

New Brunswick Action Plan for Complementary Projects Regarding Official Languages in Education - 2006-2007

Preamble

The Province of New Brunswick plans to work with the different partners in the education sector to ensure the success of the projects it implemented as a part of the complementary projects regarding official languages.

New Brunswick has set out two separate four-year action plans for official languages in education under the *Canada - New Brunswick Agreement on French First-Language Education and French Second-Language Instruction - 2005-2006 to 2008-2009*. The main purpose of the action plan for regular programs is to maintain winning structures and practices already in place and improved quality of learning. The action plan for additional strategies is designed to improve the quality of existing programs of instruction in French to uphold the objectives of Canada's Action Plan for Official Languages.

The «École au cœur de la communauté» and «Consortium national de développement de ressources pédagogiques en français au collégial» projects proposed in 2005-2006 under the New Brunswick agreement on complementary projects were to extend over several years and targeted action-oriented research that should enable the province's main education stakeholders to think and operate in an innovative environment and look at new ways of doing things.

These two projects continue to be innovative, include action research components, and are based on the provincial pilot project structure with the intent of bringing them into more widespread use over the medium term. These projects are particularly important in guiding the renewal of current practices and providing leaders in education with food for thought. They will help support the priorities of the Memorandum of Agreement, especially the promotion of research on French-language education. For that reason, the Province of New Brunswick intends to proceed with the implementation of these projects during the 2006-2007 year.

The main goal of the «École au cœur de la communauté» project has not changed. It is designed for schools from kindergarten to Grade 12. It targets the growth and quality of programs and cultural enrichment of Francophone school environments at all levels of education. This pilot project provides new ways of working. It will certainly influence future practices in the education of Francophones across Canada. It should be noted that certain performance indicators were modified to facilitate the evaluation of the desired outcomes.

This year, the originator of the *Entrepreneurial Community School* concept was hired to work with the three schools that chose this concept. The development officers are still working at four schools and a school principal assumes this role in the fifth school participating in the project. The aim is still for a change in the organizational culture within the participating schools.

It is important to note that the «action research» pilot projects will continue to serve as examples in all of New Brunswick's schools and in Canada as a whole. For this reason, three of the five schools have opted for the entrepreneurial community school concept; another school chose to focus on language and culture, while still working toward establishing closer links with the community. The final school participating adopted the concept of a school that is open to the world, drawing its inspiration from UNESCO values.

The «École au cœur de la communauté» projects will thus take on different characteristics and will offer more options to Acadian and Francophone communities in the province and throughout Canada.

The «Consortium national de développement de ressources pédagogiques en français au collégial» project was implemented by the Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick, in cooperation with other areas of the country, in order to fill certain needs for educational resources in French at the college level. It makes it possible to capitalize on investments in official languages in education to develop partnerships and increase cooperation between the provinces and territories. Therefore, it promotes the pooling of resources and expertise from

various sources. The objectives for the year 2006-2007 are no longer to implement the Consortium, but to manage it, and to develop educational projects.

The Consortium will be incorporated in 2006-2007, and a director for the Consortium will be hired. Furthermore, 2006-2007 will also see the development of a policy handbook and a business plan.

Conclusion

The first indications from our partners lead us to believe that these two projects will provide for the enhancement of the quality of our educational activities. The departments of Intergovernmental Affairs, Education, and Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour and all of their components agree to work closely with their students, parents, and respective councils to implement the various components presented hereafter, in accordance with the agreement.

**ACTION PLAN - 2006-2007
ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SECTOR					
ACTIONS	DESIRED OUTCOMES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	ANTICIPATED INVESTMENT		
			Provincial	Federal	TOTAL
I. QUALITY OF PROGRAMS AND CULTURAL ENRICHMENT IN THE SCHOOL SETTING					
1.1 Cultural enrichment / community roots initiatives in the school					
1.1.1 École au cœur de la communauté Transform the organizational culture of five schools by: enriching the programming; using innovative teaching approaches; offering better prospects for youth after class; offering lifelong learning opportunities for adults; offering preschool learning opportunities; opening the school to its community.	Improved recruitment and retention rates and academic success and positive identity of students enrolled in the five pilot schools. Increased participation of the community at the school.	Number of teachers who are familiar with the identity-building process. School ranking in the provincial exams. Number of activities open to parents or to the community. Recruitment and retention rates of Charter rights children in the pilot schools. Number of contributions in material or time from the community. Number of financial contributions from the community.	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000
Subtotal – Quality of programs			\$500,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000

COLLEGE SECTOR					
ACTIONS	DESIRED OUTCOMES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	ANTICIPATED INVESTMENT		
			Provincial	Federal	TOTAL
II. IMPROVED ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY STUDIES					
2.1 Development and sharing of adapted educational resources					
2.1.1 Consortium national de développement de ressources pédagogiques en français au collégial Ensure the management of the Consortium and the development of educational projects.	Production of a project development handbook. Development of policies, procedures, and policy directives for the management of the Consortium and projects. Development of teaching materials to be used by colleges offering training in French in Canada. Development of an electronic portal to make all of the materials developed available to the teachers and managers of Canadian colleges.	A project development handbook is available. There are policies, procedures, and work instructions for the management of the Consortium and projects. The number of books, modules, and teaching guides in the trades, techniques, and technologies sectors produced, adapted, or translated by teams of teachers from participating colleges in Canada. The number of teaching materials available on the portal.	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$500,000
		Subtotal – Improved access to postsecondary studies	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$500,000
		GRAND TOTAL	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$1,500,000