



Agreement
between
the Ministry of Francophone Affairs of Ontario
and
the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of the French Republic

Hereinafter referred to individually as a “**Participant**” and collectively as the “**Participants**”

Recognizing the ties that bind them, their history and their shared values;

Recognizing their shared commitment to the development of Francophonie and their adherence to the values and principles of the International Organisation of La Francophonie;

Recognizing that the Francophonie represents a significant social, cultural and economic asset as well as an important lever for development, both nationally and internationally;

Inspired by the spirit of innovation and cooperation, the desire to strengthen the ties between them and the potential social and economic benefits;

Given that the joint statement between His Majesty the King in Right of Ontario as represented by the Ministry of Francophone Affairs, and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of the French Republic (signed on April 16, 2024) declares their intention to build cooperation;

Therefore, the Participants have jointly approved the following:

Paragraph 1

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

Under this Agreement (“**the Agreement**”), the Participants will endeavour to:

- encourage and promote exchanges in the cultural, educational, academic, scientific, and economic development fields within the framework of their common Francophonie;
- share information and best practices to this end;
- increase cooperation in the areas of education, higher education, culture, digital technology, youth and promotion of the French language in support of the following objectives:
 - furthering innovation and cooperation, with the prospect of building stronger ties that will generate social and economic benefits for both communities;
 - establishing cooperative relationships with the aim of protecting and promoting Francophone culture and heritage;
 - developing networks for Francophone youth and fostering entrepreneurial innovation in support of Francophone economic development.

Paragraph 2

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

In accordance with their respective areas of competence, the Participants will create such means of cooperation as they deem appropriate to establish a close and mutually beneficial relationship to achieve the objectives of this Agreement.

Paragraph 3

AREAS OF ACTIVITY

The Participants will act in the following areas:

Arts, culture, education, youth and teaching in French.

The Participants will endeavour to share and defend new and existing practices in support of Francophone arts, culture, education and youth.

Such activities could include bringing together artists, cultural organizations, producers, and broadcasters in the music, film, theater, digital arts, and design sectors. In the field of education, collaborative activities could promote relations and exchanges between youth and youth support organizations.

Higher education, academic and scientific exchanges and the digital sector.

The Participants will endeavour to create and facilitate mutual opportunities for exchange of ideas as well as operational practices and processes. These exchanges may be in various forms, thereby helping to build stronger relationships and cohesion and to foster a better understanding of the diverse needs within Francophone communities.

The Participants will endeavour to promote close ties between academic establishments and research support programs in their respective countries, with the aim of encouraging joint projects. Activities could aim to enhance the visibility of postsecondary educational institutions in Ontario and in France that offer programming for bilingual and Francophone students.

The Participants will endeavour to promote the visibility of opportunities for collaboration between academic, public and economic contributors to support the development of innovations in the digital sector and their applications.

Paragraph 4 REPRESENTATIVES

The Participants will entrust the application of this Agreement to the following persons as the points of contact (the “Representatives”):

For the Province of Ontario

Attention: Roxanne HOTTE
Assistant Deputy Minister (A)
Ministry of Francophone Affairs
700 Bay Street, Suite 2501
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 0A2

For the French Republic

Attention: Alice VALADE-FURIA
Conseillère de coopération et d'action culturelle (COCAC)
Directrice de l'Institut français du Canada
Ambassade de France au Canada

Paragraph 5 APPLICATION

To fulfil this Agreement, the Representatives will endeavour to meet at a minimum twice annually to:

- inform and consult one another on matters of common interest that represent opportunities for mutual benefit and are consistent with this Agreement;
 - To that end, within six months of the signing of this Agreement, the Participants will form a working group (“Working Group”). The purpose of the Working Group is to facilitate the exchange of mutually beneficial information;
- study and approve, for the areas of activity identified in Paragraph 3, an annual action plan aimed at supporting the general objectives of the Agreement described in Paragraph 1;
- examine, through a joint evaluation starting in the second year of the duration of this Agreement, the fulfilment and status of the annual action plan;
- designate new representatives that will succeed to the persons mentioned in Paragraph 4 of this Agreement;
- study, if necessary, any question relating to the application and interpretation of this Agreement; and
- report on the outcomes of these discussions.

Paragraph 6 AMENDMENTS

This Agreement may be amended at any time by mutual agreement of the Participants.

Paragraph 7
PERFORMANCE METRICS

The Participants will track the Agreement using key performance metrics to assess its impact on their respective areas of competence.

Paragraph 8
LEGAL NATURE

This Agreement is not legally binding and it does not create any legal, equitable, or financial rights, obligations, or liabilities for the Participants.

Each Participant will bear its own costs, within the framework of its usual operating expenses, in performing its activities provided for by this Agreement.

This cooperation will be developed from the date of signature of this Agreement and will continue for a period of four (4) years. It may be automatically extended for further two (2)-year periods unless either Participant provides written notice to the other Participant of its intent not to renew at least sixty (60) days before the expiration of the initial period or any renewed period, as applicable.

This cooperation may be ended at any time by either Participant through written notice to the other Participant at least six (6) months prior to its expiry. In that event, the Participant will take the necessary steps to ensure the completion of all actions jointly carried out under the current annual action plan.

Signed in Ottawa on October 6, 2025 in both English and French and in duplicate.

For the Province of Ontario

(Original signed by)

The Honourable Caroline MULRONEY

Minister of Francophone Affairs of the Province of Ontario

For the Republic of France

(Original signed by)

H.E.M. Michel MIRAILLET

Ambassador of France to Canada