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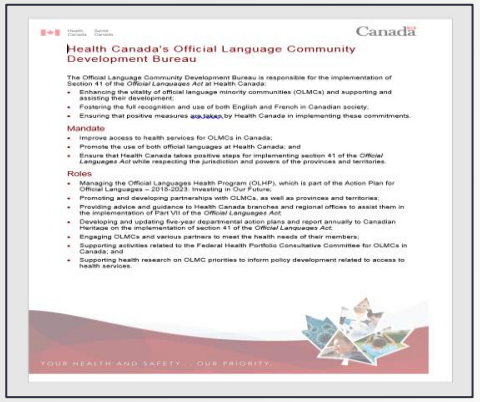
Health Canada

HEALTH CANADA'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BUREAU & OLA PART VII ANALYSIS TOOLS



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.

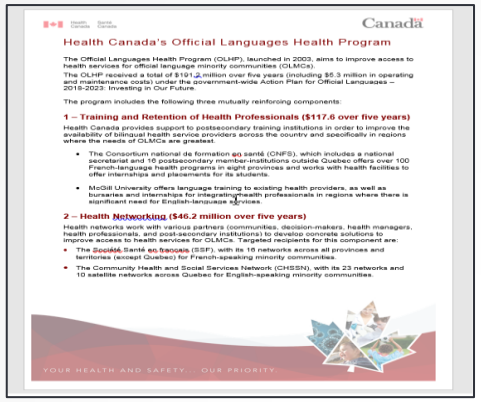
Mandate

- 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.

YOUR HEALTH AND SAFETY... OUR PRIORITY.



Health Canada's Official Languages Health Program

The Official Languages Health Program (OLHP), launched in 2003, aims to improve access to health services for official language minority communities (OLMCs).
The OLHP received a total of $191.2 million over five years (including $5.3 million in operating and maintenance costs) under the government-wide Action Plan for Official Languages – 2018-2023: Investing in Our Future.

The program includes the following three mutually reinforcing components:

1 – Training and Retention of Health Professionals ($117.6 over five years)

Health Canada provides support to postsecondary training institutions in order to improve the availability of bilingual health service providers across the country and specifically in regions where the needs of OLMCs are greatest.

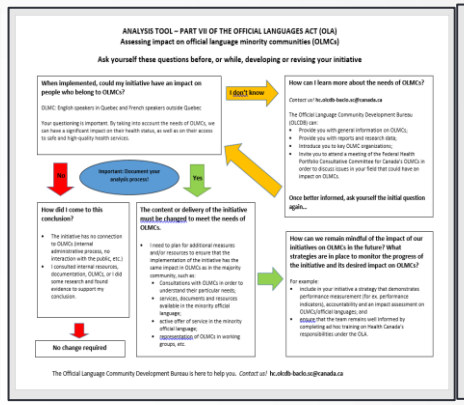
- The Consortium national de formation en santé (CNFS), which includes a national secretariat and 16 postsecondary member-institutions outside Quebec offers over 100 French-language health programs in eight provinces and works with health facilities to offer internships and placements for its students.
- McGill University offers language training to existing health providers, as well as bursaries and internships for integrating health professionals in regions where there is significant need for English-language services.

2 – Health Networking ($46.2 million over five years)

Health networks work with various partners (communities, decision-makers, health managers, health professionals, and post-secondary institutions) to develop concrete solutions to improve access to health services for OLMCs. Targeted recipients for this component are:

- The Société Santé en français (SSF), with its 16 networks across all provinces and territories (except Quebec) for French-speaking minority communities.
- The Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN), with its 23 networks and 10 satellite networks across Quebec for English-speaking minority communities.

YOUR HEALTH AND SAFETY... OUR PRIORITY.



ANALYSIS TOOL – PART VII OF THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGES ACT (OLA)
Assessing impact on official language minority communities (OLMCs)

Ask yourself these questions before, or while, developing or revising your initiative

When implemented, could my initiative have an impact on people who belong to OLMCs?

OLMC: English speakers in Quebec and French speakers outside Quebec

Your questioning is important. By taking into account the needs of OLMCs, we can have a significant impact on their health status, as well as on their access to safe and high-quality health services.

No

Important: Document your analysis process!

Yes

How did I come to this conclusion?

