



**AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE**

**WITH RESPECT TO FRANCOPHONIE**

**BETWEEN**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**

**AND**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC**

**IN THIS AGREEMENT,**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR IS REPRESENTED BY:**

The Minister responsible for Francophone Affairs

and

**THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC IS REPRESENTED BY:**

The Minister responsible for Canadian Relations and the Canadian Francophonie.

The governments of Newfoundland and Labrador and Quebec are hereinafter referred to as "the Parties".

**WHEREAS** the governments of Newfoundland and Labrador and Quebec signed the Cooperation and Exchange Agreement with respect to Francophonie in April 2008, and the Parties deem it appropriate to update and enrich this agreement;

**WHEREAS** the governments of Newfoundland and Labrador and Quebec wish to increase coordination and exchanges between Francophones of the two provinces while also emphasizing the Canadian Francophonie's influence across the country;

**WHEREAS** there is a vibrant and diverse Francophone community in Newfoundland and Labrador and, concurrently, Quebec is the only Francophone state in North America and as such intends to exercise collaborative leadership with respect to the Francophonie;

**WHEREAS** the Government of Quebec wishes to support the development of the Francophone and Acadian communities and to ensure the long-term future of the French fact in Canada and, in order to do so, it intends to draw on the assistance of the 2.6 million Francophones and Francophiles outside Quebec throughout the rest of Canada, thereby ensuring the determining role of the French language in the foundation of Canadian society;

**WHEREAS** the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador recognizes the Francophone and Acadian community's contribution to the social, cultural, and economic development of the province and its contribution to enriching life in the province;

**WHEREAS** the Parties wish to demonstrate the importance of their relations and intend to build on their cooperation and ensure that it contributes to the growth of the French fact in Canada, by increasing the relations and exchanges, which provide future and significant opportunities, for Newfoundland and Labrador's Francophonie and Quebec society mutually;

**WHEREAS** the Parties are determined to ensure that this willingness to cooperate is translated into concrete actions in all areas deemed relevant, thereby ensuring the promotion, development and vitality of the French language and Francophone culture.

**THE PARTIES AGREE TO SHARE AND EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND EXPERTISE AND TO COOPERATE IN A NUMBER OF AREAS INCLUDING EDUCATION, CULTURE, COMMUNICATIONS, YOUTH, EARLY CHILDHOOD, FRENCH LANGUAGE RESOURCES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, IMMIGRATION, TOURISM, HEALTH, JUSTICE AND STATUS OF WOMEN.**

#### **Title I: EDUCATION**

##### **Article 1**

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges allowing teachers, school executives and other education specialists from the Francophone school system of Newfoundland and Labrador and from Quebec to take part in professional development activities and they will encourage cooperation and exchanges between Francophone students of both provinces.

##### **Article 2**

The Parties will promote cooperation and the exchange of information on the access of young Francophones to postsecondary education in their own language, therefore enhancing, in particular, opportunities concerning their training and career options in French.

#### **Title II: CULTURE**

##### **Article 3**

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges between Francophones in all arts and heritage sectors, namely literature, music, performing arts, visual arts, folklore, arts and crafts, museology, libraries and archives, in order to contribute to the vitality of the Francophone culture through a greater availability of Francophone cultural products.

#### **Title III: COMMUNICATIONS**

##### **Article 4**

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges in the area of French language communications, namely audiovisual and information technology projects related to education, culture and information.

#### **Title IV: YOUTH**

##### **Article 5**

The Parties will encourage exchanges designed to help young Francophone Newfoundlanders and Labradorians and young Quebecers to become better acquainted with each other, which will help strengthen the Francophone culture and identity, and promote the carrying out of social and economic activities in French, namely in the employment sector, and particularly with respect to professional development.

## **Title V: EARLY CHILDHOOD**

### **Article 6**

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges of information on policies and programs related to Francophone early childhood, namely concerning the professional development of employees working in this sector, service delivery in French and transmission of the French language.

## **Title VI: FRENCH LANGUAGE RESOURCES**

### **Article 7**

The Parties will promote cooperation and exchanges with respect to practices aiming to promote the French language and linguistic and terminological resources in French, namely related to computer-based tools and new technologies.

## **Title VII: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **Article 8**

The Parties will promote exchanges of information and resources in the economic development field, to improve French language business practices, to foster Francophone entrepreneurship, to strengthen Francophone communities and to stimulate the use of French in the business sector.

