subject guides available in French. The project is slated for completion in 1995-96.
- The *Société des Acadiens et Acadiennes du Nouveau-Brunswick*, in cooperation with the *Association des municipalités du Nouveau-Brunswick*, the *Fédération des dames d'Acadie*, the *Fédération des jeunes francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick*, the journal *Égalité* and the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages, organized a day of reflection on real equality for New Brunswick's two language communities. This meeting made it possible to identify the Acadian community's priorities for achieving true equality between the two communities.

- *Temps d'affaires*, the economic journal of the *Conseil économique du Nouveau-Brunswick*, produced a series of television programs to educate New Brunswick's Francophone population about the business world in order to increase Francophone participation in economic activity.

## Community Development

- *Radio Restigouche* began broadcasting in September 1994 as the result of a community initiative begun in 1989 and provided French-language radio to the 17,000 Francophones in northern New Brunswick, from Robinsonville to Belledune. This project was made possible by the participation of the Department of Canadian Heritage, the provincial government and the community.
- *Radio Beauséjour* began broadcasting in July 1994, responding to the communications development needs of Acadians in southeastern New Brunswick. The station serves a population of 75,000 Francophones in a 175-kilometre radius. As with *Radio Restigouche*, it was cooperation between the federal government, the provincial government and the community that made this project possible.
- The third *Festival Jeunesse de l'Atlantique*, on the theme *Culture sans Censure!*, was held at the *Université de Moncton* from August 12 to 15, 1994. The *Festival*, organized this year by the *Fédération des jeunes du Nouveau-Brunswick*, allows young artists to excel in various types of cultural activities. The evaluations demonstrated the success and importance of this activity for young Acadians and Francophones in the Atlantic region. The Department of Canadian Heritage, the governments of New Brunswick and Quebec, the French

community of Belgium, the *Fédération de la jeunesse canadienne-française* and the *Fondation culturelle acadienne* all contributed to the success of this activity.

## Promotion

- With the cooperation of the Department of Canadian Heritage, the *Association des enseignantes et des enseignants francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick*, the New Brunswick Teachers' Association and Dialogue N.B. organized a conference with the theme "Living Together in a Changing World". This conference enabled participants to get to know each other better, to appreciate the various linguistic and cultural groups which make up the population of New Brunswick, and to facilitate cooperation.
- Canadian Parents for French of New Brunswick, together with the Department of Canadian Heritage, sponsored a summer day camp for students in grades one to six enrolled in French immersion. All activities were conducted in French to counteract the fact that students lose up to 30 per cent of their French ability during the summer months.
- To mark the *Journée internationale de la francophonie*, a show called *La francophonie en mots et en chansons* was organized at the Capitol Theatre in Moncton by a number of partners, including the *Société nationale de l'Acadie* and the *Conseil provincial des sociétés culturelles*. The show highlighted musical artists from *la francophonie* at home and abroad. There were also booths on *la francophonie* and a book fair.

### Federal-Provincial Cooperation

- The Canada-Quebec agreement in the area of health and social services for the English-speaking population of Quebec began activities for the first year of a second consecutive five-year term. Once again, emphasis was placed on maintaining the role of provincial coordinators in the various administrative regions in the province. The coordinators play a liaison role between the regional councils and the Anglophone community and advise them on the community's needs with respect to service delivery. In this rapidly changing sector of provincial services, the coordinator's role is seen as essential by the community.
- The federal government cooperated with the Quebec department of education on the construction and renovation of the Grosse-Île school in the Magdalen Islands, enabling students in this Anglophone community to enjoy modern and suitable surroundings.
- The Quebec department of education offered a new program for leaders in the teaching of English as a first language. The *Innovation pédagogique et organisationnelle* program recognizes and encourages innovative action-research activities in an effort to identify the best ways of overcoming the systemic difficulties facing the educational community.
- The special support for the acquisition of teaching material and professional develop-

ment for teachers of English as a first language continues. These programs are a follow-up to the Chambers report on teaching English as a first language in Quebec.

- The third year of the intergovernmental cooperation agreement between the Department of Canadian Heritage and the *Conseil de la magistrature du Québec* on the promotion of official languages made it possible for provincial court judges to receive language training, thus allowing accessibility to judicial services in English.

### Community Development

- In the more isolated regions of Quebec, the Coasters' Association, which groups the fifteen English-speaking communities scattered along the Lower North Shore, initiated production of a bi-annual newspaper to keep its members and the population in the villages informed about the activities of their association and on issues of concern to the residents of the coast. In the Magdalen Islands, renovations were completed to the Heritage Building, a small but vital step towards self-sufficiency. Geordie Productions, an English-speaking touring company which provided the only opportunity for culturally-deprived communities to see live professional English theatre, brought several productions to isolated villages.

- Under the leadership of Coasters' Association, three community radio stations serving the isolated communities along the



*Community radio station at Harrington Harbour on the Lower North Shore.*

Lower North Shore, explored the feasibility of a network which would link the communities in this region which stretches along the northern coast of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

- The Quebec Farmers' Association held a forum at which eighteen local, regional, and provincial organizations and departments implicated in the training and education of the Quebec farming community participated. This event was preceded by a series of meetings with farmers to obtain their input and document their needs. The purpose of the project was to assess the agricultural education and training opportunities available to English-speaking farmers, and to bring these findings forward at the forum.
- The Quebec Drama Federation focussed on training activities by holding four management workshops on group process, database development, audience relations and integrated marketing and management for the 34 English theatre companies which make up its membership. These workshops were interspersed with seminars focussing on the various disciplines and physical techniques in the area of acting and directing.
- A total of 45 theatre companies presented 275 performances at the Montreal Fringe Festival, which features mainly amateur productions from groups in Quebec and across Canada. Some highly innovative and

exciting English and French theatre was viewed by an audience of approximately 25,000.

- The Voice of English Quebec in Quebec City supported the work of a local committee to transform Morrin College into a community centre for the Anglophone population. This year, the Voice of English Quebec, in partnership with the College, gave the project significant exposure during the annual Fall Fest, helped fund various activities and explored further ways to fund the development of an interpretation research centre within the College.
- The Quebec Community Newspapers Association launched a comprehensive project designed to diversify its revenue base. In order to upgrade its marketing potential, it began training sessions for members, increased the sale of member-donated advertising, and set up a full-scale promotional tour of key provincial government departments and agencies. Augmenting its income from computer services, it offered members the option of purchase-for-rental of high-speed fax modems that would enable access to the Internet as well as to all bulletin board systems in the Canadian community newspaper network. At the same time, membership increase was assured by applying an amendment to its by-laws that now allows the organization to target bilingual as well as unilingual English-language weeklies in the province.
- Alliance Quebec responded to legislation tabled by the newly-elected provincial government which proposed the sovereignty of Quebec. It presented its own 24-point discussion document which was printed in French and English and circulated throughout the English-speaking community and beyond.

- For the second year, Outaouais Alliance organized the Regional Associations Priorities and Planning Session for over 50 representatives from the community that led to the development of concrete action plans for partnership projects in the areas of training, advocacy, youth employment, and access to services in English.

## Promotion

- Alliance Quebec commissioned the production and airing of a series of short radio messages which encourage better understanding and communication among linguistic communities in Quebec.

