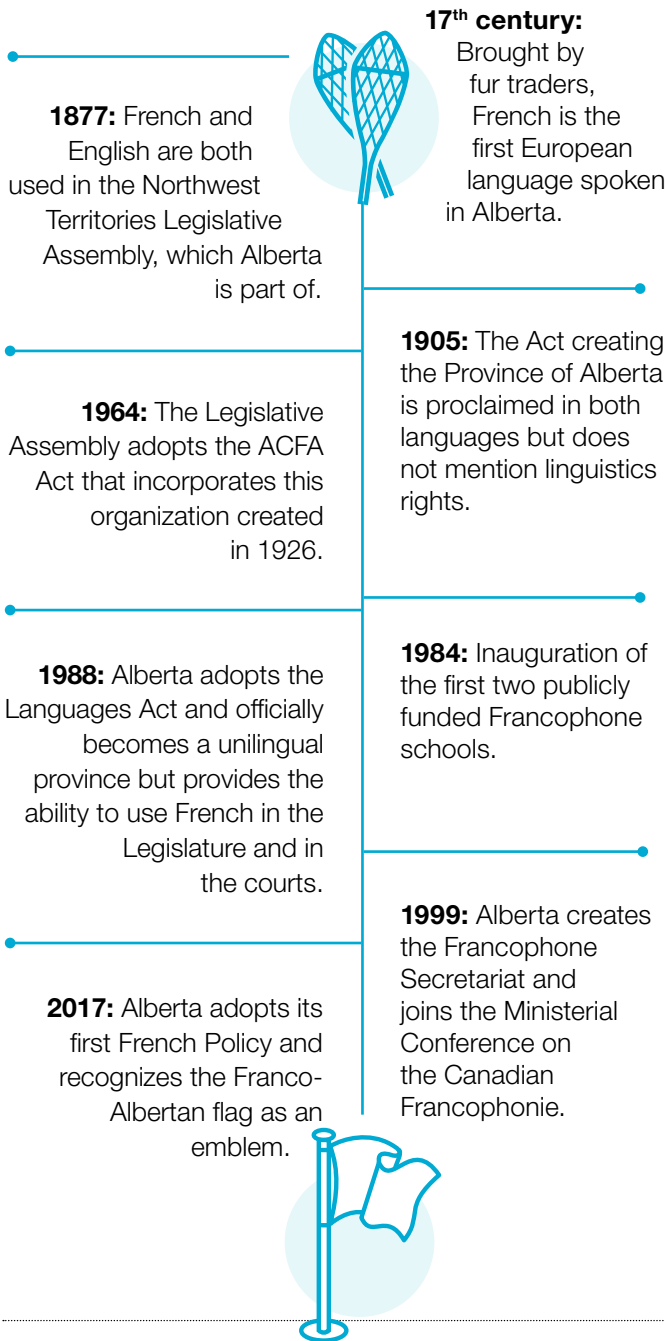


# The Francophonie in Alberta: Strong and Vibrant

## A Rich Heritage



**17<sup>th</sup> century:** Brought by fur traders, French is the first European language spoken in Alberta.

**1877:** French and English are both used in the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly, which Alberta is part of.

**1905:** The Act creating the Province of Alberta is proclaimed in both languages but does not mention linguistic rights.

**1964:** The Legislative Assembly adopts the ACFA Act that incorporates this organization created in 1926.

**1984:** Inauguration of the first two publicly funded Francophone schools.

**1988:** Alberta adopts the Languages Act and officially becomes a unilingual province but provides the ability to use French in the Legislature and in the courts.

**1999:** Alberta creates the Francophone Secretariat and joins the Ministerial Conference on the Canadian Francophonie.

**2017:** Alberta adopts its first French Policy and recognizes the Franco-Albertan flag as an emblem.

## Growing Population

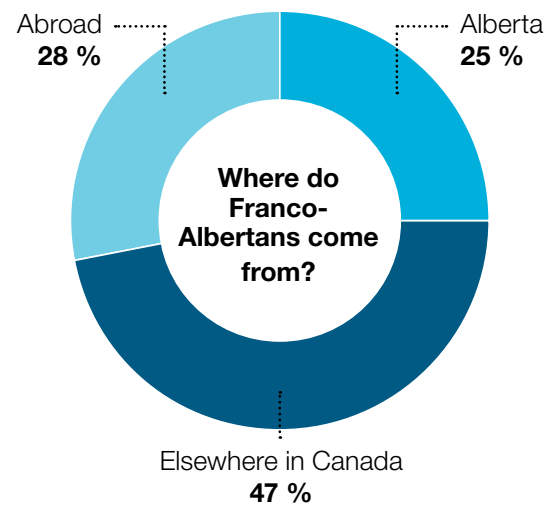
**6%** of Albertans speak French

- ▶ **Up 16%** between 2006 and 2021
- ▶ French is the most common language spoken in Alberta after English

**2%** of Albertans have French as a mother tongue

- ▶ **Up 28%** between 2006 and 2021

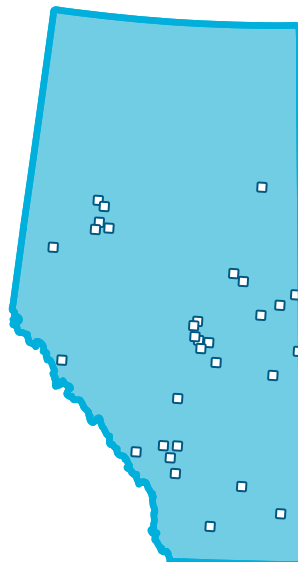
**9%** of Albertans are of French or French-Canadian descent



## Thriving Communities

**31 communities have a strong and vibrant Francophonie**

- ▶ 4 municipalities are officially bilingual
- ▶ 17 are members of the Alberta Bilingual Municipalities Association
- ▶ 13 have an ACFA regional chapter
- ▶ 15 have a cultural centre or other institution(s)
- ▶ 29 have one or several Francophone school(s)

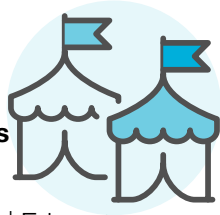


**More than 100 Francophone non-profit organizations operate in Alberta in the following areas:** arts and culture, early childhood, economic development, education, health, heritage preservation, immigration, justice and youth



## Events

**Many events bring together Francophones and Francophiles from across the province:**



- ▶ Flying Canoë Volant | February | Edmonton
- ▶ Carnaval de St-Isidore | February | Northern Alberta
- ▶ Alberta Francophonie Month | March | Everywhere in the province
- ▶ Francophone Winter Festival | March | Calgary
- ▶ Fête franco-albertaine | July | Nordegg

## Media

### Presse :

- ▶ Le Franco

### Télé :

- ▶ Radio-Canada ICI Télé
- ▶ Unis TV

### Radio :

- ▶ CHPL 92,1 FM (Plamondon, Lac La Biche)
- ▶ CJSR Fourre Tout 88 FM (Edmonton)
- ▶ CKRP 95,7 FM (Falher, Peace River)
- ▶ Radio Canada ICI Musique
- ▶ Radio Canada ICI Première
- ▶ Radio Cité 97.9 FM (Edmonton)



## Education Continuum In French

### Schools:

**1 in 3 Alberta students is learning French**

- ▶ Francophone students: 8,532
  - Up 36% since 2013
  - 43 Francophone schools
  - 4 Francophone regional authorities
- ▶ French Immersion students: 43,587
- ▶ Students enrolled in a French as a Second Language course: 122,961

### Early childhood:

**54 Francophone daycares and preschools**

### Postsecondary education:

**Campus Saint-Jean, University of Alberta**

- ▶ 794 students
- ▶ 3 collegial programs
- ▶ 7 undergraduate programs
- ▶ 2 master's programs



## Glossaire

**Franco-Albertan** – A Francophone who lives in Alberta.

**Francophone** – A person who speaks French and identifies to French socially or culturally, regardless of ethnic origin or first language learned.

**Francophonie** – Inclusive term to describe Frenchspeaking individuals and communities, and to represent the organizations that support their vitality.

**Francophone education** – French is taught as a first language; provides a high proficiency in French and an educational experience built around Francophone culture, identity and community.

**Francophile** – A person who appreciates and supports French language and cultures.

**French as a Second Language (FSL) courses** – French is taught as a school subject; optional course that provides basic skills in French.

**French immersion programs** – French is taught as a second language; provides support in the development of French language skills and cultural appreciation.

**French-speaking** – A person who speaks French, regardless of ethnic origin or first language learned.

### Sources:

- Campus Saint Jean, University of Alberta (2022-23 data)
- Corporate Data Warehouse, Government of Alberta
- Fédération des parents francophones de l'Alberta (2018 data)
- Ministry of Education, Government of Alberta (2017-18 data and 2020-2021 data)
- Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages
- Statistics Canada (2006, 2011, 2016 and 2021 censuses)

