

Airport Authorities Part V Obligations Summary

Background

Airport Authorities have obligations under Part V (Language of Work) of the Official Languages Act (OLA).

Part V of the OLA creates language of work rights for employees, in regions designated bilingual for language of work purposes.

The Head of the organization (for example, Chief Executive Officers), or their delegates, as well as Heads of Human Resources are responsible for ensuring that the language of work right of their employees are respected and Part V obligations are met.

Part V obligations can be summarized across five core areas of responsibility derived from the OLA: workplace, supervision, learning and development, work instruments, and personal and central services.

Section 91 of the OLA, which has implications for staffing. is also a key consideration.

Actively working to respect and maintain compliance with language of work obligations results in dynamic bilingual work environments where all employees feel included and free to express themselves in the official language of their choice.

Airport Authorities Part V Obligations Summary _Bilingual Regions

Bilingual Regions*	Rights and Responsibilities	Common Actions
Workplace	 Employees have the right to work in the official language of their choice. Your institution is responsible for maintaining a work environment conducive to the effective use of both official languages. 	 Ensure leadership teams play a positive role in creating as well as maintaining a work environment conducive to the effective use of both official languages. Examples include: positive practices, mechanisms, or steps taken to support leaders as well as employees in creating and participating in a workplace that fosters the use of both official languages.
Supervision	 Supervision is available to employees occupying bilingual positions in the employee's official language of choice. 	 Ensure supervisors are bilingual. Examples include: ensuring meetings take place in both official languages, leadership teams communicate effectively in both official languages with their employees.
Learning & Development	 Learning and development opportunities are made available in both official languages. 	 Ensure that learning and development opportunities are available in both official languages. Examples include offering learning and development opportunities in English, French, or both official languages simultaneously.
Work Instruments	 Regularly and widely used work instruments, such as computer software or systems, are available in both official languages. 	Determine which work instruments are widely and regularly used and provide them to employees in both official languages.
Personal and Central Services	 Personal and central services such as Human Resources, are available in the employee's official language of choice. 	 Ensure personal as well as central services (such as pay, benefits, finance, administration, security, computer services, and health care) are available in English and French.
Staffing - Section 91 of the Official Languages Act	 Your institution must use objective criteria when determining the linguistic designation of a position based on the duties and functions of the position. 	Before staffing or restaffing a position, review the duties of the position to determine whether they require the use of a second official language.

^{*}Bilingual Regions are: The National Capital Region; some parts of northern and eastern Ontario; the region of Montréal; parts of the Eastern Townships, the Gaspé region and western Quebec; and New Brunswick. <u>Liste des régions bilingues du Canada aux fins de la langue de travail - Canada.ca</u>