

The OL Connection

October 2025

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Headlines

2024 Public Service Employee Survey Results

In June 2025, the Treasury Board Secretariat's Office of the Chief Human Resources Officer released the results of the 2024 Public Service Employee Survey which was conducted from October 28 to December 31, 2024. These results include overall data for the federal public service along with department and agency specific findings for each participating organization. The second wave of results, which included data by organizational unit, was published on July 15, 2025. The Survey included five questions related to the use of official languages. In total, 186,635 employees from 93 federal departments and agencies responded to the 2024 Public Service Employee Survey, representing a response rate of 50.5%. Click here to view the results.

Context on the evolution of questions:

Each iteration of the Public Service Employee Survey (PSES) includes recurring questions to measure progress over time as well as new or modified questions that reflect current priorities and initiatives. Questions are added based on ongoing consultations with various partners and employee network groups across the public service. Thus, this year the survey includes five questions on official languages compared to three in 2022.

Official Languages Regulations Reapplication Exercise (OLRRE)

Offices subject to automatic rules

The updated list of offices subject to automatic rules was published in <u>Burolis</u> in October 2024. In accordance with the <u>Directive on the Implementation of the Official Languages (Communications with and Services to the Public) Regulations</u>, institutions have until <u>October 11</u>, 2025 to:

- implement the measures needed to fulfill their language obligations (for newly designated bilingual offices); or
- inform the minority population served of the date the bilingual services will no longer be provided at that office and where they can receive services in their preferred official language (for unilingual offices that are no longer required to provide services in both official languages).

Once the timeline set out in the Directive has elapsed, TBS-OLCE will use annual reviews as the primary mechanism to verify compliance.

The <u>Policy on Official Languages</u> and the <u>Directive on Official Languages for Communications and Services</u> provide more details for implementing bilingual obligations within institutions.

Toolbox

Two planning tools for OLMCs and federal institutions

Reminder! Canadian Heritage has two online tools for federal institutions and official language minority communities (OLMC) to help coordinate consultation activities and find funding opportunities. Both are easy to access and use:

The Official languages consultations calendar on GCcollab began as a pilot project a year ago and now has close to 200 members with event listings ranging from symposiums, annual general meetings, dialogue days, consultations and special events. Group members represent over fifty federal institutions as well as OLMC groups. The calendar responds to OLMC organizations' desire for federal institutions to harmonize their approach to consulting key stakeholders. To help maximize available resources on both the Government and the community side, this calendar is a practical tool that can be used to coordinate activities. Federal institutions and community organizations are encouraged to share their plans for various events and to collaborate. To find out more, please visit the website, join the group and add events: Official languages consultations calendar: GCcollab

The inventory of Federal Programs of Interest to Official Language Minority Communities was developed a few years ago in response to needs expressed by organizations to make federal funding programs easier to find. The webpage is regularly updated and provides a search tool for funding opportunities, organized by key sectors for the vitality of communities including arts and culture, economic development, health, technology, justice and immigration. The webpage can be used by individuals, community groups and federal representatives, including national and regional coordinators, to quickly find federal programs that may be relevant to OLMCs. To find out more, we encourage you to visit the website:

<u>Inventory of Federal Programs of Interest to Official Language Minority Communities - Canada.ca</u>

We welcome your questions and comments on these two projects. Write to us: partieviicollaborationpartvii@pch.gc.ca.

Mauril: An Essential Resource for Learning Official Languages



The start of the new season is the perfect time to set new language goals! Whether you want to begin your journey in French or English, or simply maintain your skills, Mauril is the ideal tool to progress and gain confidence.

Completely free and developed by CBC/Radio-Canada, the app was completely redesigned this summer to offer an even more effective and engaging learning experience. It facilitates the

development of your French and English skills through a culturally relevant experience, with 100% authentic Canadian content.

Its new structured path allows for guided progression, while the "Explore" section offers free immersion into Canadian culture, through a multitude of video and audio content from CBC/Radio-Canada. Mauril adapts to all levels, making learning both flexible and enriching.

