

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.



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.

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.

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.

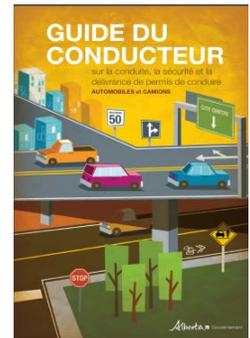
Tourism

- 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:

Francophone Secretariat
Alberta Culture and Tourism
francosec@gov.ab.ca
780-415-3348