

Alliance Quebec agrees with *The Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages National Report on Service to the Public in English and French: Time for a Change in Culture*

Montreal, Wednesday, April 25, 2001 - Alliance Quebec agrees with *The Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages National Report on Service to the Public in English and French: Time for a Change in Culture*. The report clearly reveals that there is still much work to be done to ensure that members of the public can communicate with and receive available services from federal institutions in English or French.

“In making concrete recommendations to ensure employees of federal institutions are aware of their obligations in this respect and in recognizing the link between provision of service in both official languages and language of work, the Commissioner of Official Languages is clearly pushing forward the federal government’s commitment to linguistic duality and delivery of service in both official languages,” said Darryl Levine, member of Alliance Quebec’s Executive Committee. “In fact, we firmly believe that all levels of government should work together to ensure and improve delivery of services, through public institutions, in both official languages.”

Alliance Quebec was also pleased to learn that the federal government has taken a strong leadership role in concentrating the responsibility for official languages in the Intergovernmental Affairs Ministry. In fact, Alliance Quebec recently met with Stephane Dion to review issues of particular concern to English-speaking Quebecers notably, federal government support of linguistic minority communities in Quebec and the under-representation of English-speaking people in the federal civil service in Quebec.