## **Title VIII: IMMIGRATION**

### **Article 9**

The Parties will share their expertise and best practices in the area of immigration, the selection of Francophone immigrants, integration and successful long-term settlement of newcomers in order to foster growth of the Francophone community.

## **Title IX: TOURISM**

### **Article 10**

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges in the various sectors of activity of their respective tourist industries. These exchanges will involve practices with respect to tourist hospitality and information, French-language training in tourism, the use of new technologies in tourism, the development of products, and promotional activities designed to support the marketing of these products.

The Parties will closely collaborate to put in place projects that foster the discovery and conservation of Francophone historic heritage in Canada.

## **Title X: HEALTH**

### **Article 11**

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges in order to increase access to services in French in the health and community services sectors.

## **Title XI: JUSTICE**

### **Article 12**

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges in order to increase access to justice services in French and the linguistic skills of employees of the justice system, namely through training and the promotion of activities in French.

## **Title XII: STATUS OF WOMEN**

### **Article 13**

The Parties will promote cooperation concerning issues that are specific to Francophone women of both provinces, namely through the sharing of expertise and best practices.

## **Title XIII: OTHER AREAS OF COOPERATION**

### **Article 14**

The Parties will share information and expertise and collaborate in any other areas that they deem to be relevant to cooperation in the area of Francophonie and that is in accordance with the general objectives of this agreement.

## **Title XIV: IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK**

### **Article 15**

The Newfoundland and Labrador Minister responsible for Francophone Affairs and Quebec Minister responsible for Canadian Relations and the Canadian Francophonie shall meet in person, communicate by teleconference or videoconference at least once every two years to share and discuss developments with respect to the Canadian Francophonie and to adopt a five-year priorities for action in the areas deemed to be priorities by the Parties.

### **Article 16**

In order to develop the five-year priorities for action, a tripartite meeting will be held and will include representatives of the Office of French Services of Newfoundland and Labrador, the *Fédération des francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador*, the organization representing Newfoundland and Labrador's Francophone community, and the *Secrétariat du Québec aux Relations canadiennes*. The purpose of this meeting will be to identify priority areas for action over the next five years that will be recommended to the ministers.

The Parties, following consultation with the organization representing Newfoundland and Labrador's Francophone community, will target initiatives that fall within the scope of the priority areas for action and are expected to provide structure and significant impacts to the Canadian Francophonie and to enhance the vitality and development of Newfoundland and Labrador's Francophone community. They will also ensure the promotion of such initiatives.

**Article 17**

Every year, a Standing Cooperation Commission consisting of senior officials responsible for the Canadian Francophonie within the Office of French Services of Newfoundland and Labrador and the *Secrétariat du Québec aux Relations canadiennes* will meet in person or communicate by teleconference or videoconference to assess the results achieved over the preceding year, identify proposed directions for the upcoming year and submit recommendations to their respective ministers in this regard.

**Title XV: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Article 18**

Each year, upon consultation and collaboration with Departments responsible for areas in this Agreement, the Parties will identify and reserve the funds necessary for the implementation of this Agreement commensurate with available budgetary resources. The allocation of funds for the funding of projects under this Agreement will be made jointly by the Parties and upon approval by the competent authorities of their respective governments.

The Parties intend to target, yearly, the following minimum amounts upon the implementation of the Agreement:

- \$ 14,000 in 2017-18;
- \$ 16,000 in 2018-19;
- \$ 18,000 in 2019-20;
- \$ 21,000 in 2020-21;
- \$ 23,000 in 2021-22.

For subsequent years, it will be determined by the Parties under the five-year priorities for action.

**Article 19**

This agreement, which replaces the April 25, 2008 Cooperation and Exchange Agreement between the Government of Quebec and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador with respect to Francophonie, shall take effect upon being signed by the Parties. This agreement may be amended upon written consent of the Parties and may be terminated by either of the Parties upon at least six months' notice in writing.

**Made in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2017, in four copies, two in English and two in French, each version being equally authentic.**

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF  
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR :

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF  
QUEBEC :



Christopher Mitchellmore  
Minister responsible for Francophone  
Affairs



Jean-Marc Fournier  
Minister responsible for Canadian  
Relations and the Canadian Francophonie