

# **AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA WITH RESPECT TO THEIR FRANCOPHONE POPULATIONS**

**IN THIS AGREEMENT,**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA IS REPRESENTED BY:**

The Minister responsible for Francophone Affairs

**THE GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA IS REPRESENTED BY:**

The Minister of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie

The governments of Manitoba and Nova Scotia are hereinafter referred to as "the Parties".

**WHEREAS** the Parties are home to significant French-speaking populations and have every interest in supporting the richness and diversity of the Francophonie in order to strengthen it, and

**WHEREAS** the Parties share many common interests and concerns related to their respective Francophone and Acadian populations, and

**WHEREAS** the Parties wish to preserve and promote French language and culture through various reciprocal collaborations and exchanges, and

**WHEREAS** the Parties seek to foster the development of their respective Francophone and Acadian communities through targeted opportunities in sectors where they have identified common interests and aspirations, and

**WHEREAS** the Parties wish to support the development of their respective Francophone and Acadian communities and to ensure the long term future of the French reality in Canada by increasing relations and exchanges, and

**WHEREAS** the Parties are determined to ensure this cooperation is based on concrete actions in priority areas that promote the vitality of the French language and Francophone culture;

THEREFORE the Parties agree to share and exchange information and expertise, and to cooperate in a number of areas including, but not limited to, education, immigration, provincial and municipal government services, economic development, health care, tourism and culture, as outlined in the following Articles.

## **Title I: IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK**

### **Article 1**

The Manitoba Minister responsible for Francophone Affairs and the Nova Scotia Minister of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie shall meet at least once every two years to share and discuss developments with respect to the Canadian Francophonie.

### **Article 2**

A four-year bilateral action plan based on mutually agreed upon priorities will be developed and adopted. Initiatives must fall under the priority areas for action. They are expected to provide positive and lasting impacts to the Francophonie, and to enhance the vitality and development of the Parties' respective Francophone and Acadian communities. Initiatives are mutually agreed upon by both Parties.

The Parties will provide information, liaison and support to public bodies and community associations interested in opportunities to share best practices and expertise in the mutually agreed priority areas for action.

**Article 3**

Each year, a Cooperation Committee made up of senior officials from Manitoba's Francophone Affairs Secretariat and Nova Scotia's Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie will meet to review activities undertaken under the action plan, discuss progress achieved over the preceding year, identify proposed directions for the coming year, and submit recommendations to their respective ministers.

**Title II: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Article 4**

This agreement shall take effect on being signed by the Parties and will remain in effect for a period of four years. A review will be undertaken at the end of this period and the agreement may be renewed. Amendments may be made upon written consent of the Parties and the agreement may be terminated by either of the Parties upon at least six months' written notice to the other Party.

SIGNED THIS 9<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2024, IN BOTH FRENCH AND ENGLISH, EACH VERSION BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA:

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA:

*Original signed by:*

*Original signed by:*

*Glen Simard*

*Colton LeBlanc*

Minister responsible for Francophone Affairs

Minister of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie