



The Power of Learning French: Your Key to Thriving in Québec

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Outreach

Living and flourishing in Québec requires one essential prerequisite: learning French, the language of Molière.

French is the official language of business, the courts and government. In some cities like Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean, nearly the entire population speaks French. Similarly, Montreal's vibrant arts scene, from theatre to cinema, often operates in both English and French. But much of local popular culture is in French only with a diverse Francophone ecosystem nourished by home-grown talent. Coming armed with fluency in French gives you the tools to take advantage of all the province has to offer – politically, economically, socially and culturally.

The Benefits of Learning French

In a majority French-speaking province, speaking French opens doors to personal and professional growth. It can foster deeper relationships, enhance career prospects, and allow fuller access to Québec's rich history and traditions.

Moreover, learning a second language brings a host of cognitive and psychological benefits. Studies have shown that learning a second (or third) language can enhance creativity, memory, and communication skills. The process of learning — whether it's through translating, switching between languages, or the study of grammar — stimulates the brain.

Researchers [Scott Schroeder](#) and [Viorica Marian](#) have demonstrated that people who speak multiple languages perform better on memory tests than those who do not, regardless of whether they learned the language as a child or as an adult.

Learning to speak French in particular can enhance English speakers' communication skills. Because many English words are taken from French, there are similarities in structure and word formation. This makes French a great companion for improving one's grasp of English, while also expanding one's overall linguistic knowledge.

Learning French in Québec is not only practical for engaging fully with the local community, but also brings a multitude of personal and cognitive benefits. Whether you're walking the streets of Montreal, attending the theatre or going hiking in one of Quebec's picturesque regions, mastering the French language will make you feel more at home and expand your horizons. With more opportunities to practice French, English-speaking Quebecers can be prepared to immerse themselves in Quebecois culture and society.

Circonflexe: A Mentorship Program for Language and Career Growth

To support Québec residents who want to immerse themselves in the province's rich culture, as well as improve their access to employment opportunities, the Provincial Employment Roundtable (PERT) has launched the [Circonflexe Mentorship Program](#). The program, supported by the [Ministry of Immigration, Francisation, and Integration](#) through Francisation Québec, pairs English-speaking mentees with French-proficient mentors to enhance their language skills and unlock new career opportunities.

Mentorship provides an immersive learning experience, as well as regular opportunities for mentees to practice their language skills in a comfortable environment. It is just one of the many ways that PERT is supporting Québec's English-speaking communities, and helping to build a province where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

Applications are open to enhance your skills, make new connections, and give back to the community. French-speaking professionals are invited to [apply](#) to become a mentor for a 1-year period, and help others thrive in Québec's labour market.

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PERT is focused on addressing the employment and employability challenges facing Quebec's English-speaking community.



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