OVERVIEW OF EXISTING GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA SERVICES IN FRENCH

The Government of Alberta provides a number of programs, services and resources in French in various ministries and sectors. The following list is not intended to be an exhaustive inventory.

**Arts and Culture**
- The Alberta Foundation for the Arts has formally recognized the *Regroupement artistique francophone de l’Alberta* as one of eight Provincial Arts Service Organizations.
- Culture and Tourism collaborates with the Speaker’s Office and various Alberta communities to celebrate the *Rendez-vous de la francophonie* annually throughout the month of March.
- Alberta’s publicly funded libraries offer more than 120,000 French-language resources; the majority of these resources are accessible throughout the province through the inter-library loan program.
- Resources in French to support non-profits including:
  - Building Corporate Relationships – A Toolkit for Nonprofits.
  - Board Development Program information bulletins on a variety of board-related issues and French-language workshops subject to volunteer instructor availability.

**Community Liaison Services**
- Culture and Tourism is responsible for the Francophone Secretariat; it is the government entity specifically mandated to liaise with Alberta’s francophone community, ministries and the federal government on matters related to Alberta’s Francophonie.
- The Francophone Secretariat also manages flow-through federal funding that is used by Alberta to support both government- and community-driven services in French.

**Early Childhood Services**
- Children’s Services and Culture and Tourism are co-funding a three-year pilot project in partnership with the *Fédération des parents francophone de l’Alberta* (FPFA), to establish a provincial francophone Parent Link Centre network. Two centres in Edmonton and Calgary currently offer French-language services.

**Education**
- Alberta is constitutionally required to support French first-language education. This includes funding for four francophone school authorities that manage 40 schools with over 8,586 students (including early childhood services).
- In addition to its constitutional obligations, Alberta also provides funding to support more than 198,000 students (or approximately a third of the total student population) enrolled in French immersion or French as a second language programs.
- Alberta Education provides ongoing operational funding to the *Fédération des parents francophone de l’Alberta* (FPFA) to support francophone school councils and to another organization to promote French-language educational programming offered by various public and community organizations.

**Employment and Career Services**
- Alberta Community and Social Services and Labour contract out French-language employment and career services in various communities across Alberta including Edmonton, Calgary, Grande Prairie and Fort McMurray.

**Health**
- Services for French-speaking patients and families provided by Alberta Health Services (AHS) include over the phone interpretation services on-demand, 24/7 in over 240 languages and document translation for patient care and education resources.
- A French Health program in AHS’ North Zone provides French-language health promotion and outreach activities in the Peace Country.
- AHS provides operational funding to Covenant Care to manage bilingual long-term care and assisted-living services at the Saint-Thomas Community Health Centre (CSST) in Edmonton.
- Culture and Tourism provided grant funding to establish a francophone community care clinic in Calgary.
Heritage Preservation
- Provincial Archives of Alberta offers French-language teaching resources and services including guided tours and archival support.
- Royal Museum of Alberta, Royal Tyrrell Museum and the Father Lacombe Chapel offer French-language school programming and interpretation.

Immigration
- Alberta Labour provides grant funding to settlement agencies in Edmonton and Fort McMurray to deliver French-language settlement services.

Justice
- In Alberta, criminal proceedings can be heard in French. An accused person can apply to have their trial heard in French and request a French interpreter.

Major Capital Projects
- The Alberta government has regularly provided capital funding for major community projects including:
  - $3.8 million towards the construction of the $25 million Centre de santé communautaire Saint-Thomas and assisted-living facility, inaugurated in Edmonton in 2008.
  - In 2009-10, the governments of Alberta and Canada provided more than $10 million in funding to support construction of multipurpose francophone community centres in Edmonton, Lethbridge and Canmore.

Postsecondary Education
- The Campus Saint-Jean (CSJ) in Edmonton (through the University of Alberta) offers 11 French-language or bilingual programs at the undergraduate level and two master’s programs. In addition, the University of Alberta inaugurated the Centre collegial de l’Alberta, a francophone college co-located within CSJ.

Public Information and Print Resources
- Alberta ministries provide a number of public information and/or educational materials in French (e.g. Emergency Preparedness Brochures, Child care accreditation standards guide and Facts on Elder Abuse.)

Social Services
- Contact centres and benefits administration units use over-the-phone interpretation services and/or internal French speaking staff members to communicate with French-speaking Clients.

Seniors
- Alberta Seniors and Housing owns two bilingual subsidized seniors facilities that are managed by a Francophone community board and offers many activities in both languages.

Tourism
- Culture and Tourism and Travel Alberta regularly provide grant funding to the Conseil de développement économique de l’Alberta (CDÉA) to develop bilingual tourism products in the province and to market Alberta to French-speaking visitors, most recently in Québec.

Vital Statistics and Registries
- The following services are available in French including:
  - Bilingual birth certificates
  - Bilingual marriage commissioners
  - Joint federal-provincial application forms and guides
  - Basic driver’s knowledge test and Driver’s Guide

For more information on these or other services in French, please refer to www.Bonjour.Alberta.ca or contact:

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