

French Language Services Yukon Government



Chronology of Events and Accomplishments



French Language Services Chronology of Accomplishments

🔗 **May 15, 2014:** The French Language Services Directorate and the Association franco-yukonnaise unveil the new *Bonjour Yukon* logo, created to raise awareness of places where the public can receive services in French. The launch of the *Bonjour Yukon* logo marks the beginning of an awareness campaign inviting people to use French language services anywhere the logo is displayed. The active offer concept means that services are readily available in French and proactively offered by frontline staff.

🔗 **January 2014 :** Minister of Health and Social Services Doug Graham, Minister responsible for the French Language Services Directorate Elaine Taylor and members of the Francophone community officially launch a pilot project that actively offers French language and interpretation services to Yukon Francophone residents at three separate health sector sites.

The pilot project aims to provide Francophones with improved access to frontline services at three pilot sites selected jointly by the French-speaking community and government officials. Insured Health Services, Homecare Services, and the Specialists' Clinic at the Whitehorse General Hospital will begin delivering a program with a client-centered approach to service delivery, known as active offer, in both official languages.

🔗 **August 2013:** The Yukon government publishes a monthly column in the French newspaper, *l'Aurore boréale*. "**Des nouvelles de la Direction des services en français**" provides news and updates on French-language related matters, as well as highlights and developments with respect to provision of French language services by the Government of Yukon.

🔗 **April 1, 2013:** The French Language Services Directorate (FLSD) is established as a separate department within the Government of Yukon giving it a more prominent and important position.

🔗 **February 2013:** The Government of Yukon invests \$289,000 to implement three pilot projects to strengthen French language services in the health and social services sector and also to develop a strategic four-year plan for French language services.

🔗 **December 2012:** The Advisory Committee on French Language Services(ACFLS) counts two new members, i.e. the Yukon Francophone School Board and the Education Deputy Minister. Besides these new seats, added at the request of the Commission scolaire francophone du Yukon, the ACFLS is composed of two representatives of the Association franco-yukonnaise, one representative of the Francophone public, one representative of the Yukon Employee Union and three other deputy ministers (currently Executive Council Office, Public Service Commission and Health and Social Services).

🔗 **February 2012 :** Yukoners have access to the Motor Vehicles branch online registration renewal service in French and English.

🔗 **September 2011:**

- Twenty (20) YG Websites available in French
- 380 public forms available in French on the main YG Website.

🔗 **April 2011:** Publication, by the French Language Services Directorate, of a bank of terminology and Style Guide for Yukon Government employees and the Francophone community to ensure consistency and clarity of French communications throughout Yukon.

- ↳ **January 2011:** Creation of a Bilingual Staffing Working Group.
- ↳ **November 2010:** The Adult French Language Training Centre is transferred to the Public Service Commission's Staff Development Branch for greater efficiency.
- ↳ **February 2010:** The Yukon Francophonie is featured at the Winter Olympics in Vancouver. French-speaking Yukon artists perform at a range of venues.
- ↳ **January 2010:** Creation of the Deputy Ministers Review Committee – Sub-Committee on French Language Services.
- ↳ **June 3, 2009:** The Yukon government launches the travelyukon.com website in French.
- ↳ **February 2009:** For the first time, "Providing Services in French to Yukon Citizens", a two-hour awareness session on service delivery is offered to Government employees through the Quarterly.
- ↳ **2009:** FLSD's Translation Unit adds two new staff to its team.
- ↳ **June 2008:** The Yukon Government hosts Francoforce in Whitehorse, a national celebration to mark the 400th anniversary of Quebec City.
- ↳ **June 17, 2008:** DMRC approves three new human resources guidelines: Language Training, Bilingual Staffing and Wage Recovery.
- ↳ **May 15, 2008:** A ceremony to mark the 20th anniversary of the *Languages Act* is held on Yukon Francophonie Day.
- ↳ **2008:** FLSD adds two permanent positions to its team: the Communications and Policy Manager and the French Web Coordinator.
- ↳ **May 15, 2007:** Proclamation of the first Yukon Francophonie Day in recognition of the 25th anniversary of the *Association franco-yukonnaise*.
- ↳ **January 2007:** Creation of the Committee on Communications and Translation.
- ↳ **2007:** YG's FLSD and the Canada Winter Games sign an agreement to ensure the Games are bilingual and to share translation and terminology resources. The Games are deemed a success with regards to its bilingualism.
- ↳ **April 2006:** Official opening of the French Language Services Directorate and appointment of Glenn Hart as Minister Responsible for the French Language Services Directorate.
- ↳ **January 2005:** Through the Yukon-Quebec agreement, the government of Yukon provides AFY 12,500 dollars for a series of cultural activities, thus matching the funds from the Quebec government.
- ↳ **2005:** A partnership is established between the YG's Youth Directorate and *Espoir Jeunesse*, the francophone youth group, providing annual program funding of 25,000 dollars to help young people strengthen their cultural identity.

