



Canada and La Francophonie

- Canada is one of 55 member states and participating governments of the "Organisation internationale de la francophonie" (OIF).
- The OIF works for peace in French-speaking countries in collaboration with the UN and regional organizations; it also works to strengthen the rule of law and democracy, and to promote and protect human right in those countries.
- The organization holds summits for heads of state every two years to lay down policy guidelines for the French-speaking world.
- It runs programs such as the Francophone Information Highway Fund and the African Performing Arts Market, cultural activity and reading centres, and a program to promote the use of French in international organizations.
- The second summit of La Francophonie took place in Quebec City in 1987, while the eighth summit was held in Moncton in 1999. Hull hosted the IV Francophone Games in July 2001.

Canada and the Commonwealth

- The Commonwealth is a voluntary association of 54 diverse, independent states, consulting through a largely informal network of governmental and non-governmental links.
- Today, even though half the members are small states with populations of under one million people, member states together represent nearly one quarter of the world's population and one third of the membership of the United Nations.
- A founding member of the Commonwealth in 1931, Canada remains one of the its strongest supporters and promoters. We are the second-largest financial contributor to Commonwealth Secretariat programs, after the United Kingdom. Canadian experts have also participated in the preparation