

For immediate release

Can Canada Stay Bilingual? Coalition Says Oui and that It's Time for Action

Linguistic Duality Network introduces new name, new logo and a refined mandate at the service of Canada's Official Languages.

Ottawa, December 2, 2025 – The Linguistic Duality Network, one of the few voices in Canada dedicated to strengthening official languages, is pleased to announce its relaunch under a new name: the Coalition for Official Languages. This renewed direction is the result of extensive consultations held throughout early 2025, during which key interest groups examined shared challenges facing Canada's official languages and the need to better engage the majority of Canadians.

Founded by Canadian Parents for French, French for the Future, and the Dialogue Network, the original Linguistic Duality Network helped establish an important space for collaboration in an environment often marked by silos. Its evolution reflects a growing need for coordinated and collective impact.

"The realities and needs of Canada's linguistic communities are increasingly diverse and continue to shift," said Derrek Bentley, Network CEO of Canadian Parents for French. "What remains constant is the role of language as a catalyst for nation-building, opportunity, education, employment, community development, and human connection. The Coalition for Official Languages emerges precisely at that crossroads between change and continuity."

At its core, the new name reflects the need for a stronger, more unified voice to engage the majority of Canadians on official languages. The founding organizations of the Coalition for Official Languages envision a country where everyone has the opportunity to live, learn, use, and participate actively in both official languages if they desire.

The Coalition is committed to rallying partners and interest groups around these shared goals in order to:

- Set ambitious and achievable national targets for bilingualism rates ;
- Address structural and systemic barriers that limit the vitality of Canada's official languages for all;
- Mobilize knowledge that strengthens connection, respect, and understanding between linguistic groups;
- Create opportunities for sustained and collaborative action across the country.

The refreshed brand and visual identity will roll out across all platforms beginning in December 2025, with further initiatives and announcements planned throughout 2026.



Quotes

Aja Besler, Executive Director at The Dialogue Network

“As Canada’s linguistic landscape continues to evolve, sustaining real dialogue across communities has never been more important. The Coalition for Official Languages gives us a chance to think bigger, leverage collaborations, and engage Canada’s majority linguistic communities in shaping a truly bilingual future. By bringing people and organizations together, we can deepen understanding, strengthen shared values, and create the conditions for both official languages to thrive.”

Emeline Leurent, Executive Director at French for the Future

“Youth are at the heart of Canada’s bilingual future: by empowering them to learn, live, and celebrate both of our official languages, we are nurturing not only their potential but also the strength, unity, and resilience of our country. The Coalition for Official Languages allows us to join our efforts and ensure that every Canadian can access, use, and celebrate both French and English as a vital part of who we are as a nation.”

Derrek Bentley, Network CEO, Canadian Parents for French

“Canada’s bilingual identity is one of its greatest strengths. Ensuring that every Canadian has real access to learning and using both official languages requires meaningful collaboration between all linguistic communities, not only those born into them. No single organization can advance bilingualism alone. Progress comes through collective action. The Coalition will provide a shared platform to align voices, exchange data and advocate for the policies and investments needed to support bilingualism in a rapidly changing global context.”

About the Coalition for Official Languages

The Coalition for Official Languages champions a Canada where everyone has access to learn and use both official languages. It works to build bridges between anglophone, allophone and francophone individuals, communities and organizations, fostering a stronger Canadian identity rooted in mutual understanding, appreciation and inclusion of diverse linguistic groups.

For More Information

Kathleen Mulawka | Coalition for Official Languages | coalition@cpf.ca