



AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF QUÉBEC

WITH RESPECT TO THE FRANCOPHONIE

IN THIS AGREEMENT,

THE GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA IS REPRESENTED BY:

The Premier, Minister of Federal-Provincial Relations and Minister responsible for Francophone affairs

and

THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC IS REPRESENTED BY:

The Premier and the Minister responsible for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs and the Canadian Francophonie

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

WHEREAS Manitoba and Quebec have maintained ongoing relations with respect to the Francophonie since 1988 when they entered into the first agreement for cooperation and exchange in the area of education, and both provinces are home to a significant French-speaking population and have every interest in supporting the richness and diversity of the Francophonie in order to strengthen it;

WHEREAS there has been a vibrant French-speaking community in Manitoba since the 18th century and, in that jurisdiction, the French language has an official status in the legislature, before the Courts and in the field of education 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 Parties wish to emphasize the historical importance of their relations and intend to pursue and build on their close cooperation and ensure that it further contributes to maintaining and strengthening the French fact in Canada, by increasing the relations and exchanges between Manitoba's Francophonie and Quebec society;

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;

WHEREAS in March 2003, the governments of Manitoba and Quebec entered into an Agreement for Cooperation and Exchange and they deem it appropriate to renew and enhance this agreement.

THE PARTIES AGREE TO SHARE AND EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND EXPERTISE AND TO COOPERATE IN A NUMBER OF AREAS INCLUDING EDUCATION, CULTURE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, IMMIGRATION AND TOURISM.

Title I: EDUCATION

Article 1

The Parties agree to promote the exchange of information on methods of teaching French, and the exchange of specialists in this field, particularly by organizing activities focused on developing and improving pedagogy, and on providing professional development for teachers, administrators, and other persons involved in the field of education. They also agree to exchange information on practices for integrating the cultural component into the classroom and to continue to promote existing student exchanges between the two provinces.

Title II: EARLY CHILDHOOD

Article 2

They will encourage cooperation and the exchange of information and expertise in the area of early childhood education, particularly with respect to policies, programs, training, the delivery of French-language services and the transmission of the French language.

Title III: YOUTH

Article 3

They will encourage exchanges designed to help young Francophones become better acquainted with each other and more familiar with their respective cultures, and to develop a sense of belonging to the Canadian Francophonie.

Title IV: CULTURE

Article 4

They will encourage cooperation and exchange in all fields of art and heritage, including literature, the performing arts, the visual arts and crafts, libraries, archives, museums and folklore.

Title V: COMMUNICATIONS

Article 5

They will encourage cooperation and exchange in the field of communications in general, and specifically projects and programs aimed at developing and introducing audio-visual and electronic products and services related to education, culture, and information, or aimed at compact discs, videos, newspapers, community media, and new information and communications technologies.

Title VI: FRENCH-LANGUAGE RESOURCES

Article 6

They will facilitate exchanges of information on practices related to the promotion of the French language, and on linguistic and terminological resources in French, especially computer tools.

Title VII: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Article 7

They will encourage cooperation between Francophone economic development organizations in all areas deemed relevant to the growth of economic exchanges in French, and will combine their efforts to promote Francophone entrepreneurship and improve practices related to business activities conducted in French.

Title VIII: IMMIGRATION

Article 8

They will share their expertise and best practices in the area of immigration, the selection of Francophone immigrants, the integration and successful settlement of newcomers, francisation, education, training of settlement workers and teachers, and online francisation programs.

Title IX: TOURISM

Article 9

They 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 reception 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.

They agree to cooperate closely in implementing projects that promote the discovery and preservation of the Francophone heritage in Canada, particularly the Réseau des villes francophones et francophiles d'Amérique (North American Francophone and Francophile Cities Network), and a tourism and heritage circuit of the Canadian Francophonie.

Title X: HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Article 10

They will encourage and supervise exchanges of information on health and social services, especially with regard to training and the delivery of health care, health services and social services.

Article 11

They will encourage and supervise cooperation and, if applicable, the signing of agreements between institutions, and promote the implementation of activities that stimulate exchanges between Manitoba and Québec in health and social services in French.

Title XI: OTHER AREAS OF COOPERATION

Article 12

They will exchange information and expertise and cooperate in any other area that they deem both relevant with respect to the Francophonie and consistent with the general objectives of this agreement.

Title XII: IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

Article 13

The Manitoba Minister of Francophone Affairs and the Quebec Minister responsible for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs and the Canadian Francophonie, shall meet at least once every two years to share and discuss developments with respect to the Canadian Francophonie and to adopt a three-year action plan in areas deemed to be priorities by the Parties.

Article 14

In order to develop the three-year action plan, a tripartite meeting will be held including representatives of the Manitoba Francophone Affairs Secretariat, the Quebec *Secrétariat aux affaires intergouvernementales canadiennes* and the Société franco-manitobaine, the organization representing Manitoba's Francophone community. The purpose of this meeting will be to identify priority areas for action over the next three years that will be recommended to the ministers.

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

Article 15

Every year, a Standing Cooperation Commission consisting of senior officials responsible for the Canadian Francophonie within the Manitoba Francophone Affairs Secretariat and the Quebec *Secrétariat aux affaires intergouvernementales 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 XIII: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 16

The Parties will determine and allocate each year, upon mutual agreement and in accordance with the budgetary processes and policies in effect within their respective governments, the funds necessary for the implementation of this agreement. The allocation of monies for the funding of projects under this agreement is subject to appropriation by their respective legislatures.

The Parties will each allocate a sum of at least \$50,900 annually, between 2016/17 and 2019/20, to fund the cooperation activities under this agreement. This amount will be at least \$54,800 for 2020/21 and, for subsequent years, it will be determined by the Parties under the triennial action plan.

Article 17

This agreement, which replaces the 2003 Agreement for Cooperation and Exchange between the Government of Manitoba and the Government of Québec, 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 THIS 18th DAY OF JANUARY 2016, IN BOTH FRENCH AND ENGLISH,
EACH VERSION BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
MANITOBA:

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
QUEBEC:

Original signed by:

Original signed by:

Greg Selinger
Premier
Minister of Federal-Provincial Relations
Minister responsible for Francophone
affairs

Philippe Couillard
Premier

Original signed by:

Jean-Marc Fournier
Minister responsible for Canadian
Intergovernmental Affairs and the
Canadian Francophonie