

French-language Services Plan

2021–2022

Communities, Culture and Heritage



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French-language Services Plan
Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage
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Responses to French requests

The Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage recognizes the importance of fulfilling its obligations to respond to verbal and written requests from the Acadian and francophone community in the language of their choice. The department has a policy on written and verbal communication in French which stipulates that all correspondence (paper or electronic) received in French will be replied to in French. Verbal requests from the public to communicate in French are, to every extent possible, handled by bilingual staff.

French-language services inventory

Acadian Affairs and Francophonie

All staff at the Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie are bilingual (French and English). All services are offered and made available in French and include publications and materials for the public such as the annual report on government's progress in French-language services, the Acadian Affairs and Francophonie website and news releases. The Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie offers programmes, tools and resources to assist government in providing services in French including French-language training for public servants, workshops to increase awareness of the Acadian and francophone community and of government's obligations under the [French-language Services Act](#) and [Regulations](#), as well as the Bonjour! visual identification programme.

Archives, Museums and Libraries

Nova Scotia Archives

In previous years, the Nova Scotia Archives would provide on-site services to 6000 visitors annually. However in 2020–21, it switched over to providing on-site services to researchers via pre-arranged appointment. The Nova Scotia Archives participates in the Bonjour! programme and offers its services in French to on-site visitors, and by email and letter mail.

The [website](#) features close to 20 virtual exhibits, resource guides and searchable databases in French. Online materials, including historical photographs, information databases and explanatory articles, are made available in French to the province's secondary schools to support the curriculum and for student projects and reports. Annual website upgrades ensure that additional French-language materials are incorporated into the site.

Nova Scotia Museum

The Nova Scotia Museum has 28 sites across the province. [The Historical Acadian Village of Nova Scotia](#) in Lower West Pubnico presents the story of the Acadian people in French and English and receives annual operational funding from the department.

Many provincial museum sites have French-speaking interpretive staff and bilingual signage and exhibits. The Nova Scotia Museum [website](#) features information sheets and visitor information in French. The Nova Scotia Museum guide is available in French, and can be found at museum sites as well as at visitor information centres, and on the Nova Scotia Museum website.

Nova Scotia Provincial Library

The Nova Scotia [Libraries Act](#) funding regulations make provisions for an annual provincial French-language operating grant payable to regional library boards where the French-speaking population

exceeds ten per cent of the total population of the area served. This operating grant assists the regional library boards in providing French-language library services. Two regional library boards qualify for this grant: Eastern Counties Regional Library Board and Western Counties Regional Library Board. Both boards employ French-speaking staff and offer French-language websites, programmes and collections.

The Nova Scotia Provincial Library produces many library-related materials for the public in French. They include brochures and other promotional and informational pieces, such as the [Check Us Out!](#) brochure, as well as the Nova Scotia Provincial Library annual report, which is available in French on the Nova Scotia Provincial Library [website](#).

All nine regional library boards collect and circulate French-language materials in multiple formats, including books, databases, music, movies and audiobooks. The digital media collection provides online access to French-language eBooks and audiobooks for library card holders across the province.

Communications Nova Scotia

The department follows Communications Nova Scotia's guidelines for issuing news releases in French. All news releases from the Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie are issued in French and the division is served by a bilingual communications advisor. Media interviews are offered in French upon request.

Communities, Sport and Recreation

The department supports communities by helping them build capacity and deliver culture, recreation and sport programming. Every year the department works with its colleagues at the Coaching Association of Canada to ensure that all relevant coaching materials are available in French. The department annually supports the Jeux de l'Acadie, a culturally important event for Acadian youth.

The department is actively engaged with the Acadian and francophone community with regards to meeting their community and recreational infrastructure needs. The department's grant programmes support these goals, including the creation of all community recreational signage in French.

Community support comes in many different forms, from providing support to sustain communities from a food security perspective, as well as supporting key transportation funding, which ensures that citizens can easily access community resources. The department annually supports Acadian and francophone organizations, and encourages them to apply to all programmes and awards. The department also ensures that a representative from the Acadian and francophone community participates as a member of the Lieutenant Governor's Community Spirit Selection Committee.