- ↳ **October 2004:** Yukon signs a cooperation agreement with the province of Quebec to support the development and vitality of the French language and culture, as well as the growth of the Yukon French-speaking community.
- ↳ **March 31, 2004:** A special project for a web site coordinator is approved by Canadian Heritage.
- ↳ **2004:** The third report on the *Evaluation of the Canada-Yukon Funding Agreement on the development, enhancement and implementation of French language services (1999-2004)* is published.
- ↳ **October 2003:** The Government of Yukon, in consultation with the Francophone community, tables its plan to improve access to health services in French.
- ↳ **July 9, 2003:** Yukon develops a five-year plan for the implementation of French language services at the Whitehorse General Hospital. The Government of Canada agrees to pay for the implementation of the plan.
- ↳ **April 2003:** Canada and Yukon governments agree to open discussions on health issues with the goal of finding a negotiated settlement.
- ↳ **2002:** Adult French language training is transferred from the Department of Education to the Bureau of French Language Services, and the Adult French Language Training Centre is created with a full-time instructor/coordinator. The office is moved to the Wood Street School.
- ↳ **March 2001:** Official opening of the Centre de la francophonie.
- ↳ **2000:** YG and Government of Canada partner for the construction of the *Garderie du petit cheval blanc*.
- ↳ **November 2000:** Bureau of French Language Services is transferred to Government Services from Executive Council Office.
- ↳ **February 2000:** Yukon Department of Tourism and the Bureau of French Language Services collaborate on a project to send a representative to France to market the Yukon as a Tourist destination especially for second language learning.
- ↳ **January 2000:** Yukon Department of Tourism building has all of its signs made bilingual.
- ↳ **November 1999:** The Government of Yukon then signs an agreement with AFY and becomes a partner with the Government of Canada and the French community in this venture. The community is therefore accountable to YG only for the building project.
- ↳ **November 1999:** The Government of Yukon signs an agreement with Canadian Heritage to administer the 750,000 dollars Canada contributes to the construction of the "Centre de la francophonie".
- ↳ **October 1999:** The Government of Yukon agrees to provide \$500,000 towards the construction of the "Centre de la francophonie".
- ↳ **April 1999:** The *Canada-Yukon Funding Agreement* is renewed for another five- year term (1999-2004).

- ↳ **March 1999:** Meeting of the representatives of the Governments of Canada (Health Canada & Canadian Heritage) and Yukon, the Yukon Hospital Corporation and the Association franco-yukonnaise to address issues related to the provision of French language services for those services devolved by Health Canada in 1993 and 1997 to the Yukon.
- ↳ **July 9 & 10, 1998:** The Ministerial Conference on Francophone Affairs is held in Whitehorse.
- ↳ **January 1998:** The Bureau of French Language services moves to the Administration Main Building and shares office with the other Executive Council Office's branches.
- ↳ **January 1998:** The Bureau of French Language Services and Public Communication Services are merged as a result of the restructuring of the Executive Council Office.
- ↳ **March 1997:** Publication of the *Evaluation of the Canada-Yukon Funding Agreement on the Development, Enhancement and Implementation of French Language Services 1993-1998*.
- ↳ **September 1996:** Opening of the new building of École Émilie-Tremblay.
- ↳ **December 4, 1995:** The first members of the Yukon Francophone School Board are sworn in.
- ↳ **November 1995:** The Yukon Francophone School Board of Education Area 23 holds its first elections.
- ↳ **June 7, 1995:** Francophones vote for the creation of a school board to replace the existing school council in their jurisdiction. This school board is the first one in the Yukon.
- ↳ **August 1995:** The *Guidelines for Advertising, Publishing and Other Forms of Communication in French* are approved, published and distributed throughout the government and are made available to the Francophone community.
- ↳ **January 1995:** The Department of Community and Transportation Services hires a bilingual counter clerk in the Motor Vehicle Section.
- ↳ **September 1994:** The Yukon Hospital Corporation hires a part-time bilingual coordinator to implement the Hospital's plan for the delivery of French language services to the public.
- ↳ **April 1994:** The Department of Justice hires a bilingual counter clerk for Court Services.
- ↳ **March 1994:** The Bureau of French Language Services publishes its first Annual Report.
- ↳ **February 1994:** Graham & Associates submits *A Plan to Implement French Language Service at Whitehorse Hospital* to the Yukon Hospital Corporation.
- ↳ **February 1994:** A bilingual social worker is hired by the department of Health & Social Services.
- ↳ **December 1993:** All acts and regulations made before December 31, 1990 are consolidated and republished in both English and French.

