



2019–2023 ACTION PLAN

**Cooperation Agreement
between**

**The State of Louisiana, United States of America
and
the Government of New Brunswick, Canada**

I – BACKGROUND

Based on common historical and cultural ties, the State of Louisiana and the Province of New Brunswick have demonstrated over the years their willingness to work together to maintain and develop this common heritage. A “Sister State” declaration was signed by both governments in 1977, as well as a Memorandum of Agreement between the Maritime Provinces and the State of Louisiana signed in 1991 and renewed in 1994.

Considering the growing interest of their residents in the development of joint initiatives, New Brunswick and Louisiana have confirmed their intention to establish a cooperative arrangement to promote and support initiatives intended to develop their respective communities. The parties have undertaken to implement actions that will help to reinforce their cooperation as a priority in the areas of the economy, youth, education and training, culture and tourism.

This action plan will serve as a frame of reference for the two partner governments in support of the projects of individuals and organizations concerned in both jurisdictions. And although it serves as a commitment for the partners, the necessary expenditures for implementing projects that it would support will be discussed, and funding will be allocated on a case-by-case basis.

II – OBJECTIVES

1. **Economy:** Facilitate and support the involvement of the private sector in their regions in economic exchanges and the establishment of business partnerships.
2. **Youth, education and training:** Facilitate and support educational exchanges involving elementary and secondary school teachers, dialogue between educational organizations, professional development internships, and youth exchanges.
3. **Culture, heritage and tourism:** Facilitate and support the promotion of culture, heritage and tourism in partner regions in their jurisdictions.

III – ACTIONS

1. ECONOMY

Activities

- 1.1. Implement promotional and networking initiatives for developers and economic operators in both jurisdictions.

Outcomes

- 1.1.1. Presence of business people from one jurisdiction in international-scale economic events in the partner's jurisdiction.
- 1.1.2. Bilateral meetings or B2B meetings between New Brunswick and Louisiana business people as part of economic missions.

Outcome indicators

- Number of business people who participated in the economic missions or events concerned;
- Number of products and services of businesses in one jurisdiction present at exhibitions or other promotional settings in the partner's jurisdiction;
- Number of meetings and/or prearranged B2B meetings held with business people from both jurisdictions.

2. YOUTH, EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Activities

- 2.1. Implement student and teacher mobility initiatives in collaboration with organizations in education and skills training sectors in both jurisdictions, all sectors combined.

Outcomes

- 2.1.1. Temporary teaching assignments for New Brunswick and Louisiana educators.
- 2.1.2. Strengthening of Louisiana teachers' skills through involvement in French immersion in New Brunswick.

- 2.1.3. Academic or professional internships for students or graduates of schools, universities and colleges in both jurisdictions.
- 2.1.4. Collaborative arrangements involving special education teachers with expertise in autism spectrum disorder in both jurisdictions.

Activities

- 2.2. Carry out virtual and/or real exchanges between representatives of youth organizations in both jurisdictions.

Outcomes

- 2.2.1. Collaborative arrangements between youth organizations in both jurisdictions relative to issues of identity and cultural development in minority communities.
- 2.2.2. Presence of representatives of youth organizations at events related to their collaborative themes in both jurisdictions.

Outcome indicators

- Number of New Brunswick teachers who go on temporary teaching assignments in Louisiana;
- Number of Louisiana teachers who participate in skill-building activities in New Brunswick;
- Number of students or graduates who do internships in the partner's jurisdiction;
- Number of information exchanges having to do with autism spectrum disorder;
- Number of youth representatives who participate in relevant youth events in the partner's jurisdiction;
- Number of collaborative initiatives between youth organizations in both jurisdictions.

3. CULTURE, HERITAGE AND TOURISM

Activities

- 3.1. Ensure the participation of relevant stakeholders and/or organizations in

cultural and/or popular heritage events in the partners' jurisdictions.

Outcomes

- 3.1.1. Presence of individuals and organizations concerned or their works at festivals and exhibitions in both jurisdictions.
- 3.1.2. References to Acadian and/or Cajun tourist routes and/or heritage events made by tourism promoters in both jurisdictions.
- 3.1.3. Collaborative arrangements between heritage sector stakeholders and organizations in both jurisdictions.

Activities

- 3.2. Implement expertise-sharing and skill-building initiatives for arts and culture professionals and organizations in both jurisdictions, all sectors combined.

Outcomes

- 3.2.1. Artist residencies in both jurisdictions.
- 3.2.2. Participation of arts and culture professionals and organizations in international symposiums, conferences and/or forums in both jurisdictions.

Outcome indicators

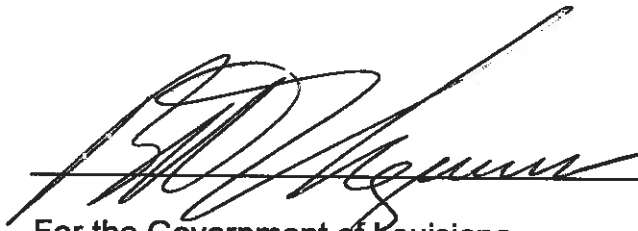
- Number of individuals and organizations concerned with a promotional presence at international festivals and exhibitions in both jurisdictions;
- Number of professionals concerned who participated in international symposiums, conferences and/or forums in both jurisdictions;
- Number of tourism promoters making references to Acadian and/or Cajun tourist routes and/or heritage events in their promotional activities;
- Number of specialized tourism-related communications products making reference to Acadian and/or Cajun heritage in the partner's jurisdiction.
- Number of professionals concerned who spent a period of time in artist residencies in either jurisdiction.

IV – FUNDING

In accordance with each institution's budget and by mutual agreement of the partners, each Party will select and provide funding for its local partners, unless alternative arrangements are discussed beforehand.

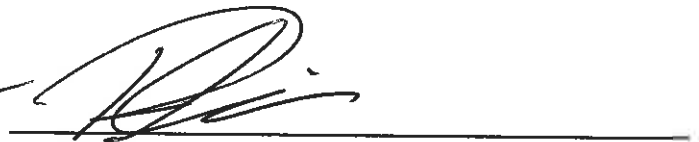
The partners will strive, as much as possible, to ensure reciprocity and/or complementarity in the exchanges.

Dated at Moncton, this August 16, 2019.



For the Government of Louisiana

Billy Nungesser
Lieutenant Governor



For the Government of New Brunswick

Robert Gauvin
Minister responsible for the Francophonie