## ONTARIO

### Federal-Provincial Cooperation

- The Department of Canadian Heritage, in cooperation with the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs, supported the creation of Francophone regional economic councils. This project, piloted by the *Association des municipalités francophones de l'Ontario*, made it possible to prepare sectoral economic development plans for every region of the province.
- The Department, in cooperation with the Ontario Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation, funded the first *Jeux franco-ontariens*. This event, piloted by the *Fédération de la jeunesse franco-ontarienne*, allowed Francophone secondary school students to take part in cultural and sporting encounters.
- The Department, in cooperation with the Ontario Ministry of Education and Training, helped TVOntario's *La Chaîne* conduct a feasibility study on expanding its French-language educational broadcasting area to include other Canadian provinces.
- As of September 1995, all Franco-Ontarians were able to pursue their college studies in French. The French-language college system in Ontario was made possible by cooperation between the Department of Canadian Heritage and the province. The agreement called for:

- the construction of a permanent campus for *La Cité collégiale* in Ottawa;



- the establishment of access centres for *Collège des Grands Lacs*, which serves Central and South-western Ontario, in H a m i l t o n , Penetanguishene, Toronto, Welland and Windsor. This college "without walls" specializes in distance education;



- the establishment of the main campus of *Collège Boréal* in Sudbury and six satellite campuses in Northern Ontario (Elliot Lake, Hearst, Kapuskasing, New Liskeard, Sturgeon Falls and Timmins).





**Since March 31, 1995**

These three colleges welcomed the first students at their new locations in September 1995.

**Community Development**

- A number of capital projects were undertaken in 1994-95: the construction of a school/community centre in Kingston sponsored by the *Centre social et culturel Frontenac* and the Frontenac-Lennox and Addington County Roman Catholic Separate School Board. The centre should be operational by September 1996.
- In Eastern Ontario, three Ottawa theatre troupes (*Théâtre du Trillium*, *Théâtre de la Vieille 17* and *Vox Théâtre*) are working together to establish a Francophone theatre centre. In Northern Ontario, cultural agencies are proposing to renovate the *Théâtre du Nouvel-Ontario* building to create an arts centre in Sudbury. The opening of *Collège Boréal* in September 1995 presents other possibilities for partnership. The Department contributed to the feasibility studies and business plans for these two centres.
- During this period, the *Festival franco-ontarien*, acknowledged to be a major event,

started afresh. The Department of Canadian Heritage participated in the 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Festival*, which was a success.

- The *Association canadienne-française de l'Ontario (Huronie)* set up a project to trace Francophones in the Grey Bruce region with a view to establishing French-language classes in response to requests from a number of families.
- Francophone organizations in Central and Southwestern Ontario held coordination sessions at the local, regional and inter-regional level to allow communities to develop an action plan and strategies for dealing with provincial, federal and local budget cuts.

**Promotion**

- With the help of our regional representatives, a kiosk depicting some aspects of the Official Languages Support Programs was one of the exhibits displayed at the Nordic Games in Thunder Bay, Ontario in March 1995. It displayed posters on the Summer Language Bursary and the Official-Language Monitor programs as well as drawings and quotes from past *Write it up!* contests. By all accounts, it was a great success with the athletes and the public.

### Federal-Provincial Cooperation

- In March 1995, the Minister of Canadian Heritage and Manitoba's Minister responsible for French-Language Services renewed the Canada-Manitoba agreement on the promotion of official languages for a five-year period. The aim of the agreement is to help Manitoba meet its official-language obligations under the *Manitoba Act*, and implement its policy on French-language services. In this way, the two governments can promote the development and enhanced vitality of the Franco-Manitoban community and support measures to implement French-language services within the provincial government, Crown corporations and agencies covered by the province's language policy.
- Under the terms of the Canada-Manitoba agreement on the promotion of official languages, the Government of Manitoba set up a resources service to develop French-language health-care services throughout the province. As a result of this initiative, 21 health-care institutions were designated officially bilingual by the Manitoba Department of Health.
- Through the federal-provincial agreement on official languages in education, the two governments have provided support to the *Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface* to maintain programs and services, including:
  - a computerized teaching program for teaching staff and students;
  - a daycare group worker training program (some 25 students were registered in 1994-95);
  - an annual program of training and cultural activities including two major theatre productions;
  - a language training centre offering students tutorials or group programs to develop their language skills.
- Examples of special projects under the bilateral agreement on official languages in education include the development of a show with animation by the *Cercle Molière* troupe for Grade 6 students registered in the core French program.
- The *Festival du Voyageur*, in cooperation with the Department of Education's *Bureau de l'éducation française*, held an information session attended by some 80 teachers responsible for cultural activities in their schools.

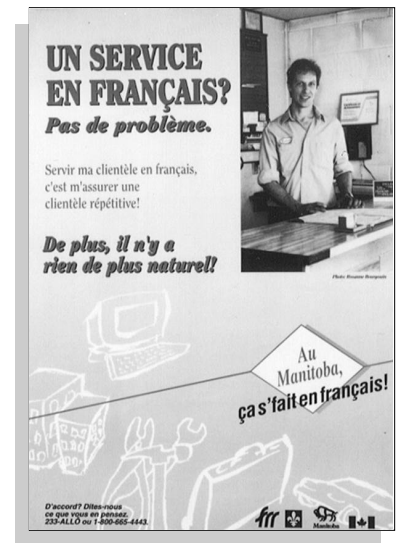
### Community Development

- Ten bilingual municipalities, under the auspices of the Manitoba Association of Bilingual Municipalities, pooled their efforts to undertake initiatives directly related to the economic development of Francophone communities. The Manitoba Association of Bilingual Municipalities also coordinated the development of French-language services in the designated municipalities, including setting up bilingual libraries.
- Cooperation was established between the *Fédération provinciale des comités de parents*, the new Franco-Manitoban school board and the Department of Education to ensure that *ayants droit* (those entitled to French-language education) were integrated into the French-language schools. A pilot project for a francization program was launched in three urban and rural junior kindergartens. The *Fédération* also provided training to parents across the province in order to ensure that all the parents participate actively in school management.

- In December 1994, the Franco-Manitoban community received the conclusions of the study *Un tournant qu'il ne faut surtout pas rater...* dealing with the issues of the Canada-community agreement, particularly in terms of rationalizing the resources available to organizations. In accordance with the recommendations of the study, the community, in January 1995, began the process of reviewing organizations' funding and analyzing their mandates and responsibilities in order to eliminate duplication and identify new areas for cooperation between organizations in order to reduce administrative expenses.
- The community developed and introduced a three-year communications plan in Manitoba. One of the goals of the plan is to develop stable and effective communication infrastructures and provide ongoing human resources training and development in this area.

## Promotion

- As part of the Canada-Manitoba agreement on the promotion of French-language services, the *Société franco-manitobaine* carried out the second phase of its promotion campaign entitled *Au Manitoba, ça s'fait en français*. An educational kit, five videos and posters on French life in Manitoba were distributed to French and immersion schools in the province.



## SASKATCHEWAN

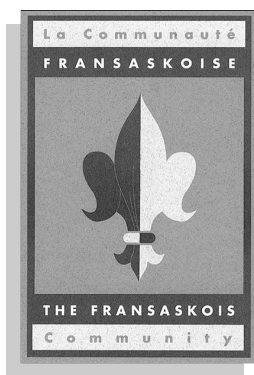
### Federal-Provincial Cooperation

- Federal-provincial cooperation made possible two major priority projects for the Francophone community of Saskatchewan: the Regina (phase 1) and Prince Albert school/community centres. For the Francophones of Saskatchewan, this was the culmination of 10 years devoted to planning and lobbying for these projects, which will have a major impact on the development and vitality of these two communities. In addition to the schools and community

services, these centres will offer pre-school programs, educational and community resource centres and gymnasiums equipped with stages.

### Community Development

- Saskatchewan continued to translate its laws. After consultation with the Francophone community, Saskatchewan drew up a list of laws to be translated by 1998.



- The *Association culturelle franco-canadienne de la Saskatchewan* launched the *Fonds fransaskois* during the *Rendez-vous fransaskois* held in Prince Albert. The aim of this initiative is to increase the financial self-sufficiency of Fransaskois associations and organizations.
- The Francophones of Ponteix officially - opened the *Centre culturel Royer* on June 24, 1994. The centre brings together a wide range of activities and services for the region's Francophones under one roof.
- The *Association des artistes de la Saskatchewan* and the *Commission culturelle fransaskoise* offered a series of workshops for the next generation of musicians. The workshops were designed to identify and support candidates for the *Gala provincial de la chanson*.
- The Fransaskois communities of southern Saskatchewan, in particular those of Ponteix, Gravelbourg and Willow Bunch, pooled their efforts to develop a Fransaskois tourist route to highlight the French fact in the region.
- The *Association des juristes d'expression française de la Saskatchewan*, in cooperation with the Saskatchewan Department of Justice and the Public Legal Association of Saskatchewan, published a series of information brochures on certain provincial laws. This project is a follow-up to the translation of laws in Saskatchewan.
- The *Semaine nationale de la francophonie* was marked by a number of events, including the launch of the Fransaskois card. This card, used by all the Fransaskois associations and organizations, provides discounts from various businesses and services. In addition to increasing the visibility of the Fransaskois community, this initiative hopes to reach more Francophones and support Fransaskois businesses.
- Under the Canada-Fransaskois community agreement, a development fund managed by the Fransaskois community was set up to support priority projects. This fund made various projects possible, including the promotion of *Les Éditions Louis Riel*, the implementation of an action plan to establish French-language health care programs, the renewal of the *Rés-O* service's video collection and the acquisition of computer hardware and equipment by the *Coopérative des publications fransaskoises*.
- After a nine-week hiatus in publishing the weekly *L'eau vive*, the members and staff of the *Coopérative des publications fransaskoises* successfully relaunched the only Francophone newspaper in Saskatchewan in a new format. The revamped newspaper is one element of a recovery and restructuring plan for the cooperative and its activities.

## Promotion

- Canadian Parents for French in Saskatchewan devoted considerable time to promoting French immersion with school boards and parents. Consequently, the Saskatoon public school board joined Canadian Parents for French to develop a promotion plan for French immersion at the kindergarten level.

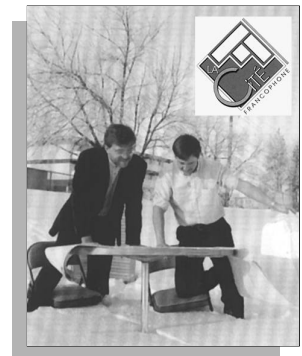
### Federal-Provincial Cooperation

- A first meeting was held between representatives of the *Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta* (Peace River region), the Peace River Health Council and representatives of the Alberta Department of Health with a view to concluding an agreement on the delivery of French-language health care services in the Peace River region.
- As follow-up to the *Canada-Alberta special agreement for the enhancement of French minority-language education and French second-language instruction in Alberta*, two sub-agreements were concluded in March 1994 on approved school management measures.
- Under the terms of the *Canada-Alberta sub-agreement on the establishment of Francophone school governance, on French program development, and on student fellowships*, 76 students received special fellowships to complete their studies in French in master's programs at the *Faculté Saint-Jean* or outside the province.
- A dozen projects to provide more French-language educational programs or resources were completed.
- The funding allocated to Alberta under the capital projects sub-agreement made it possible to begin major renovations and extension work at the *Faculté Saint-Jean*. The building is to be modernized and some facilities, including the library, are to be made more functional.
- The preparatory phases of the construction of the *Centre scolaire et communautaire de Calgary*, supported jointly by the governments of Canada and Alberta under the *Canada-Alberta sub-agreement on capital*

*projects*, were completed. Construction of the centre is now under way and is slated for completion by the beginning of the 1997-98 school year.

### Community Development

- Edmonton area Francophones obtained a commitment from the departments of Western Economic Diversification and Canadian Heritage with regard to the construction of *La Cité francophone* community centre.



*Working on the construction of  
Edmonton's La Cité francophone  
in two feet of snow!*

- In September 1994, the Department and the *Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta*, on behalf of the Francophone community of Alberta, signed an agreement to promote the development and enhanced vitality of the Franco-Albertan community.
- The Peace River community radio project continues to move ahead and the *Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta* received support from the Wild Rose Foundation of Alberta. The technical scenario chosen ensures complete autonomy for the community station. The station will have its own frequency and broadcast hours adapted to the needs of the community.
- The Fort McMurray *Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta* and the *Fédération des parents francophones de l'Alberta* organized workshops to increase their effectiveness in the context of the Canada-community agreement.

- The *Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Alberta*, in cooperation with the Alberta Bar Association, published five new brochures for Francophones in Alberta. The brochures discuss questions of civil litigation and the law of succession. The brochures were distributed through lawyers' offices and Francophone associations.
- A special project provided elected officials of non-profit organizations with training in managing committees. The training was intended to help give volunteers a better understanding of their role and thus increase their effectiveness in promoting the development of their region.
- The economic development of Franco-Albertans is evolving at an increasingly rapid pace. Business people in Edmonton, Calgary and the rural areas pooled their efforts in order to open an information and human resources office that will serve the

Francophone business community and future entrepreneurs.

- The *Bonnyville Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta* opened an office in Grand-Centre to serve Francophones at the Cold Lake military base. This is a one-year pilot project. Known as *Franco-départ*, the centre offers a number of primarily cultural activities.

### Promotion

- The *Société francofun* de Calgary organized a number of activities in order to raise the profile of the *Semaine nationale de la francophonie*. The major event was the official proclamation of the *Semaine* by Mayor Al Duerr, who raised the Franco-Albertan flag in front of Calgary City Hall on March 15, 1995.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA

### Federal-Provincial Cooperation

- The *Association des parents francophones de Colombie-Britannique* succeeded, after three years' efforts, in implementing an early francization project, primarily for junior kindergarten. The objective is to set up a pilot project in two regions using a model developed in Manitoba.
- The British Columbia Ministry of Education released a bilingual report on education and culture. The report proved very useful to the *Association des parents francophones de la Colombie-Britannique* during the colloquium on culture in February 1995, where teachers and parents had a chance to discuss

problems of a cultural nature. It will allow the *Association* to facilitate school management and curriculum development.

- *Éducacentre*, the French-language education and training service for adults, continued to offer services in priority areas such as literacy, professional development, community training and distance education.
- The *Télécolombie* distance education project, linking 25 schools which offer the *Programme cadre de français* at the secondary level to an electronic network for distance education and media courses, continued for a second year.

## Community Development

- During its annual general meeting in October 1994, the *Fédération des francophones de la Colombie-Britannique* launched a



program of activities to celebrate the *Fédération's* 50th anniversary and over 200 years of Francophone presence on the West Coast. A magnificent poster entitled "200 Years of History ...50 Years of Federation" (in both official languages) was produced and widely distributed throughout the province and Canada. All the activities undertaken during the year were

designed to highlight the Francophone presence in British Columbia and to raise awareness of the contribution that Francophones have made to the province's political, economic and cultural history.

- The third edition of the *Jeux francophones de la Colombie-Britannique* was held in Kamloops in May 1994 and brought together more than 450 Francophone and Francophile athletes from the schools and the community. In addition to sporting events, 10 forums were offered on subjects ranging from dropping out of school to AIDS to racism and violence in the media. The *Conseil Jeunesse de Colombie-Britannique*, which organized the event, met its objective of overcoming the feeling of physical and linguistic isolation of the province's young people.
- The Francophone Scouts and Guides of British Columbia worked on preparations for the celebrations marking the movement's 40th anniversary in November 1995. A historical exhibition was presented at the Maillardville *Place des Arts* for three weeks. Three young people and the scout leader of the Maillardville Pioneers represented

Western Canada at the World Jamboree in the Netherlands in July 1995.

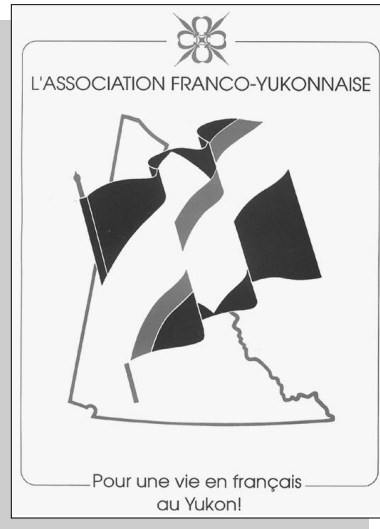
- The *Société Maillardville-Uni* presented the 6th edition of the *Festival du Bois* in March 1995. This festival is a major cultural and community event for Francophones in Maillardville and for the province, because it celebrates the values and traditions handed down from the first Francophone pioneers who came to work in the lumber industry at the turn of the century. This year the festival attracted more than 7,000 people from across the province and the United States. The *Festival du Bois* is becoming increasingly popular and makes an important economic and touristic contribution to the municipality of Maillardville/Coquitlam.
- During the *Festival d'été*, the *Centre culturel francophone de Vancouver* offered cultural activities over three days. Some 2,000 people took advantage of this event celebrating the French language.

## Promotion

- The Department's British Columbia regional office continues to support the efforts of the provincial chapter of Canadian Parents for French which contributed in a significant way to increasing the number of students enrolled in French immersion over the past 25 years (from 35 to 30,000).
- The *Fête colombienne des enfants*, the popular French-language children's festival in British Columbia, directed its efforts at three municipalities this year - Coquitlam, Nanaimo and Kelowna - thus allowing all students taking French classes in the province to participate in this cultural event. A special program was also developed for students learning French as a second language. In each municipality, a day was set aside especially for them in order to better respond to their language needs. This format proved to be very popular and the *Fête* was a resounding success again this year.

## Federal-Territorial Cooperation

- The Department of Canadian Heritage and the Government of the Yukon renewed, in April 1993, a five-year agreement on the development, enhancement and implementation of language rights and services in



French, as is intended by the Yukon *Languages Act*. The Yukon model for the implementation of French-language services was developed in cooperation with the Francophone community to establish a "one-stop" French-language centre and to provide services in priority areas, such as education, justice, health, communications and social services.

- The Bureau of French Language Services, which is responsible for the coordination of the application of the Yukon *Languages Act*, was instrumental in organizing tripartite meetings with territorial, federal and community representatives, and drafted a three-year contribution agreement with the *Association franco-yukonnaise*.
- The Department contributed to the construction of a new building for the *École Émilie-Tremblay* and an adjoining daycare service.

### Projects of interest:

- production of the Yukon Tourist Guide in French;

- production of a video by students at the *École Émilie-Tremblay* about important pioneers such as Émilie Tremblay, the first non-native woman in the area during the Gold Rush;
- production of an incentive passport for Francophones to request service in French at local businesses and government offices;
- purchase of French-language material for the territorial/municipal library.

## Community Development

- Enrolment at the *Garderie du petit cheval blanc* doubled in two years, which shows that parents realize how important it is to maximize their children's exposure to the French language. The daycare also offers extra-curricular activities.
- The *Société Les EssentiElles*, created in March 1995, is an organization bringing together almost 30 Francophone Yukon women. A permanent reception service is provided at the office of the *Association franco-yukonnaise* and includes a documentation and resource centre. The *Société* offers referral services for Francophone women, dinner meetings and educational workshops.
- The Department of Canadian Heritage collaborated proportionally with other partners on the construction of an economic, cultural and community centre in Whitehorse.



## Promotion

- La *Francofête*, a week of activities for Francophones as well as the community as a whole, was held in October and was highlighted by community breakfasts, dinners and film presentations.
- The *Semaine nationale de la francophonie* was celebrated in March where presentations were made and activities held in French immersion classes.

- In order to strengthen ties with other members of the community, particularly Native, the Francophone community took part in celebrations surrounding the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and participated in activities involving Native and Francophone artists and joint sporting events under the banner *Ensemble en harmonie* (together in harmony).

## NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

### Federal-Territorial Cooperation

- On March 14, 1995, the governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories ratified the renewal of the Cooperation Agreement to support and reinforce French and Aboriginal languages in the Northwest Territories. This cooperation allows the Government of the Northwest Territories to continue providing French-language programs and services to Francophone communities and to preserve, promote and reinforce Aboriginal languages.
- The Canada-Northwest Territories Cooperation Agreement is a three-year agreement supporting various services and programs: for example, the delivery of territorial services in all official languages; cultural and community development projects for Francophones; French- and Aboriginal-language broadcasting projects; translation and interpretation services for courts and the legislative assembly; and the production of material and the offer of services in French and Aboriginal languages designed to increase awareness and understanding of health issues.

- French-language teaching programs in Iqaluit (kindergarten to grade 7) and Yellowknife (kindergarten to grade 9) were consolidated and the French immersion program for grades 10 and 11 of the Yellowknife Catholic School Board was developed.
- In 1994-95, the *Conseil scolaire francophone de Yellowknife* began its second year with five trustees. Enrolment at the *École Allain St-Cyr* in Yellowknife (50 students) and the *École Nagasuk* in Iqaluit (20 students) continues to grow.



Students of the École Allain St-Cyr  
at a winter camp.

## Community Development

- On March 21, 1995, the *Prix littéraire franco-ténois* was launched by the *Fondation franco-ténoise*. The goal of this competition is to encourage all forms of literature (poetry, essay, short story, etc.) bearing on Northern Canada. The ten prizes include stays at a summer literary camp for young people, a stay at the *Camp littéraire de Félix Leclerc*, a trip to the *Salon du livre* in Montreal, books, etc.

- In an effort to improve communications with its members, the *Fédération franco-ténoise* began publishing an internal newsletter.

## Promotion

- The *Semaine de la francophonie* was celebrated by all Francophones in the Northwest Territories. For example, Iqaluit held a Francophone film festival, and all students at the *École Allain St-Cyr* in Yellowknife were treated to a visit to a sugarbush as well as a dog sled ride.

## B. On the national scene

### 1. Federal-Provincial Cooperation

- At the initiation of the Government of New Brunswick, a preliminary federal-provincial/territorial meeting of the ministers responsible for official languages and services to official-language minority communities was held on August 15 and 16, 1994, in Moncton, as part of the World Acadian Congress. This meeting helped lay the foundation for a permanent forum which will facilitate the sharing of information and expertise with respect to services in the minority official language. The work of this forum will also serve as a guide for the Department of Canadian Heritage in concluding agreements with provincial and territorial governments in this regard. In promoting the creation of this forum and participating in multilateral cooperation, the federal government is attempting to increase the positive repercussions of its promotional efforts with the provinces.
- Negotiations with the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada with a view to concluding a new multilateral Protocol of Agreement on official languages in education continued in 1994-95. The previous Protocol, which expired in 1993, established the conditions of federal support to the provinces and territories for retaining and developing minority official-language education and second-language instruction programs. However, the lack of a multilateral Protocol has not hindered program delivery. Since 1993, the Department has signed annual bilateral agreements that enable it to continue supporting provincial and territorial governments.

