



Movement for an officially bilingual Capital of Canada

The *Movement for an officially bilingual Capital of Canada* is a citizens' initiative with an ambitious project: to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Confederation. Its goal is to declare the City of Ottawa, the nation's capital, officially bilingual, to grant equal status to the French and English languages in the capital of Canada and to ensure that all municipal services are offered to the public in both official languages throughout the City.

Founding Members

The following three key founders and promoters of the *Movement* contribute their time, effort and expertise on an entirely volunteer basis.

- **Linda Cardinal**, Professor and Research Chair in Canadian Francophonie and Public Policies at the University of Ottawa;
- **G rard L vesque**, well-known lawyer and legal counsel on linguistic rights and seasoned veteran in the defense of the official languages in Canada;
- **Jacques de Courville Nicol**, President of Noracom Consultants Inc., businessman, former federal official at Secretary of State (now known as Heritage Canada) and the Treasury Board where he was responsible for training and information on official languages for the federal public service during the late 60's and early 70's.

Goal

- The *Movement* seeks to reach, inform and unite as many politicians, media outlets, organizations, companies, and French and English-speaking citizens as possible throughout the country in favour of declaring the Capital of Canada officially bilingual prior to the 150th anniversary of Confederation in 2017. The idea is far from being a new one. The article "Why a Movement for an officially bilingual Capital of Canada" on this website provides some historical context.
- Each person, organization, company or institution is entirely free to choose the strategy, budget, timeline, method of communication, point of view and process required, either collectively or individually, to achieve the common goal, declaring the nation's capital "officially bilingual", on or before the 150th anniversary of Confederation in 2017.

Financing

- The *Movement* collects donations to help achieve its goal.
- All donations will be used exclusively for the needs of the Movement, such as promotion of its objectives.
- A complete list of all donors and the amount donated is posted on our website and periodically updated.
- All expenditures are preauthorized by at least two of the founding members and are used exclusively to pay direct and essential costs required to promote the *Movement* and its goals.
- For the time being, donations are very modest.
- A detailed and audited final account of the funds received and spent will be posted on the *Movement's* website at the end of 2017.