Support Linguistic Duality

The success of the Mauril app is partly based on its visibility. We encourage you to promote it within your teams. Installing Mauril on your organization's devices is a great way to make learning both official languages accessible with a single click. By sharing Mauril, you are directly contributing to the support and promotion of linguistic duality. If you have any questions about the process, please don't hesitate to contact us via this address partieviicollaborationpartvii@pch.gc.ca. Also note that, if you are interested in having a personalized presentation from Mauril's team at CBC/Radio-Canada, we would be happy to coordinate this with you.

For any questions or to organize a presentation of Mauril within your organization, don't hesitate to contact the Mauril team at mauril@cbc.ca.

Ready to explore? Download the app from the **App Store** or the **Google Play Store** or visit the Mauril.ca website.

Second Official Language Training for Black Public Servants

The Action Plan for Black Public Servants is designed to establish career development initiatives and mental health supports for Black public servants. In 2023, the Treasury Board Secretariat established a Taskforce to lead its implementation. Following consultations in June 2024, four key barriers to second official language training were identified: unclear application processes, inconsistent management support, negative mental health impacts, and unequal access to training.

To address these barriers, a Second Official Language Training Program (SOLT-BPS) was launched. It includes:

- **Stream 1**: Launched April 2025, supports 1,000 participants with self-paced learning tools and mental health resources.
- **Stream 2**: Currently underway, supports 75 participants in partner departments.
- **Stream 3**: Launching Fall 2025, will offer instructor-led training to 250 participants.

These initiatives promote inclusion, professional growth, and equity across the public service.

To learn more, please visit the site: <u>Supporting Black Public Servants - Canada.ca</u>. You may also contact the Task Force at: <u>tfbps-gtfn@tbs-sct.gc.ca</u>.

Community

Join us at the 2025 Official Languages Symposium



Participate in the various activities offered as part of the Official Languages Symposium organized by the Official Languages Centre of Excellence at the Treasury Board Secretariat. This event will be held from November 17 to 21, 2025, under the theme "Artificial Intelligence in support of Official Languages."

Whether you are a public servant, an official languages (OL) champion, a person responsible for OL (PROL), or a person responsible for Part VII of the *Official Languages Act* (PRP7), the Official Languages Symposium week has activities for you, including:

- Monday: Armchair discussion via webcast entitled "Artificial intelligence in support of official languages" – for public servants.
- Tuesday and Friday: Virtual workshops and information sessions on various topics related to OL for public servants.
- Wednesday: A day of discussion and exchanging best practices on artificial intelligence and OL—for PROL and PRP7.
- Thursday: Conference for OL champions and members of the Committee of Assistant Deputy Ministers on OL. However, PROL and PRP7 are invited to listen to the keynote speaker virtually.

For more details on these activities and how to register, visit the Symposium's <u>GCwiki page</u>.

Enjoy!

Role of the Committee of Assistant Deputy Ministers on Official Languages

The Committee of Assistant Deputy Ministers on Official Languages (CADMOL) serves as a catalyst among senior federal public service leaders—including deputy ministers, assistant deputy ministers, and their equivalents—to advance official languages (OL) across the federal public service. Its mission is to:

- Promote a shared vision for official languages that aligns with federal priorities
- Equip senior leaders with a deeper understanding of OL obligations and opportunities
- Champion the deployment of horizontal OL initiatives across federal institutions

In April 2024, responsibility for CADMOL was transferred from the Department of Canadian Heritage to the Treasury Board Secretariat. CADMOL has since adopted

<u>new terms of reference</u> aligned with the President of the Treasury Board's enhanced role in coordinating the implementation of the Official Languages Act and ensuring sound governance in OL. The terms of reference also specify the federal institutions represented on the committee.

Contact the <u>CADMOL Secretariat</u> if you have questions about the committee or wish to discuss potential collaboration opportunities related to horizontal OL initiatives.



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Questions or comments? E-mail us at OLCEInformationCELO@tbs-sct.gc.ca

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