- ↳ **October 1993:** A bilingual health services information agent is hired by the department of Health & Social Services.
- ↳ **October 1993:** Creation of the Interdepartmental Committee on French Language Services, a network of FLS coordinators to facilitate implementation of FLS in each department and corporation.
- ↳ **October 1993:** Creation of the Working Committee on French Language Services.
- ↳ **May 1993:** A Francophone is named to the Yukon Hospital Corporation Board by Health & Social Services Minister.
- ↳ **April 1993:** The department of Justice nominates a French-speaking Justice of the Peace.
- ↳ **April 1993:** The *Canada-Yukon Funding Agreement* is renewed for another five- year term (1993-98). However, this agreement signals the beginning of significant cuts in funding.
- ↳ **March 1993:** The first bilingual signs are erected in Court Services (Department of Justice), the Bureau of French Language Services and the Commissioner's Office.
- ↳ **January 1993:** The governments of Canada and Yukon publish the report *A joint review* which examines the initiatives taken and the results achieved five years after signing the *Canada-Yukon Funding Agreement*.
- ↳ **January 1993:** Official implementation of French language services within the Yukon government.
- ↳ **November 1992:** The Bureau of French Language Services opens up its French Inquiry Centre.
- ↳ **November 1992:** The translation and design of bilingual public forms begins.
- ↳ **October 1992:** All documentation and forms for the territorial elections are bilingual.
- ↳ **August 1992:** The *Study and Proposed Framework for the delivery of French Language Health Services in the Yukon*, as commissioned by the Interim Hospital Board, Yukon Hospital Corporation, is presented to the Board.
- ↳ **Feb. 1990 to May 1992:** Six trials are held in French, including one jury trial.
- ↳ **Spring 1992:** French language services plans for priority departments are drafted and approved by the Advisory Committee on French Language Services.
- ↳ **November 1991:** The *Review of Personnel Management Policies and Practices for the Implementation of FLS* is presented to the Advisory Committee on French Language Services.
- ↳ **November 1991:** The first bilingual birth certificate is issued by the Department of Health & Social Services.
- ↳ **October 1991:** “À votre service”, the Bureau of French Language Services’ chronicle is published for the first time in “*Aurore boréale*”, the Yukon French newspaper.
- ↳ **October 1991:** Cabinet approves the first *French Language Policy* (modified in 1994).

- **June 1991:** Daniel Mathieu of the Institut Joseph-Dubuc (Manitoba) submits his *Report on the Implementation of French Language Services within the Court Services Branch of the Yukon Department of Justice*.
- **February 1991:** Elections are held in French for the first time for École Émilie-Tremblay's School Council.
- **Jan. 1, 1991:** As of that date, all Yukon laws are drafted, adopted and published in English and in French (statutes, regulations and Orders in Council).
- **September 1990:** The Department of Education hires a bilingual superintendent.
- **April 1990:** The *Report on Implementation of French Language Services, Phase I - Identification of Services* is submitted to the Advisory Committee on French Language Services by the consultant YG hired to coordinate Phase 1.
- **February 1990:** The Department of Justice hires a second bilingual legislative counsel.
- **July 1989:** The Department of Justice hires a bilingual legislative counsel for drafting laws in both English and French.
- **June 1989:** The Advisory Committee on French Language Services is created to advise the Minister of the Executive Council Office on any matter related to the *Languages Act* and the implementation of government services in French.
- **February 1989:** The Yukon and the federal governments sign the first *Canada-Yukon Funding Agreement on the Development, Enhancement and Implementation of French Language Rights and Services*.
- **November 1988:** The Bureau of French Language Services is established to coordinate the planning of French language services, to provide translations services to YG departments and corporations, and to facilitate the consultation process with the Francophone community.
- **May 1988:** The Yukon Legislative Assembly adopts the *Languages Act*.
- **April 28, 1988:** The *Canada-Yukon Language Agreement* is signed.