



May 17, 2022

Dear My Dang and Betty Gormley,

Thank you for writing in and providing us with your report on the State of French Second Language (FSL) Education in Ontario.

The Ontario PC Party promised at the beginning of our mandate that we would modernize the French Language Services Act to reflect the needs of the 21st century. In December 2021, the PC government did just that and modernized the *French Language Services Act*, which was the first substantial review of the legislation since its introduction 35 years ago.

The Ontario PCs are strengthening French-language education through a new [four-year strategy](#) to recruit, train and retain more French teachers. The strategy will help to address the ongoing shortage of French teachers and ensure continued access to high-quality French-language education in the public education system for working families. To support the successful implementation of the strategy, Ontario will invest \$12.5 million over the next four years.

Under the leadership of Premier Ford, the PC government announced a \$500,000 investment towards initiatives that will provide Indigenous, equity, human rights and anti-racism resources to Francophone students, as well as targeted supports to Francophone parent organizations. As part of our government's Priorities and Partnerships Funding (PPF) COVID-19 Equity Supports, we are providing funding to the following areas:

- \$200,000 facilitated through [Centre de leadership et d'évaluation \(CLE\)](#) in support of Francophone Indigenous resources for students from Grades 4 to 12. These include videos exploring a range of themes regarding Indigenous histories and perspectives, particularly on Treaty recognition, connection to the Land, identities and reconciliation.
- \$200,000 to [Le Centre franco](#). The funding is the result of a request by French-language boards to develop a self-paced learning module to support students' and school staff's understanding of current equity, human rights and anti-racism issues, initiatives and recommendations. The project consists of videos and current pedagogical resources geared toward educators of intermediate- and secondary-level students.
- \$50,000 to [Parents partenaires en éducation](#) to enhance the scope of support to provincial parent organizations to leverage virtual parent networks, resources to participate in board communications and contacts to address local needs. This program provides intensified and targeted supports to parents, as learning recovery strategies are implemented.



- \$50,000 to [Association francophone pour l'éducation artistique en Ontario \(AFÉAO\)](#) through CLE to produce a pedagogical resource focused on games, physical activities and arts from around the world to celebrate the richness of various cultures and communities. This resource will be accessible in the virtual learning environment (VLE) of the French-language school boards.
The French-language (FL) education network is comprised of Centre Jules-Léger and 12 school boards across the province – eight Catholic and four public, including 471 elementary and secondary schools. There are more than 113,000 students enrolled in FL schools this year. In Ontario, 1.5 million people speak French, including more than 622,400 Franco-Ontarians. This represents the largest Francophone population in Canada outside of Quebec.

Doug Ford and the Ontario PC Party are the only government to dedicate two French universities and develop a francophone economic strategy. We've given the Francophone community more love than they've ever seen and the PC Party will continue to support them.

Regards,

Ontario PC Party Campaign