



Since 1986, the Francophone movement has gained new momentum. Three conferences that included heads of state and heads of government of countries using French as a common language, are now commonly known as the **Francophone Summits**. Canada hosted the second Summit, in Quebec City, that followed the Dakar Summit and preceded the Paris Summit. It has also been actively involved in all phases of Summit preparation.

Canadian participation in La Francophonie at the multilateral level is indicative of Canada's desire to project a clear image on the international scene. Efforts to bring the Francophone community closer together is of interest not only to the federal government, but to all Canadians.

At a very early stage, Quebec displayed an interest in La Francophonie. The federal government also encouraged other provinces with a large French-speaking population to become involved. As a result, representatives of four provinces (Quebec, Ontario, New Brunswick and Manitoba) participated in the 1970 Constitutional Conference of the ACCT.