

## 2019 Consultations with Organizations serving English-speaking Communities Toward the Development of a Government Action Plan for English-speaking Quebecers

### Mandate of the Secrétariat

The mandate of the Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d’expression anglaise is to:

- Ensure liaisons with sectoral, regional and provincial groups that represent English-speaking Quebecers.
- Ensure that the concerns of English-speaking Quebecers are taken into consideration in the development of government policy direction and decisions, and in matters of access to government programmes and their application in conjunction with the concerned ministries and agencies.
- Make available relevant statistics to document issues facing English-speaking Quebecers.
- Interact with the federal government on issues, agreements, programs or policies that may have a direct or indirect impact on English-speaking Quebecers in collaboration with the Secrétariat du Québec aux relations canadiennes and other ministries and bodies concerned.
- Advise the government, ministries and bodies on relations with English-speaking Quebecers regarding the provision of services and issues, agreements, programs and policies that may have a direct or indirect impact on the community.

### Strategic objectives of the Secrétariat: the logic model

The following table is an excerpt from the logic model used by the Secrétariat on which the consultation sessions are based.

Long-term outcome	Organizations and institutions from English-speaking communities will have better relationships with Government of Québec departments and agencies and will work together to promote the full participation of English-speaking Quebecers in the social, cultural and economic spheres.		
Mid-term outcomes	<u>Community organizations and institutions</u> will have an increased ability to partner with the Government	The Secrétariat will be perceived by community stakeholders and government departments and agencies as a useful facilitator for establishing <b><u>community-government</u></b> links and as a source of reliable and relevant information on community realities and government policies or programs	<b><u>Government departments and agencies</u></b> will be better informed about the situation of Québec’s English-speaking communities and demonstrate an increased capacity to include them in departmental strategies, programs and services
	Topic 1	Topic 3	Topic 2

## Consultation sessions

The objective of the consultation is to receive input from community organizations and institutions concerning the current situation of English-speaking Quebecers, and to receive input on governmental priorities and orientations prior to the drafting of the government action plan for relations with English-speaking Quebecers. The consultations will consist of two phases: a series of eight sessions with regional groups, followed by three sector-based consultation sessions in the areas of cultural, social and economic development.

The discussions will give Christopher Skeete, Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier for relations with English-speaking Quebecers, an opportunity to gain more insight into the English-speaking community via its organizations and institutions.

For those not participating in the consultation sessions, it will still be possible to provide input on the topics discussed by going to the website <https://www.mce.gouv.qc.ca/srqea> where a section on the consultations will be available during the fall.

## Discussion topics on the agenda

### Topic 1 – Development and role of institutions, associations and community networks

- Are English-speaking communities, through their institutions, associations and networks, in a sufficiently strong position to successfully meet the challenges and/or opportunities that exist in your region/sector of activity?
- Can you provide any examples of successful initiatives or strategies implemented by communities to specifically serve the interests of the English-speaking communities in your region/sector?
- How can institutions, associations and community networks react more effectively to the challenges and opportunities that may be available in your region/sector?

### Topic 2 – Policies, programs and services of the Government of Québec

- Are the Government of Québec's existing policies, programs and services properly adapted to the situation and challenges facing the English-speaking population in your region/sector?
- Can you provide any examples of successful initiatives or approaches that government or public institutions have introduced to deal with the specific situation of English-speaking communities in your region/sector?
- Can you suggest any specific ways in which the government approach could be adapted to respond more effectively to the needs and challenges of English-speaking communities in your region/sector?

### Topic 3 – Orientations and priorities of the Secrétariat

- In pursuing its mission, to what extent should the Secrétariat focus on your own region/sector?
- Are there any particular approaches in your region or sector, or ways to encourage organizations to work together or with the government, that could be applied in other regions/sectors?
- Are there any possibilities for inter-departmental or inter-governmental actions that the Secrétariat should explore with respect to your region or sector?

## Preliminary agenda for the consultation sessions

1.	Word of welcome and introduction
2.	Presentation of the process for the session
3.	Report on the activities of the Secrétariat, 2017-2019
4.	Discussion and debate
4.1.	Topic 1 – Development and role of institutions, associations and community networks
Break	
4.2.	Topic 2 – Policies, programs and services of the Government of Québec
4.3.	Topic 3 – Orientations and priorities of the Secrétariat
5.	Comments by the Parliamentary Assistant / Conclusion of the meeting