## 2. Community Development and Cooperation with National Francophone Organizations

In 1994-95, many nation-wide activities were carried out, with the support of the Department of Canadian Heritage, by all the national organizations working toward the advancement of the Canadian Francophone community. The following are several examples of these achievements, by major area of activity:

### Associations and Strategies

- January 25, 1995, marked the official opening of *Place de la francophonie* in Ottawa, a building which houses five organizations under the same roof in order to consolidate operations. These organizations are: the *Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada*, the *Fédération culturelle canadienne-française*, the *Fédération de la jeunesse canadienne-française*, the *Fédération nationale des femmes canadiennes-françaises* and the *Conseil canadien de la coopération*.
- At a time when it is continually necessary to make adjustments and adapt to all the changes, numerous training activities were held for the volunteers and permanent staff of associations, for example, in the field of media management. Practical training sessions were provided by the *Commission nationale des parents francophones*, for school trustees and those involved in the preschool sector. Other organizations, such as the *Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada* and the *Fédération nationale des femmes canadiennes-françaises*, were involved in strategic planning or, like the *Assemblée des aînées et aînés francophones du Canada*, devoted their energy to organizational development.
- The organizations were very active in their representational activities. Among other things, they submitted many briefs on

various issues, such as the information highway (the *Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada* and the *Fédération de la jeunesse canadienne-française*), the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (*Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada* and the *Regroupement des arts médiatiques*) and human resources development.

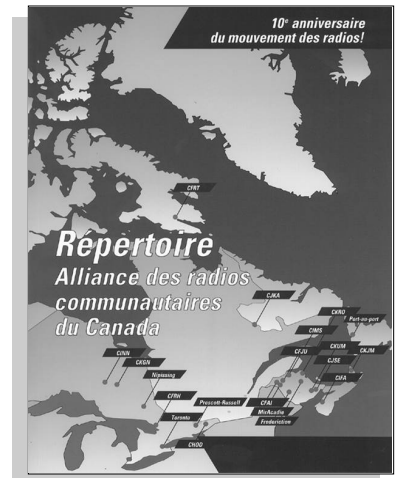
### Education

- The expertise module of the *Commission nationale des parents francophones* produced six legal opinions on school management this year for four provincial components. The purpose of this module is to advise the *Commission* on the follow-up of Supreme Court decisions and the best negotiation strategies.
- The *Commission nationale des parents francophones* conducted a study on gifted children in order to make parents and teachers aware of the fact that these children can become dropouts and to identify solutions, such as centres of excellence.
- The *Fédération de la jeunesse canadienne-française* compiled a directory listing over 300 new national and provincial bursaries. It also updated its directory of programs for post-secondary studies and drew up a guide on the operation of student councils.
- The *Réseau national d'Action Éducation Femmes* carried out a project entitled *Vers l'équité en éducation physique: partenariat et création d'un milieu non sexiste pour les jeunes francophones* to identify strategies for creating a non-sexist environment in physical education classes. To this end, the *Réseau* held both provincial and national consultations and produced an information kit on equity.

- ## Communications and Community Radio

- In 1994-95, the *Association de la presse francophone* launched a new Canadian reporter trainee program which helps young college and university graduates in communications and journalism find employment with the *Association's* member newspapers after completing their studies.

- The *Alliance des radios communautaires du Canada* conducted a similar study in order to become more familiar with the radio audience and thus provide better-oriented programming.



- On the tenth anniversary of the community radio movement, the *Alliance des radios communautaires du Canada* also produced a directory of community radio stations in Canada in order to promote them and help them generate advertising revenue.

- The *Alliance des radios communautaires du Canada* upgraded its mobile radio equipment to better serve its members. In fact, this equipment, which is used for broadcasts of short duration, is an excellent fund-raising tool for growing radio stations.

## Information Highway

- In February 1995, the *Association de la presse francophone* undertook a project to link its newspapers and its national office through the Internet. An initial attempt was made between the Manitoba newspaper *La Liberté* and the *Association*. The results showed that the Internet really is the road to the future.
- In 1994-95, the *Fédération culturelle canadienne-française* laid the foundation for cooperation with the *Village électronique francophone* to ensure the presence of the Canadian Francophone community on the information highway. The *Fédération* will develop cultural content and handle liaison with the network of Canadian Francophone associations.
- For the *Alliance des radios communautaires du Canada*, a first step onto the information highway was to install a communication system in seven radio stations to enable them to communicate by electronic mail, have access to a bulletin board and hold conferences. The *Alliance* also conducted a study to determine the equipment required to support a news, program exchange and distance-education service.

### Since March 31, 1995

A symposium on the information highway, organized by the Department of Canadian Heritage in June 1995, helped make many interested people aware of the opportunities that have opened up through this means of information.

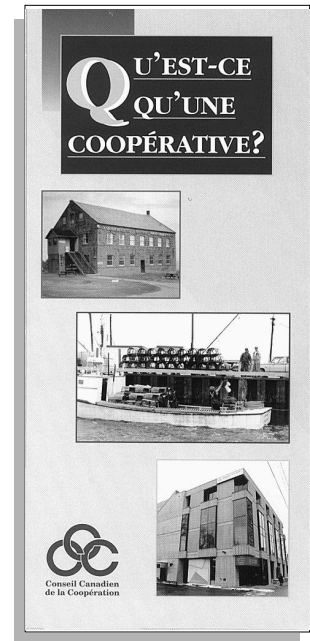
Considerable progress has been made in relation to the information highway. Many national organizations now "surf the Net" and others are preparing to do so.

## Economics

- Following the Francophone national economic summit in 1993, the *Comité d'adaptation*

*des ressources humaines de la francophonie canadienne* (Canadian Francophone human resources adaptation committee), sponsored by the *Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada* and the *Conseil canadien de la coopération*, was formed. Its mandate was to develop an overall occupational training and workforce adjustment plan, which should be ready in the near future.

- The *Conseil canadien de la coopération* assumed the chairmanship and secretariat of the consultation committee on economic development, which brings together national organizations from all sectors. This committee's mandate is to develop concrete courses of action to follow up the national economic summit. In 1994-95, its work focussed on the promotion of entrepreneurship, job training and the information highway.
- To underline cooperative education, the *Conseil canadien de la coopération* initiated a number of promotional, especially youth-oriented, activities. It prompted several Francophone cooperatives to provide young people with practical training in the principles and values of the cooperative movement and raise their awareness of the importance of community development.
- Among its promotional activities, the *Conseil canadien de la coopération* also produced a brochure highlighting the principles of cooperation and the creation of cooperatives.



- In its focus on young entrepreneurs, the *Fédération de la jeunesse canadienne-française* decided to offer two youth entrepreneurship awards, the first to recognize

the entrepreneurial spirit of a youth who has already set up his/her own business and the second, to encourage a young person in the planning stage of his/her business.

### 3. Promotion and Dialogue

In addition to enhancing the vitality of Anglophone and Francophone minority communities, the Department's goal is to promote French and English in Canadian society. Canada's bilingual character is a fundamental component of our national identity. In partnership with organizations working in various milieus, we emphasize the advantages and spinoffs of linguistic duality in Canada and abroad, help voluntary organizations reflect this characteristic in their activities, and encourage activities that foster mutual understanding between Francophones and Anglophones.

To achieve this, the message on official languages will increasingly be linked to others in order to make it available to more people. Reaching Canadians in all spheres of activity (education, sports, culture and so on) is a key part of the promotion strategy we wish to implement. For example, the Department is cooperating with the national and regional offices of Canadian Parents for French in order to improve access to second-language instruction and promote linguistic duality across Canada.

Various international forums within the Council of Europe provided an opportunity for Canadian experts to highlight our country's expertise in second-language instruction abroad. These exchanges enabled Canada to confirm its leadership role and fostered cooperation with other participating countries.