Collaboration is ongoing with the Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie to support opportunities for capacity building and programming in Acadian and francophone communities, with French-language service offerings continuing to expand.

Culture and Heritage Development

Each year, the department awards the Prix Grand-Pré to recognize work that reflects Acadian cultural values, literary arts and visual arts and crafts. Information about the award is provided in French and English.

Nova Scotians from diverse communities, including the Acadian and francophone community, are encouraged to volunteer as participants on jury and peer-assessment panels for all the department's

funding programmes and awards. When a French-language literary application is made to the Grants to Individuals programme, a French-language panel is convened to assess the application.

The department works closely with the Creative Nova Scotia Leadership Council and the Arts Nova Scotia board, whose membership application process aims to encourage diversity. These government–culture community partnerships strive for a balance of artistic disciplines, culture and communities in their membership. Both boards currently have members from the Acadian and francophone community.

The department also allocates funding through the Community Museums Assistance programme to museums in Acadian and francophone communities, including the Église Sainte-Marie museum (Church Point), Les Trois Pignons cultural centre (Chéticamp), and the Musée des Acadiens des Pubnicos (Lower West Pubnico) and is working closely with the Stratégie de promotion des artistes acadiens sur la scène internationale (SPAASI), an initiative led by the Société Nationale de l'Acadie (SNA), to foster strategic development for Acadian artists in international markets.

Policy and Corporate Services

Policy and Corporate Services is responsible for corporate policy development, strategic planning, research, evaluation, intergovernmental relations, information and risk management, grants management and department-wide administration.

The research unit provides opportunities for the Acadian and francophone community to contribute to new research and learn more about Nova Scotia's culture and its economic and social benefits. The policy unit provides assistance and advice, as required, to the French-language Services Coordinating Committee.

The department publishes its statement of mandate and its accountability report in French and makes them available on the government's website.

French-language Services Coordinator

The French-language services coordinator represents the department on the interdepartmental French-language Services Coordinating Committee, which assists and advises government on the implementation of the *French-language Services Act*. Each coordinator is responsible for writing the department's annual French-language services plan.

Contribution to the preservation and growth of the Acadian and francophone community

The Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage recognizes the importance of French-language services and our staff endeavours to fulfil our responsibilities under the [French-language Services Act](#) and [Regulations](#). We believe Nova Scotians should have access to quality government services in French, and this plan demonstrates our commitment to ensuring our programmes, policies and services address the priorities expressed by the Acadian and francophone community. To achieve this aim, we collaborate with designated public institutions across government through the French-language Services Coordinating Committee. We greatly value this partnership, which ensures a continued understanding of the unique needs of our province's Acadian and francophone community.

The department makes a significant contribution to preserving, promoting and supporting the Acadian and francophone community's culture, library and museum resources, and to supporting the delivery of provincial government services in French. Nova Scotia's Acadian and francophone culture and heritage is preserved through the department's curatorial and archival collections and activities. The Historical Acadian Village of Nova Scotia, part of the Nova Scotia Museum, offers visitors an opportunity to experience life in an Acadian village in the early 1900s. The Nova Scotia Archives holds a significant collection of materials relating to the Acadian community, which it makes available to the public through its catalogue and website. Past issues of [Le Courrier de la Nouvelle-Écosse](#) (1937–2002) are available in a digital format for the public to access.

The department also supports cultural, heritage and library activities in Acadian and francophone regions. The funding awarded through various culture grants and the Vive l'Acadie community fund contributes to the development of Acadian and francophone artists and cultural organizations. The department presents the Prix Grand-Pré annually to support and recognize the work of an Acadian or francophone artist. Operational funding is provided to libraries and museums serving or located in Acadian and francophone regions. This includes special funding for the Acadian and francophone community to improve French-language collections in libraries located in qualifying regions. Thanks to this funding, the Acadian and francophone community benefits from better access to library, archival and museum resources in their mother tongue.

The Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie plays a central role in supporting the development and delivery of French-language services throughout the provincial government by providing programmes and services to help build the capacity to offer services in French proactively. This includes French-language training for public servants, the Bonjour! visual identity programme, and funding through the Canada–Nova Scotia Agreement on French-language Services. Acadian Affairs and Francophonie works to ensure that government is aware of the priorities of the Acadian and francophone community and that its needs are considered in the delivery of government services. Acadian Affairs and Francophonie frequently supports important community initiatives such as the development of French-language media.

The department recognizes that access to quality government services in French benefits the Acadian and francophone community's economic, social and cultural well-being, and contributes to its continued growth and development. We encourage Nova Scotians to request services from government in French. We also encourage Acadians and francophones to have their voices heard by participating in agencies, boards and commissions, which are regularly advertised by the Executive Council Office. As we continue to maintain and improve our French-language services, we welcome feedback on our progress and we

invite you to share with us your comments or questions by contacting our French-language services coordinator. If you wish to make a formal complaint regarding French-language services, please contact the Office of the Ombudsman.

French-language services coordinator:

Catherine Kelly (Catherine.Kelly@novascotia.ca, 902 424 7947)

Progress in reaching goals and objectives for 2020–21

The Nova Scotia Strategic Plan for French-language Services for 2018–23 guides the development, delivery and expansion of government services in French, and supports the long-term development and sustainability of the Acadian and francophone community. Communities, Culture and Heritage (CCH) sets its goals and objectives to respond to the three strategic objectives of this plan and to support the strategic priorities of the [Culture Action Plan](#). The department's progress towards meeting these goals and objectives in 2020–21 is outlined below.

Strategic objective 1: Strengthen internal operational structures including policy, legislative and administrative frameworks

The department will develop and implement policies and procedures to support full compliance of the *French-Language Services Act*.

- **Increase awareness of the department's commitment, obligations and services under the *French-language Services Act***

Acadian Affairs and Francophonie

- Chaired the French-language Services Coordinating Committee and held online meetings to exchange best practices, build awareness of the Acadian and francophone community's needs and develop standards and policies for the delivery of French-language services.
- Continued to strengthen and promote the role of French-language services coordinators.
- Offered and led one-hour presentations to government employees on Acadian history and culture, as well as on government's French-language services obligations.

Policy and Corporate Services

- Published the annual French-language services plan for the department in both English and French on the department's website.
- Published the department's translated accountability report for 2019–20.
- Published the department's translated business plan for 2020–21.

- **Provide programmes and services to employees to help with the implementation of the *French-language Services Act***

Acadian Affairs and Francophonie

- Coordinated the offer of French-language training to government employees, including by providing additional online course options.
- Continued to provide funding for the translation of departmental correspondence and material.

- Finalized revisions to the *Acadie* at a Glance workshop and offered sessions to over 100 government employees to raise awareness about the Acadian and francophone community and of government's obligations respecting French-language services.
- **Provide policy advice and support on Acadian and francophone initiatives**
 - Policy and Corporate Services**
 - Continued to support the Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie's work to strengthen Nova Scotia's Acadian and francophone communities.
 - Provided advice regarding legislation, regulations and the provision of French-language services in the province.
 - Maintained a bilingual website for the department.

Strategic objective 2: Develop and deliver quality French-language services and programmes to the public

The department will assess and improve the active offer and delivery of French-language services to the Acadian and francophone community.

- **Increase access to information, materials, tools, programmes and training in French**
 - Acadian Affairs and Francophonie**
 - Published documentation in both French and English consistently, and maintained a bilingual web presence.
 - Supported the implementation of the French-language communications guidelines throughout government.
 - African Nova Scotian Affairs**
 - Ensured that relevant content was made available in French and is distributed to the Acadian and francophone community including community groups and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) schools.
 - Developed a bilingual poster for African Heritage Month 2021 and distributed it to Acadian and francophone schools and community groups.
 - Presented and disseminated the weekly African proverbs and African Diaspora narratives in French.
 - Made French-language versions of public service announcements and information available on the African Nova Scotian Affairs (ANSA) website.

