

Official Languages

Champion - Bertin Côté

1. **That the Department recommit funds for official languages training as well as maintenance training in-house.**

DEPUTIES' RESPONSE: Agreed. Funds will be made available as of the summer of 1999.

2. **Spouses should be provided with the necessary official language training prior to an assignment abroad.**

DEPUTIES' RESPONSE: The CFSI is revising its policy to ensure spouses have access to existing official language courses.

3. **To ameliorate the visibility and effectiveness of the Official Languages Program within the Department, both here and abroad, official languages champions should be appointed within each division at Headquarters and at each Mission abroad.**

DEPUTIES' RESPONSE: Champions for Official Languages will be appointed at the mission and bureau levels as of the summer of 1999.

4. **That the French version in half of all bilingual internal messages for general distribution appear before the English version.**

DEPUTIES' RESPONSE: If applied, this recommendation would contravene existing official languages regulations as issued by the Treasury Board. Instead, the English and French versions of broadcast messages will be equally accessible via hyperlinks. This new approach will be implemented soon.