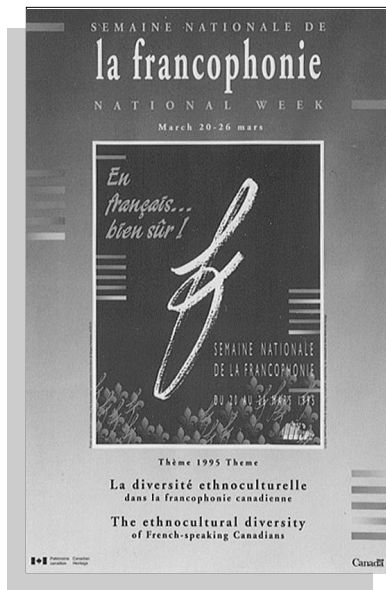
#### Since March 31, 1995

An action plan has been developed in order to incorporate official languages into the government's major strategic initiatives in tourism and in the promotion of education at the international level.

A number of activities promoting linguistic duality took place during the year, both at headquarters and in the regions. They included contests, exhibits, the preparation and distribution of written material of various types, and celebrations marking special events relating to minority- or second-language education or the cultural development of minority communities. Some of the key events are presented below, while regional activities are described under the heading "On the Regional Scene" beginning on page 20.

#### Semaine nationale de la Francophonie

For the third consecutive year, the Department was actively involved in celebrating the *Semaine nationale de la francophonie* which took place March 20 to 26, 1995. This event, coordinated by the *Association canadienne d'éducation de langue française*, promotes the vitality and use of the French language, as well as the exchange of ideas and discussion of accomplishments among the various sectors of the Francophone community in Canada.



The theme for 1995 was "Ethnocultural Diversity in Canada's Francophone Community", chosen to pay tribute to the Canadians of various origins and cultures who have the use of the French language in common. The Minister of Canadian Heritage invited his federal colleagues to join in the activities in their respective departments. Promotional material was also distributed in federal regional offices to mark the event.

Association of Immersion Teachers, the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers, the Society for Educational Visits and Exchanges in Canada and the *Société pour la promotion de l'enseignement de l'anglais langue seconde au Québec*, the Department of Canadian Heritage oversaw the third annual writing contest.

This year's contest asked students across Canada to write to the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, Prime Minister of Canada, and tell him about the importance of French and English in Canada and why they are proud to know Canada's two official languages. They were also asked to make up a slogan about why it is great to be able to speak both English and French.

The 4,200 students who wrote to Mr. Chrétien certainly enjoyed doing so and they were passionate in their views about Canada's two official languages. There were several recurring themes in the letters:

- Canadian unity is essential;
- keep Quebec in Canada;
- maintain funding for second-language learning;
- learning a second language makes people more tolerant of other cultures.

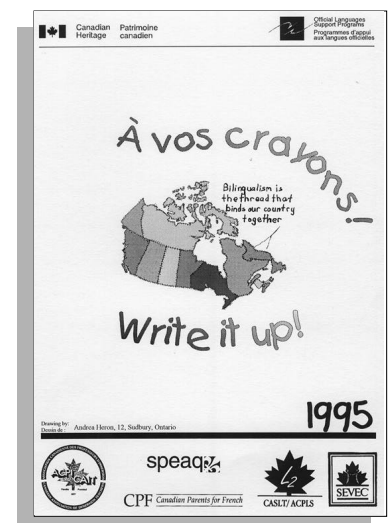
It's cool to be dual!

Jarret Deon,  
Pomquet,  
Nova Scotia,  
Write it up!  
contest

An official ceremony, attended by the Prime Minister, the Speakers of the House of Commons and the Senate, the Minister of Canadian Heritage and several other federal ministers, was held on Parliament Hill on March 20 (*Journée internationale de la francophonie*) where Canadian and international *francophonie* awards were presented in the areas of education, informatics and literacy. The Official Languages Support Programs Branch also presented an exhibition in the lobby of the Canadian Heritage headquarters building where representatives of *TV5*, the *Association canadienne d'éducation de langue française*, the *Banque internationale d'information des États francophones*, and the Department's library as well as its multiculturalism program were available to answer questions.

## Write it up! Contest

The 1995 *Write it up!* contest, aimed at students ages 10-13 who are enrolled in second official-language classes, was the most successful to date. With the invaluable help of Canadian Parents for French, the Canadian





Once again, 100 prizes were awarded to winners. Four first-prize winners from Ontario, Alberta, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were awarded portable CD stereos; winners of second, third and fourth prizes received walkmen, backpacks and T-shirts. All contest participants received a letter signed by the Prime Minister.

The slogans gathered from this year's contest will appear in various publicity documents of the Department of Canadian Heritage as well as those of our partner associations. Another contest is planned for next year.

#### ***Dictée P.G.L. and Dictée des Amériques***

- The *Dictée P.G.L.* is a series of activities which has been taking place from November to May for the past five years within the *Fondation Paul Gérin-Lajoie*. It enables children from French elementary and immersion schools to improve their knowledge of French in interesting and enjoyable ways, encourages awareness of environmental issues, and promotes sharing and solidarity with children from Third World countries. One of these activities is a French dictation contest bringing together young people from Canada, Louisiana and Senegal, and culminating in a televised finale in May. Thanks to our department's contribution, over 106,000 pupils from 643 schools from every province participated in this contest. For the first time, brochures were published in English to publicize this contest among the English-speaking majority.
- The Department was also involved in the second annual *Dictée des Amériques*, the very successful international French dictation competition which helps promote proper usage of the French language and contributes to the influence of French on the world scene.



Taking part in the competition were some 60,000 contestants from nine provinces and two territories in Canada, as well as from the United States, Latin America, Europe and Africa. It is interesting to note that two Canadians - from Manitoba and Quebec - were among the five grand champions. One of the judges in the televised finals at the *Université de Montréal* was Hélène Cormier of the Department's Official Languages Support Programs Branch. The Department set up a stand in the lobby of the university conveying best wishes from the Minister of Canadian Heritage to all of the *Dictée's* finalists and champions.

#### **275-Info**

This series of nine public affairs broadcasts, aimed at young Francophones from six to twelve years of age living from coast to coast, was broadcast monthly between October 1994 and June 1995 on the French-language Canadian Broadcasting Corporation radio in cooperation with the *Association canadienne d'éducation de langue française*. It was produced in conjunction with 275-ALLÔ, a daily phone-in program popular with children.

Each of the broadcasts was developed within a school by children interested in the project. Various themes were dealt with, e.g. rights of the child, culture, the Canada Games, cinema, *francophonie*, relations between Anglophones and Francophones, native peoples, culture and the arts. Children from some 60 French and immersion schools from across the country



participated enthusiastically in the development of these themes and communicated their viewpoints on the air in a variety of regional accents.

*275-INFO* was very well received not only by the children but also by the participating schools. Listeners included teachers, the parents of the students, as well as their families and friends. In the final program, the spotlight was on children from the ten provinces and two territories across Canada who were invited to present their part of the country as an interesting place to spend a summer vacation.

**Since March 31,1995**

*275-Info* was selected in the fall of 1995 as the grand prize winner from among 55 candidates throughout the world in the "children's programs" category by the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union.

## Promotional Materials

In addition to the above-mentioned activities promoting the official languages, the Department of Canadian Heritage produced and distributed a number of promotional materials, including publications, fact sheets, brochures and discussion papers during the 1994-95 fiscal year. Several of these documents were produced jointly with other organizations. A complete list is provided in Appendix A ("Publications") on page 50.

## Exchanges and Language visits

The Summer Language Bursary and Official-Language Monitor programs are two very successful national programs created to give young Canadians the opportunity to learn their second official language or, in the case of Francophone minorities, to perfect their mother tongue. The programs are administered by the provincial and territorial departments of education in conjunction with the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada. Both of these programs are so popular that

each year the number of applications greatly exceeds the funding available.