Archives, Museums and Libraries

- Translated the Introduction section of *Looking Back, Moving Forward: Documenting the Heritage of African Nova Scotians*, an online resource launched by the Nova Scotia Archives in February 2020.
- Added French content to the Nova Scotia Archives Transcribe module for crowd-sourced transcription.
- Conducted an interview in French with CBC/Radio-Canada, discussing and promoting the Nova Scotia Archives Transcribe tool.
- Posted wayfinding and COVID-19 signage in French on trails at Ross Farm, Lawrence House Museum, McCulloch House, Uniacke Estate Museum Park, Haliburton House Museum and the Black Loyalist Heritage Centre. Signage was provided by the Nova Scotia Trails Federation.
- Posted the French version of the Nova Scotia Museum Guide on the Nova Scotia Museum website.
- Selected a new museums collections management system which will support French-language characters in the collections records.
- Added 1022 French and bilingual catalogue records to the shared library catalogue.

Communities, Sport and Recreation

- Translated the Community ACCESS-Ability programme guidelines and application to French.
- Offered the Nova Scotia Before and After programme in French, which includes all materials and resources for providers, as well as capacity-building workshops. The programme is being offered at two Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) schools across the province.
- Offered the Nova Scotia Before and After programme grant guidelines and application in French.
- Worked with partners at the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and external facilitators on developing a French curriculum for the Nova Scotia Before and After training modules.
- Provided funding to develop new websites for all community transportation providers. The websites for La Coopérative de transport de Chéticamp (L'Acabie) and Le Transport de Clare Society are now available in French and English.

Culture and Heritage Division

- Provided information on all departmental funding programmes and awards in French online. This also includes funding programmes from Arts Nova Scotia and Events Nova Scotia.

- Arts Nova Scotia operated French-language peer assessment committees as part of its grant assessment and evaluations process.

Policy and Corporate Services

- Provided data, content and results in French from both the Culture Satellite Account (CSA) and the Nova Scotia Culture Index study, two statistical research tools which are used by the department to learn more about the economic and social benefits and value of culture in our province. Shared the French infographics for the most recent CSA data, which was reported in autumn 2020. The most recent Nova Scotia Culture Index Survey data was released in spring 2020.

- **Support the development of Acadian and francophone communities and cultural resources**

Acadian Affairs and Francophonie

- Administered the Vive l'Acadie community fund, allocating over \$45 000 in community donations to support various cultural projects in Acadian and francophone communities across the province.
- Supported, organized and promoted online activities and virtual events to recognize Acadian and francophone culture including National Acadian Day, the annual Rendez-vous de la Francophonie, and International Francophonie Day.
- Administered the Agreement for Cooperation and Exchange between the governments of Québec and Nova Scotia, providing joint support for community development activities undertaken by Acadian and francophone community organizations in areas such as education, culture, tourism, communications and immigration.
- Continued to support cultural activities and community development in the Acadian and francophone community.

African Nova Scotian Affairs

- Partnered with Acadian Affairs and Francophonie to screen Toussaint Louverture and the Haitian Revolution documentary at Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) schools during African Heritage Month 2021.

Archives, Museums and Libraries

- Provided over \$343 000 in operational funds to the Historical Acadian Village of Nova Scotia.
- Translated print documentation for radon detector kits, which are available for loan through public libraries.
- Translated print materials outlining COVID-19 protocols for Eastern Counties Regional Library.

- Translated the documents “How the Library Can Help Educators During COVID-19” and “How the Library Can Support Families During COVID-19” for Eastern Counties Regional Library. The documents outline the online services available with an Eastern Counties Regional Library membership.
- Translated the Nova Scotia Provincial Library’s 2017–18 annual report.

Communities Sport and Recreation

- Provided annual funding, as well as \$12 000 through the COVID-19 programme for multi-sport organizations to the Jeux de l’Acadie provincial committee.
- Provided annual funding to La Coopérative de transport de Chéticamp (L’Acabie) and Le Transport de Clare through the Community Transportation Assistance programme.
- Provided funding to L’Acabie to add a vehicle to their fleet through the Accessible Transportation Assistance programme.
- Provided funding through the Community Accessibility programme to the Clare Columbus Club and the Royal Canadian Legion in Chéticamp to install accessible washrooms in their facilities.