- The initiative has no connection to OLMCs (internal administrative process, no interaction with the public, etc.)
- I consulted internal resources, documentation, OLMCs, or I did some research and found evidence to support my conclusion.

No change required

The content or delivery of the initiative must be changed to meet the needs of OLMCs.

- I need to plan for additional measures and/or resources to ensure that the implementation of the initiative has the same impact in OLMCs as in the majority community, such as:
  - Consultations with OLMCs in order to understand their particular needs;
  - services, documents and resources available in the minority official language;
  - active offer of service in the minority official language;
  - representation of OLMCs in working groups, etc.

I don't know

How can I learn more about the needs of OLMCs?

Contact us! hc.olcdb-baclo.sc@canada.ca

The Official Language Community Development Bureau (OLCDB) can:

- Provide you with general information on OLMCs;
- Provide you with reports and research data;
- Introduce you to key OLMC organizations;
- Invite you to attend a meeting of the Federal Health Portfolio Consultative Committee for Canada's OLMCs in order to discuss issues in your field that could have an impact on OLMCs.

Once better informed, ask yourself the initial question again...

How can we remain mindful of the impact of our initiatives on OLMCs in the future? What strategies are in place to monitor the progress of the initiative and its desired impact on OLMCs?

For example:

- include in your initiative a strategy that demonstrates performance measurement (for ex. performance indicators), accountability and an impact assessment on OLMCs official languages; and
- ensure that the team remains well informed by completing ad hoc training on Health Canada's responsibilities under the OLA.

The Official Language Community Development Bureau is here to help you. Contact us! hc.olcdb-baclo.sc@canada.ca

SUPPORT TOOL FOR THE IMPACT ANALYSIS ON OFFICIAL LANGUAGES
PART VII OF THE *OFFICIAL LANGUAGES ACT*

Purpose: Memorandum to Cabinet ____
Treasury Board Submission ____
Completed by (indicate directorate name): _____
Submission date: _____

Part VII of the *Official Languages Act* (OLA) stipulates that the federal government is committed to enhancing the vitality of the English and French minority communities in Canada and supporting their development, as well as to promoting the full recognition and use of both English and French in Canadian society.

At Health Canada, implementing Part VII involves, on one hand, improving access to health services in official language minority communities (OLMCs) and, on the other hand, including OLMCs in all national initiatives, when relevant.

Three principles guide the activities related to improving access to health services in OLMCs: equity, quality of services and patient safety in the patient's preferred language.

The purpose of this tool is to make it possible to meet the requirements of Part VII of the *Official Languages Act* (OLA) and to support employees in completing the impact analysis needed when developing a Memorandum to Cabinet or a Treasury Board Submission in order to obtain an attestation.

Once completed, this tool will be submitted to the Official Language Community Development Bureau (OLCDB), which will proceed with the attestation.

If you have any questions or need clarification, please contact the OLCDB at hc.olcdb-baclo.sc@canada.ca

IDENTIFICATION

File name _____

Description/objective of the initiative:

Nature of the file:
Political ___ Service ___
Program ___ Other (please specify) _____
Act/regulations ___

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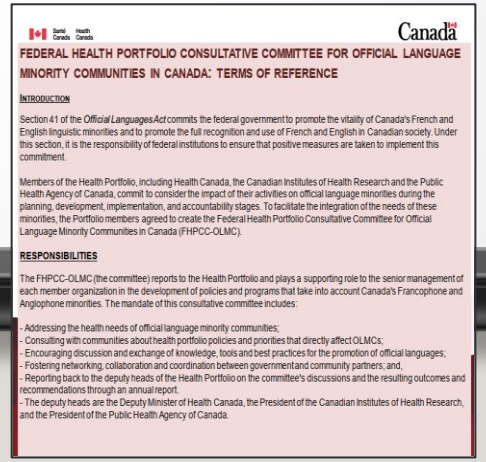
Research and Consultation mechanisms

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

Official Languages Community Development Bureau
Health Care Programs and Policy Directorate
Strategic Policy Branch

2021

VOTRE SANTÉ ET VOTRE SÉCURITÉ... NOTRE PRIORITÉ.