- In 1994-95, the Summer Language Bursary Program enabled 6,200 young people to take five-week immersion courses in some forty colleges and universities throughout Canada. The bursary recipients receive a very structured educational experience and, after class hours, participate in numerous cultural activities. They are housed in university or college residences or in private homes, which ensures that their learning experience remains intensive over the entire five-week period.
- Separate bursaries are awarded to post-secondary students to enable them to work as monitors (minority-language or second-language) on a part-time basis under the Official-Language Monitor Program. An additional full-time component of the program also exists wherein monitors work in rural or semi-urban communities. In 1994-95, there were close to 1,000 participants in the program.



*Students learning their second language from a monitor.*

Monitors are placed in educational institutions for a period of eight months, in the case of part-time monitors, and nine months for full-time monitors. They are given various duties which, along with their participation in the daily life of the community, strengthen or reinforce their knowledge of their mother tongue or their second language.

## Cooperation with the Voluntary Sector

There are hundreds of voluntary organizations across the country dedicated to promoting the use of both official languages as part of the regular provision of services to their members



*We very much appreciate the support we have received from the Department of Canadian Heritage. This past year has been most beneficial in creating a positive climate for change within the organization both at the national and regional levels. We believe we are now well positioned to steadily enhance our services to our members of both official language groups."*

**Excerpt from a letter received from  
Eric Burton, Coordinator of  
Regional Development,  
Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada**

and to communicating more effectively with the general public. The Department supplies these organizations with grants for up to half the cost to provide translation and interpretation services at seminars, meetings and other important gatherings. The Department also considers official languages

development projects that help organizations acquire the means to provide services in both official languages.

## Financial Support

- Demand is always very high for assistance to satisfy various financial requests for official languages services. Some 200 associations were funded this year to hold important

events throughout Canada in both official languages.

- In spite of budgetary restrictions, the program was also able to continue providing assistance to groups to establish official-language services within their organizations on a permanent basis. Sixty-five groups have implemented a three- to five-year program to meet this objective.

## Development of Practical Tools

In order to allow a maximum number of groups to benefit from the expertise acquired by the advisors and beneficiaries of the Development of Official Languages Services Program, the idea of a practical guide on managing services in the two official languages was developed. The necessary research was carried out and the guide is expected to be published in the near future. Some of the key features of the guide are information on strategies to employ, how to budget expenses for official languages services, and models of bilingual formats.

## V. Strategic Support Activities

### Introduction

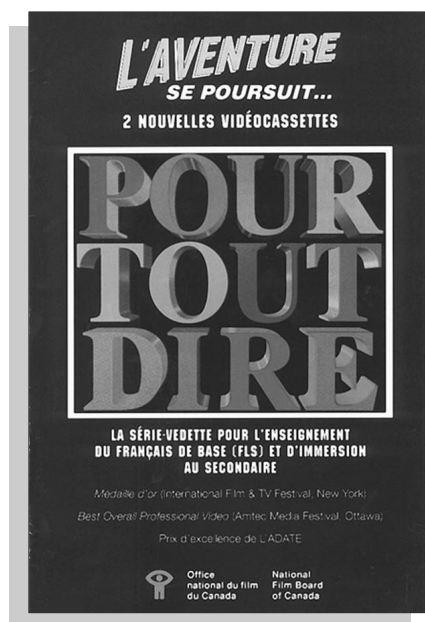
Recognizing the importance of adapting quickly to changes in Canadian society, the Department of Canadian Heritage and its partners carried out many analysis, research and reflection exercises in order to support and direct activities in various areas. The findings from this work helped to define the avenues to be followed, serving as a basis for the new strategies adopted.

The initiatives focussed primarily on the development of coordination tools in the area of education and the economic development of official-language minority communities. Whether the tools are for those involved in second-language instruction or for lawyers responsible for offering services to official-language minority communities, spinoffs from the projects contribute to the advancement of official languages in Canada.

### 1. Language Instruction

In 1994-95, some twenty associations, organizations or institutions carried out nation-wide projects related to minority official-language education, or English or French second-language instruction. Projects included:

- Production of two videos in the series *Pour tout dire*, for high school immersion or core French students, by the National Film Board of Canada in conjunction with the Canadian Association of Second-Language Teachers;
- Production by the Canadian Association of Immersion Teachers of a directory of research in immersion, listing papers and theses as well as research projects since 1988;
- Assessment, by the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, of the impact of a six-month exchange program of the Society for Educational Visits and Exchanges in Canada on the effectiveness of French second-language learning in young people.



## 2. Community Development

Various research projects were carried out in 1994-95 in order to document certain typical features of official-language minority communities.

- *Francophones in Canada: A Community of Interests* presents concrete examples of current relations among members of the Canadian Francophone community, looking at various areas of daily life for Francophones in Quebec and in Canada as a whole, such as kinship ties, visits and trips, networking among associations, the economy, education, cultural exchanges or information. This study was carried out by René Guindon and Pierre Poulin and sponsored by the Department of Canadian Heritage.

“Across Canada there exists a “cultural space” that has its centre in Quebec but draws creative input from all the Francophone communities of the country.”

**Department of Canadian Heritage, *Francophones in Canada: A Community of Interests***

- Young people in official-language minority communities are the subject of a study conducted by Statistics Canada with the cooperation of the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages and Treasury Board. This study presents data for the period 1971-1991 which bring to light the demographic trends and changes pertaining to the education of young Anglophones and Francophones of minority communities in Canada.
- *The Socioeconomic Vitality of Official-Language Minority Communities: Pilot Study*, sponsored by Canadian Heritage, is being carried out by the Canadian Institute for Research on Regional Development at the *Université de Moncton*. This document presents profiles of socioeconomic indicators for official-language minority populations, explores the economic strengths and weaknesses of minority communities, through field research and proposes development scenarios.

## 3. Official Languages: An Asset for Canadian Society

Various activities were conducted in order to highlight the economic spinoffs of bilingualism in Canada.

- A national symposium on the theme *Official Languages and the Economy: New Canadian Perspectives* was organized jointly by the Official Languages Support Programs and Strategic Research branches of the Department of Canadian Heritage. Held on May 5, 1995, this Ottawa symposium brought together about ten economists and researchers and sixty-five participants to explore the challenges and current economic advantages of using French and English in
- Canada. In preparation for the symposium, two reviews of existing studies were carried out by Canadian Heritage's Strategic Research Branch: *Comparative Advantages of Bilingualism in the Marketplace: An Overview* and *Economic Dimensions of Minority and Foreign Language Use: An International Overview*.
- The *Stratégie de promotion internationale des langues officielles* explores the possible approaches to the international marketing of Canadian language products, particularly in language instruction.

## 4. Administration of Justice

To facilitate access to legal services in both official languages and to meet the demands of our dual legal system, which is based on the British common law tradition and the French civil code, various projects were carried out. These involved mainly translation and terminological work, language-oriented legal development courses and publications. The major stakeholders are the four legal translation centres in Canada, which are listed in the following figure:

- Quebec Research Centre of Private and Comparative Law (Montreal)
- Centre for Legal Translation and Documentation (Ottawa)
- *Centre de traduction et de terminologie juridiques* (Moncton)
- *Institut Joseph Dubuc* of the *Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface* (Winnipeg)

In 1994-95, work continued at the Quebec Research Centre of Private and Comparative Law with a view to publishing the third edition of the *Private Law Dictionary* in the area of civil law in both official languages, and at the

Centre for Legal Translation and Documentation, toward the publication of a new, fully revised, updated and augmented edition of the *Legal Glossary of Federal Statutes*. The *Centre de traduction et de terminologie juridiques* published a sixth volume of the *Vocabulaire de la common law*, devoted to private maritime law. With respect to training, the *Institut Joseph Dubuc* offered, for the first time, a new course in legal French that it had developed based on the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

Also in 1994-95, research began on drafting *The Secularization of Quebec Private Law: a Study of Parallel Legal Orders* and publishing the *Introduction à la common law, à ses institutions et à ses méthodes d'analyse et de recherche*.