Culture and Heritage Development

- Provided \$95 247 to Acadian and francophone community organizations and institutions, including operational funding to the Conseil des arts de Chéticamp.
- Provided \$21 826 in COVID-19 emergency funding to organizations via the COVID-19 Emergency Support for Arts and Culture Organizations programme.
- Awarded the 2020 Prix Grand-Pré to Acadian actor, comedian, and scriptwriter Ryan Doucette from Clare, Nova Scotia.

- **Promote and support the use of ‘active offer’ in French by frontline staff**

Acadian Affairs and Francophonie

- Reconvened an interdepartmental subcommittee to promote the active offer of services in French by government and to explore relaunching the Bonjour! visual identification programme.
- Worked with the Acadian and francophone community to raise awareness of services available in French.
- Discussed ways to recognize and celebrate excellence in French-language service delivery.

Strategic Objective 3: Maintain ongoing dialogue and consultation with the Acadian and francophone community.

The department will implement continual improvement of communication and collaboration to engage with and support the Acadian and francophone community.

- **Engage with the Acadian and francophone community in the language of their choice to ensure effective input and representation in consultations and collaborative opportunities**

- Acadian Affairs and Francophonie**

- Remained informed of priority issues within the Acadian and francophone community through the Advisory Committee to the Minister of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie.
 - Continued to build and nurture relationships with the Acadian and francophone community, namely with the Fédération acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse and its members, through regular contact and virtual meetings.
 - Consulted with Acadian and francophone community organizations to remain informed of their needs, and collaborated on finding solutions to issues.
 - Reviewed and revised guidelines to support departments and other government institutions when consulting with the Acadian and francophone community in French.

- **Create opportunities for cross-cultural and cross-departmental partnerships with Acadian and francophone communities**

- Acadian Affairs and Francophonie**

- Supported the Office of Immigration in activities to attract French-speaking immigrants to Nova Scotia.

- Gaelic Affairs**

- Translated [Gaelic Nova Scotia: A Resource Guide](#) into French for use by teachers in the Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) and French-immersion schools.

- **Improve communications in French with the Acadian and francophone community by respecting French-language communication guidelines developed for government**

- Acadian Affairs and Francophonie**

- Promoted government French-language services and health information through social media accounts, including Facebook (@Affairesacadiennes) and Twitter (@GouvNE).
 - Collaborated with Communications Nova Scotia to review the effectiveness of the French-language communications guidelines.

Goals, objectives and planned measures for 2021–22

Nova Scotia's Strategic Plan for French-language Services for 2018–23 guides the development, delivery and expansion of government services in French, and supports the long-term development and sustainability of the Acadian and francophone community. Communities, Culture and Heritage (CCH) sets its goals and objectives to respond to the three strategic objectives of this plan and to support the strategic priorities of the Culture Action Plan. The department's planned measures to meet these goals and objectives in 2021–22 are outlined below.

Strategic objective 1: Strengthen internal operational structures including policy, legislative and administrative frameworks

The department will develop and implement policies and procedures to support full compliance of the *French-Language Services Act*.

○ **Increase awareness of the department's commitment, obligations and services under the *French-language Services Act***

Acadian Affairs and Francophonie

- Chair the French-language Services Coordinating Committee and provide an environment for exchanging best practices, building awareness of the Acadian and francophone community's needs and developing standards and policies for the delivery of French-language services.
- Continue to strengthen and promote the role of the French-language services coordinators.
- Offer presentations on government's French-language services obligations at sessions offered by staff from the Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie.

Policy and Corporate Services

- Publish an annual French-language services plan for the department.
- Provide the department's accountability report and business plan in both English and French.

Gaelic Affairs

- Continue to collaborate with the Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie to raise awareness and promote the inclusion of an intangible cultural heritage lens through which programming and services can be reviewed and assessed.

○ **Provide programmes and services to employees to help with the implementation of the *French-language Services Act***

Acadian Affairs and Francophonie

- Coordinate the offer of French-language training to government employees.

