

Québec 



COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF QUÉBEC

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

WITH RESPECT TO THE FRANCOPHONIE

IN THIS AGREEMENT,

THE GOVERNMENT OF QUÉBEC IS REPRESENTED BY:

The Premier,

and

THE GOVERNMENT OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND IS REPRESENTED BY:

The Premier.

The governments of Québec and Prince Edward Island are hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”.

WHEREAS Québec and Prince Edward Island signed a first Cooperation and Exchange Agreement on August 19, 1989, and they wish to update and broaden this agreement in order to continue their collaboration and increase the links forged between them over nearly twenty years;

WHEREAS Québec and Prince Edward Island wish to ensure the development and the vitality of the French language and Francophone cultures and therefore agree to collaborate to promote French;

WHEREAS Québec is the only jurisdiction in North America that represents a majority Francophone population;

WHEREAS Prince Edward Island wishes to support the development of its Acadian and Francophone community;

WHEREAS both governments would like to see this cooperation take the form of tangible actions in the areas of education, culture, youth, the French language, the economy, communications, health and social services, early childhood, immigration, public administration, rural development, the status of women and justice.

THE PARTIES AGREE ON THE FOLLOWING:

Title I: EDUCATION

Article 1

The Parties will encourage cooperation and exchanges allowing teachers, school executives and specialists in Francophone education from Québec and Prince Edward Island to participate in professional development activities and they will encourage exchanges among students and teachers in primary, secondary, college and university-level educational institutions.

Article 2

They will support cooperation and exchanges of information about access by young Francophones to postsecondary education in their language therefore enhancing, notably, possibilities for their training and career choices in French.

Article 3

They will support agreements for mutual recognition of programs of studies and leading to the equivalency of diplomas between educational institutions.

Article 4

They will encourage the development and dissemination of best practices regarding expectations and attitudes to encourage the use of the French language and the development of a cultural identity among youth.

Title II: CULTURE

Article 5

They will encourage cooperation and exchanges in all arts and heritage sectors including literature, music, performing arts, visual arts, folklore, arts and crafts, museology, libraries and archives in order to contribute to the vitality of Acadian and Francophone culture through a greater supply of cultural products and to make the various artists and creators of both provinces better known.

Article 6

They will encourage tours by authors and creators in primary, secondary, college and university-level educational institutions.

Title III: YOUTH

Article 7

They will encourage exchanges allowing young people to become involved in their own success and to get to know each other better and will therefore contribute to strengthening Francophone culture and to carrying out joint activities among youth from both provinces. This will promote developing leadership and strengthening young people's identity and their feeling of belonging to the Canadian Francophonie.

Title IV: FRENCH LANGUAGE

Article 8

They will support exchanges on linguistic policy, French language terminology, the language industries and resources in French in new information and communication technologies.

Title V: ECONOMY

Article 9

They will support cooperation among Francophone economic promotion agencies in all areas felt to be pertinent to the development of economic exchanges in French and they will work together to promote Francophone entrepreneurship and improve business practices in French.

Article 10

They will collaborate on exploratory missions to encourage implementation of an effective collaboration thereby increasing business practices in French.

Title VI: COMMUNICATIONS

Article 11

They will encourage cooperation and exchanges in the entire field of communications. These exchanges will support, notably, joint projects in the areas of audiovisual, information, community radio stations, newspapers and production of recordings, videos and software, all in a perspective of the overall development of communications in French.

Title VII: HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Article 12

They will encourage exchanges of information and expertise in the fields of health and social services, especially with regard to training, terminology and service delivery in French.

Title VIII: EARLY CHILDHOOD

Article 13

They will encourage exchanges of information and expertise in the field of early childhood, particularly in the areas of policies, programs, training and service delivery in French.

Title IX: IMMIGRATION

Article 14

They will encourage exchanges of information on immigration, especially dealing with recruitment, integration and recognition of acquired skills of Francophone or Francophile immigrants, in order to promote the growth of the Acadian and Francophone community.

Title X: PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Article 15

They will encourage and promote exchanges of public sector employees in order to share experience, establish contacts and promote training and development among these employees, principally but not exclusively in the fields of French language learning and development.

Title XI: RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Article 16

They will encourage collaboration among groups, institutions, organizations and businesses in the area of rural development that will support, notably, exchanges on best practices and the use of information and communication technologies, sharing of knowledge and transfer of strategic skills in order to support the Acadian and Francophone community's development.

Title XII: STATUS OF WOMEN

Article 17

They will encourage cooperation on issues specific to Francophone women in both provinces, especially by sharing expertise and best practices.

Title XIII: JUSTICE

Article 18

They will encourage cooperation and exchanges to increase access to justice services in French and to improve the linguistic skills of employees of the justice system, particularly through training and the promotion of activities in French.

Title XIV: OTHER AREAS OF COOPERATION

Article 19

They will share information and expertise and they will cooperate in any other area that they deem to be relevant and to be in accord with the general objectives of this agreement.

Title XV: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 20

A Standing Cooperation Commission, made up of at least one representative of each government, will be responsible for implementing this agreement and each of the Parties will appoint one of the co-chairs of the Commission.

Article 21

The Commission will meet at least once a year, in person, by teleconference or videoconference, alternating between Québec and Prince Edward Island, in order to establish an action plan for cooperation, in concertation with the Departments of both governments involved with the implementation of this agreement.

Article 22

Each year the Parties will, by mutual consent and on an equal basis, contribute financially to implementing this agreement. Any allocation of funds or signing of cost-sharing agreements for project funding under this agreement will be by mutual agreement between the Parties and after being approved by the competent authorities of both governments.

Article 23

This agreement replaces the *Cooperation and Exchange Agreement between the Government of Québec and the Government of Prince Edward Island*, signed on August 19, 1989, and comes into effect on the date of signing by both Parties. It may be amended by the written consent of the Parties or cancelled by either Party with at least six months' notice in writing.

SIGNED THIS 30TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2009, IN DUPLICATE, ONE COPY IN FRENCH AND ONE IN ENGLISH, BOTH TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF QUÉBEC:

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF PRINCE EDWARD
ISLAND:

Jean Charest
Premier

Robert Ghiz
Premier