FEDERAL HEALTH PORTFOLIO CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FOR OFFICIAL LANGUAGE MINORITY COMMUNITIES IN CANADA: TERMS OF REFERENCE

INTRODUCTION

Section 41 of the *Official Languages Act* commits the federal government to promote the vitality of Canada's French and English linguistic minorities and to promote the full recognition and use of French and English in Canadian society. Under this section, it is the responsibility of federal institutions to ensure that positive measures are taken to implement this commitment.

Members of the Health Portfolio, including Health Canada, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Public Health Agency of Canada, commit to consider the impact of their activities on official language minorities during the planning, development, implementation, and accountability stages. To facilitate the integration of the needs of these minorities, the Portfolio members agreed to create the Federal Health Portfolio Consultative Committee for Official Language Minority Communities in Canada (FHPCC-OLMC).

RESPONSIBILITIES

The FHPCC-OLMC (the committee) reports to the Health Portfolio and plays a supporting role to the senior management of each member organization in the development of policies and programs that take into account Canada's Francophone and Anglophone minorities. The mandate of this consultative committee includes:

- Addressing the health needs of official language minority communities;
- Consulting with communities about health portfolio policies and priorities that directly affect OLMCs;
- Encouraging discussion and exchange of knowledge, tools and best practices for the promotion of official languages;
- Fostering networking, collaboration and coordination between government and community partners; and,
- Reporting back to the deputy heads of the Health Portfolio on the committee's discussions and the resulting outcomes and recommendations through an annual report.
- The deputy heads are the Deputy Minister of Health Canada, the President of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and the President of the Public Health Agency of Canada.

WORKING GROUP ON DATA AND RESEARCH ON OFFICIAL LANGUAGE MINORITY COMMUNITIES AND HEALTH, 2020-2023

Mandate: The Working Group on Data and Research on Official Language Minority Communities (OLMCs) and Health (WG) reports to the Federal Health Portfolio Consultative Committee for Official Language Minority Communities in Canada (Advisory Committee).

The WG aims to better understand and coordinate the research and data collection efforts of its members regarding OLMCs and health, to support the Advisory Committee and to inform future decisions on research and data.

The WG focuses on issues related to access to health services in English and French - depending on the user's choice - and on the quality and safety of health care (from prevention to treatment) offered in a context of linguistic discrepancy between patient and caregiver. The activities of the WG are aligned with the priorities of the Federal Health Portfolio.

A detailed work plan presents the activities planned for the WG on an annual basis. The plan must be approved by the Advisory Committee. The activities' status will be presented to the Advisory Committee, and adjustments could be made, as needed. The first mandate of the WG will be for 2020 to 2023 and could be renewed if necessary, after evaluation by the Advisory Committee.

Chair: The WG is co-chaired by a representative from the Health Portfolio and a community representative. The co-chairs' mandate is for one year, with the possibility of renewal.

Secretariat functions: The secretariat functions are provided by the Health Canada's Official Language Community Development Bureau (OLCDB).

Members: The WG membership comprises representatives from the targeted beneficiary organizations of the Official Languages Health Program (Community Health and Social Services Network; Société santé en français; Université McGill; Association des collèges et universités de la francophonie canadienne - Consortium national de formation en santé), the Canadian Institute for Research on Linguistic Minorities, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and the federal government organizations that are part of the Advisory Committee.

Other government institutions, community and academia stakeholders may be invited to join as members, as guests or observers, or as presenters to discuss issues of interest related to the mandate.

Health Canada Santé Canada
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DEVELOPMENT BUREAU
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easing access to health services for
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Projects Health
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Professionals
Active Offer
o learn more about Part VII of the
Official Languages Act
at Health Canada contact:
c.olcdb-baclo.sc@canada.ca

Santé Canada Health Canada
BUREAU D'APPUI AUX COMM
DE LANGUE OFFICIEL
Notre mandat...
Améliorer l'accès aux services de
pour les communautés de langue
en situation minoritaire
Promouvoir la pleine reconnaissa
l'usage du français et de l'anglais
dans la société canadienne
Projets Santé
Services Recherche
Intégration Inno
Partenari
Mobilisation Forma
Appui
Accès Vitalit
Communautés Résu
Professionnels
Offre Active
Pour en savoir plus sur la Partie
Loi sur les langues officie
à Santé Canada :
hc.olcdb-baclo.sc@cana