- Continue to provide funding for the translation of departmental correspondence and material.
- Offer the *Acadie at a Glance* workshop to government employees to raise awareness about the Acadian and francophone community and of government's obligations respecting French-language services.
- **Provide policy advice and support on Acadian and francophone initiatives**
 - Policy and Corporate Services**
 - Support the delivery and success of projects and initiatives identified in the Culture Action Plan that pertain to the Acadian and francophone communities.
 - Provide advice to the department to promote the consideration of French-language services in its public engagement activities.

Strategic objective 2: Develop and deliver quality French-language services and programmes to the public

The department will assess and improve the active offer and delivery of French-language services to the Acadian and francophone community.

- **Increase access to information, materials, tools, programmes and training in French.**
 - Acadian Affairs and Francophonie**
 - Publish documentation in both French and English and maintain a bilingual web presence.
 - Support the implementation of the French-language communications guidelines throughout government.
 - African Nova Scotian Affairs**
 - Ensure that relevant content which may have mutual benefit is available in French, and is distributed to the Acadian and francophone community, including community groups and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) schools.
 - Distribute the poster for African Heritage Month 2022 to Acadian and francophone schools and community groups, and promote activities which will be taking place.
 - Ensure French-language versions of public service announcements and information is available on the African Nova Scotia Affairs website.
 - Archives, Museums, and Libraries**
 - Translate the newly developed orientation and registration package for Nova Scotia Archives researchers.

- Translate the How-to-Use section of the Nova Scotia Archives online resource *Looking Back, Moving Forward: Documenting the Heritage of African Nova Scotians*.
- Translate website information for the Nova Scotia Museum's toolbox for museum school programmes.
- Translate exhibit and programming content for Nova Scotia Museum interpretive renewal projects.
- Translate newly implemented interpretive and wayfinding signage at Nova Scotia Museum sites and trails.
- Create a French-language brochure for the exhibit *Glamour + Labour: Clairtone in Nova Scotia* at the Museum of Industry.
- Catalogue portions of artefact records of objects of Acadian heritage in French following implementation of our new collections management system.
- Ensure any updated content for the Nova Scotia Museum operations manual and resource materials is provided in French.
- Build awareness of French-language options and responsibilities for libraries, and support library regions with applications for funding to support new work.
- Maintain the provincial French-language grant for eligible library regions under the new library funding model.
- Continue cataloguing French-language library resources in French.
- Support French-language e-book collection development with available funds when possible.

Communities, Sport and Recreation

- Offer multi-sport coach education modules in French on demand.
- Offer the Nova Scotia Before and After programme in French at Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) school sites.
- Increase the number of French-language tools for community funding programmes.
- Provide operating funding to community transit providers in Acadian and francophone communities.

Culture and Heritage Development

- Provide French-language tools for cultural funding programmes and awards.

Policy and Corporate Services

- Quantify and communicate the economic and social value of culture through the release of the results of the national Culture Satellite Account and the department's Culture Index projects, and ensure the data from the Nova Scotia Culture Satellite Account is available in French.

Gaelic Affairs

- Explore a partnership with Ross Farm Museum in an effort to include and promote both French- and Gaelic-language interpretation and culture-related experiences at the museum.

○ **Support the development of Acadian and francophone communities and cultural resources**

Acadian Affairs and Francophonie

- Administer the Vive l'Acadie community fund to support cultural projects in Acadian and francophone communities across the province.
- Support, organize and promote activities and events to recognize Acadian and francophone culture including National Acadian Day, the annual Rendez-vous de la Francophonie, and International Francophonie Day.
- Administer the Agreement for Cooperation and Exchange between the governments of Québec and Nova Scotia to provide joint support for community development activities undertaken by Acadian and francophone community organizations in areas such as education, culture, tourism, communications and immigration.
- Support cultural activities and community development in the Acadian and francophone community.

African Nova Scotian Affairs

- Work with Acadian Affairs and Francophonie to bring Rhodie Désir's *BOW'T TRAIL Retrospek* dance production to Nova Scotia in autumn 2021.
- Work with Acadian Affairs and Francophonie to deliver events during African Heritage Month 2022.
- Work with Acadian Affairs and Francophonie to screen documentaries on Toussaint Louverture and the Haitian Revolution at Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) schools through the school year.