### Since March 31, 1995

An agreement was concluded between the departments of Justice and Canadian Heritage to enable the six provincial associations of French-speaking common law jurists and the federation to which they belong to continue to play an essential role in the promotion of bilingualism and bijuralism and contribute to the development of their respective communities.

## VI. Appendixes

### A. Publications

#### ***Official Languages: Towards a National Understanding***

- A booklet intended to help Canadians to gain a better understanding of the importance of our two official languages, the federal policy and the role of the official languages programs of the Department of Canadian Heritage. Topics include: minority communities, intergovernmental cooperation, minority- and second-language education, and volunteering in both official languages.

#### ***1993-94 Annual Report on Official Languages***

- The sixth annual report to Parliament on official languages, as required by the *Official Languages Act*, describing the Promotion of Official Languages and Official Languages in Education programs.

#### ***Directory of Federal Government Programs of Interest to Official-language Minority Communities*** (second edition)

- A collection of programs offered by the federal government across the country that would be of interest to official-language minority communities.

#### ***Adventures in Time*** (in cooperation with the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages)

- A multiple-choice adventure story, aimed at school children, that follows two characters as they visit every province and territory in Canada. Originally developed by

the Office of the Commissioner and jointly printed and distributed with the Department of Canadian Heritage.

#### ***Official-Language Monitor Program 1995-96*** (in cooperation with the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada)

- A brochure describing the Program aimed at full-time post-secondary students, its purpose, conditions of placement and other pertinent information for interested individuals.

#### ***Programme de bourses pour francophones hors Québec 1995*** (in cooperation with the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada)

- A brochure describing the grant program aimed at Francophones outside Quebec, its purpose, admissibility criteria and other pertinent information.

#### ***Summer Language Bursary Program 1995*** (in cooperation with the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada)

- A brochure describing the Program aimed at students who wish to learn either English or French as a second language and enhance their knowledge of the culture represented by that language.

#### ***Community Radio: Doing it Our Way*** (in cooperation with the *Alliance des radios communautaires du Canada*)

- A description of two French-language community radio stations: *Radio Péninsule* in New Brunswick and *Radio-Huronie* in Ontario.

***You're Listening to CJAS... the Best Little Radio Station in Town*** (in cooperation with the Coasters' Association)

- A description of the development of an English-language community radio station in St. Augustine on the Lower North Shore of Quebec.

#### ***Canada and La Francophonie***

- A bilingual fact sheet produced for the launching of the *Semaine nationale de la francophonie*, providing facts on Canada's francophonie as well as on *La francophonie* throughout the world. Information includes the number of Canadians who speak French (given by province and territory), the number of people in the world who speak French (given by country and continent), and the origins of French-speaking Canadians.

#### ***Semaine de la francophonie***

- A bilingual poster was produced for the event and distributed to all government departments.

and French in Canada. Includes winning submissions, interesting quotes from contestants across the country, and the top reasons to learn a second language.

#### ***Information Kit on the Implementation of Sections 41 and 42 of Part VII of the Official Languages Act***

- An information document providing background information on the Sections 41 and 42 initiative, a preliminary action plan, and a guide to developing a business plan.

#### ***Confidence in the Future: Redefining the Department's Relations with its Client Groups***

- A discussion paper intended to initiate dialogue on new cooperation mechanisms that should be put in place between the official-language minority communities and the Promotion of Official Languages Program to make better use of resources at the Department's disposal.

### **Documents with limited distribution**

#### ***Public Opinion Polls on Official Languages 1981-1993***

- An overview of public opinion polls in the area of official languages, conducted from 1981 to 1993. Includes national, regional and Quebec polls to which researchers had ready access.

#### ***Write it up! 1994 Report***

- A report on the results of the 1994 contest asking students to prepare an advertisement on the advantages of having English

## B. Budget Data

### OFFICIAL LANGUAGES SUPPORT PROGRAMS

**Expenditures 1994-1995** (in millions of \$)

Federal-provincial cooperation on official languages	242.2
Support to official-language community organizations and institutions	26.4
Promotion and dialogue	23.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>292.4</b>
Source: Official Languages Support Programs Branch, Canadian Heritage, Public Accounts Note: Due to rounding, totals may not agree.	



## FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COOPERATION ON OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

### Approved Contributions 1994-1995 (in millions of \$)

Province or territory	Agreements - Education			Special Measures Management and Post-secondary	Agreements Services / Promotion	TOTAL
	Minority	Second Language	Total			
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.02	2.17	3.19	1.80	0.11	5.10
Prince Edward Island	0.94	0.72	1.66	---	1.53	3.19
Nova Scotia	3.51	3.57	7.08	0.90	0.34	8.32
New Brunswick	18.80	3.57	22.37	3.00	1.56	26.93
Quebec	55.87	12.56	68.43	---	0.52	68.95
Ontario	42.04	24.43	66.47	6.74	1.33	74.54
Manitoba	3.92	4.70	8.62	2.55	0.99	12.16
Saskatchewan	7.05	3.65	10.70	0.52	0.32	11.54
Alberta	1.82	7.56	9.38	3.70	---	13.08
British Columbia	2.25	8.61	10.86	---	---	10.86
<b>Sub-total (provinces)</b>	<b>137.22</b>	<b>71.54</b>	<b>208.76</b>	<b>19.21</b>	<b>6.70</b>	<b>234.67</b>
Yukon	0.82	0.39	1.21	---	3.60	4.81
Northwest Territories	0.53	0.61	1.14	---	1.54	2.68
<b>Sub-total (territories)</b>	<b>1.35</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>2.35</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>5.14</b>	<b>7.49</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>138.57</b>	<b>72.54</b>	<b>211.11</b>	<b>19.21</b>	<b>11.84</b>	<b>242.16</b>
Source: Official Languages Support Programs Branch, Canadian Heritage, Public Accounts						
Note: Due to rounding, totals may not agree.						

## SUPPORT TO OFFICIAL-LANGUAGE COMMUNITIES

**Expenditures 1994-1995** (in millions of \$)

Province or territory	Total
<b>ATLANTIC</b>	
Newfoundland and Labrador	0.84
Prince Edward Island	0.69
Nova Scotia	1.33
New Brunswick	2.12
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>4.98</b>
<b>QUEBEC</b>	<b>2.41</b>
<b>ONTARIO</b>	<b>4.33</b>
<b>PRAIRIES AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES</b>	
Manitoba	2.31
Saskatchewan	3.18
Northwest Territories	0.47
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>5.96</b>
<b>ALBERTA</b>	<b>2.96</b>
<b>PACIFIC</b>	
British Columbia	1.34
Yukon	0.26
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1.60</b>
<b>National organizations / projects</b>	<b>4.17</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26.41</b>
Source: Official Languages Support Programs Branch, Canadian Heritage.	
Note: Due to rounding, totals may not agree.	

## PROMOTION AND DIALOGUE

### Expenditures 1994-1995 (in millions of \$)

Component	Total
Summer language bursaries	11.21
Official-language monitors	6.70
Language acquisition development	1.39
Administration of justice in the two official languages	0.86
Support for linguistic duality	1.84
Cooperation with the voluntary sector	1.82
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23.82</b>
Source: Official Languages Support Programs Branch, Canadian Heritage, Public Accounts Note: Due to rounding, totals may not agree.	