



Joint Statement between
the Ministry of Francophone Affairs of the Province of Ontario and
the Office of Cultural Development of the State of Louisiana

RECOGNIZING the vitality and potential of the Francophone communities of Ontario and Louisiana;

RECOGNIZING the common values of Ontario and Louisiana, their strengths, challenges and their commitment to the ongoing development of their respective Francophone communities;

RECOGNIZING that the Francophonie constitutes a significant social, cultural and economic asset and an important catalyst for development nationally and internationally;

The Government of Ontario and the Government of Louisiana (hereafter "the partners") **declare their intention to strengthen their cooperation**, and more specifically:

- i. To encourage and promote economic, educational and cultural exchanges within the framework of their common Francophonie;
- ii. To share information and best practices to this end; and,
- iii. To increase cooperation in the fields of higher education, culture and tourism, digital media, energy, Francophone economic development, and other economic sectors that may be identified in the future.

INSPIRED by the spirit of innovation, cooperation, strengthening ties and by potential social and economic benefits, this statement:

CONFIRMS the commitment of the partners to strengthen their relationship and work together to identify concrete areas of collaboration that support their common vision, which could eventually lead to an official agreement.

This joint statement between the partners is signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA on November 19, 2025 in both English and French and in duplicate.

(original signed by)

(original signed by)

Caroline Mulroney

Minister of Francophone Affairs
Province of Ontario

William H. Nungesser

Lieutenant Governor of the State of
Louisiana