

# Health Canada's Official Language Community Development Bureau

The Official Language Community Development Bureau is responsible for the implementation of Section 41 of the *Official Languages Act* at Health Canada:

- Enhancing the vitality of official language minority communities (OLMCs) and supporting and assisting their development;
- Fostering the full recognition and use of both English and French in Canadian society;
- Ensuring that positive measures are taken by Health Canada in implementing these commitments.

## Mandate

- Improve access to health services for OLMCs in Canada;
- Promote the use of both official languages at Health Canada; and
- Ensure that Health Canada takes positive steps for implementing section 41 of the *Official Languages Act* while respecting the jurisdiction and powers of the provinces and territories.

## Roles

- Managing the Official Languages Health Program (OLHP), which is part of the Action Plan for Official Languages – 2018-2023: Investing in Our Future;
- Promoting and developing partnerships with OLMCs, as well as provinces and territories;
- Providing advice and guidance to Health Canada branches and regional offices to assist them in the implementation of Part VII of the *Official Languages Act*;
- Developing and updating five-year departmental action plans and report annually to Canadian Heritage on the implementation of section 41 of the *Official Languages Act*;
- Engaging OLMCs and various partners to meet the health needs of their members;
- Supporting activities related to the Federal Health Portfolio Consultative Committee for OLMCs in Canada; and
- Supporting health research on OLMC priorities to inform policy development related to access to health services.