Archives, Museums and Libraries

- Provide translation support to regional libraries and allocate funds for translation, collections and programme development for upcoming projects when necessary.
- Provide operational funding to the Historical Acadian Village of Nova Scotia.

Communities, Sport and Recreation

- Provide annual funding to the Jeux de l'Acadie provincial committee.
- Provide project funding to organizations in Acadian and francophone communities.
- Promote nominations for Acadian and francophone communities for the Lieutenant Governor's Community Spirit and Provincial Volunteer Awards.

Culture and Heritage Development

- Provide operational support to Acadian and francophone arts, cultural and heritage organizations.
- Collaborate with the Acadian and francophone community to formulate a long-term COVID-19 recovery plan for the arts, culture and heritage sector.
- Provide significant investment into various celebratory events hosted by Acadians.
- Award the Prix Grand-Pré to an Acadian or francophone artist.
- Offer support to the Acadian community as they prepare to host the [2024 Congrès mondial acadien](#), highlighting the Clare–Argyle region.

- **Promote and support the use of 'active offer' in French by frontline staff**

Acadian Affairs and Francophonie

- Develop new elements, such as videos or posters, to promote the active offer of services in French by government.
- Develop a communications strategy to relaunch the Bonjour! visual identification programme.
- Work with the Acadian and francophone community to raise awareness of services available in French.
- Undertake actions to recognize and celebrate excellence in French-language service delivery.

Strategic objective 3: Maintain ongoing dialogue and consultation with the Acadian and francophone community

The department will implement continual improvement of communication and collaboration to engage with and support the Acadian and francophone community.

- **Engage with the Acadian and francophone community in the language of their choice to ensure effective input and representation in consultations and collaborative opportunities.**

Acadian Affairs and Francophonie

- Become informed of priority issues within the Acadian and francophone community through the Advisory Committee to the Minister of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie.
 - Continue to build and nurture relationships with the Acadian and francophone community, namely with the Fédération acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse and its members.
 - Consult with Acadian and francophone community organizations to remain informed of their needs and collaborate on finding solutions to issues.
 - Review and revise guidelines to support departments and other government institutions when consulting with the Acadian and francophone community in French.
- **Create opportunities for cross-cultural and cross-departmental partnerships with Acadian and francophone communities.**

Acadian Affairs and Francophonie

- Support the Office of Immigration in activities to attract French-speaking immigrants to Nova Scotia.

African Nova Scotian Affairs

- Continue to build the relationship between the African Nova Scotian and the Acadian and francophone communities.
- Work with the African Nova Scotia Information Network and the Acadian and francophone community to promote activities for African Heritage Month and seek partnerships for the inclusion of information in French during African Heritage Month.
- Monitor African Heritage Month 2022 to determine the number of Acadian and francophone events offered.

Gaelic Affairs

- Deliver a presentation in French at Bilingual Career Exploration Day, an event organized by Canadian Parents for French. Presentation is on Gaelic language and culture, including introductory Gaelic phrases, communicating lineage, surnames and a Gaelic milling song.
- Continue to seek out and support opportunities to present and provide information in French on Gaels and Gaelic language, culture and identity in Nova Scotia to francophone and Acadian public schools in the province.

Communities, Sport and Recreation

- Continue to work with Acadian Affairs and Francophonie to support opportunities for community capacity building and programming for the Acadian and francophone community.

Culture and Heritage Development

- Work with Acadian Affairs and Francophonie to increase awareness of opportunities in cultural programming for the Acadian and francophone community.

- **Improve communications in French with the Acadian and francophone community by respecting French-language communication guidelines developed for government.**

Acadian Affairs and Francophonie

- Promote government French-language services through social media.
- Work with Communications Nova Scotia to review the effectiveness of the French-language communications guidelines and revise if necessary.

Policy and Corporate Services

- Continue to provide opportunities for the Acadian and francophone community to contribute to research to learn more about Nova Scotia's culture and its economic and social benefits.