



**COOPERATION AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, U.S.A.  
AND  
THE PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA**

Whereas New Brunswick and Louisiana share an exceptional French historical and cultural heritage that they wish to maintain and develop;

Whereas there are pre-existing friendly agreements between New Brunswick and Louisiana, such as the declaration of “sister statehood” in 1977 and the Memorandum of agreement between the Maritime Provinces and the State of Louisiana in 1991, which was renewed in 1994;

Whereas there is a growing interest among their citizens in developing joint initiatives, New Brunswick and Louisiana have confirmed their intention to establish cooperation to foster and support initiatives for the development of their respective communities;

Whereas there are special relationships between our universities, municipalities, and community organizations;

We desire as follows:

**Article 1 - Entities**

This memorandum is intended to set the **priority areas of cooperation** between the two parties and determine the terms and conditions of cooperation. The parties concerned are as follows:

- Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of New Brunswick, as represented by the Minister responsible for the Francophonie, 670 King Street, P.O. Box 6000, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5H1 Canada.

and

The State of Louisiana, as represented by CODOFIL (Council for the Development of French in Louisiana), Agency of Francophone Affairs of Louisiana, and the representative of the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Louisiana, 735 Jefferson Street, Lafayette LA 70501, U.S.A.

## **Article 2 – Sectors of interest**

Louisiana and New Brunswick agree to facilitate and support the development of projects in the following areas of involvement: economy; education and training; culture and tourism.

### ***Economy***

The parties will facilitate and support the involvement of the private and public sectors in their regions in economic and commercial exchanges while supporting the establishment of business partnerships.

### ***Youth, education, and training***

The parties will facilitate and support education exchanges involving the training of trainers at the elementary and high school levels, dialogue between educational institutions, professional development training programs, and youth exchanges.

### ***Culture and tourism***

The parties will facilitate and support cultural and tourism promotion of the partner regions in their areas.

## **Article 3 – Implementation of cooperation**

The parties will organize their cooperation through a joint five-year **action plan** and will coordinate and fund the portion for their own jurisdiction. The avenues for development in this agreement are the result of reports of visits between IGA and CODOFIL staff (Appendix 1).

### ***Action plan***

The content of Louisiana/New Brunswick cooperation projects will be defined jointly under the five-year action plan – re-evaluated every two years, at the end of the second year concerned. Following the interministerial meetings and with the mutual agreement of both parties, the reports will serve as a basis for evaluating, reworking, and developing the priority areas of cooperation and their action plans.

### ***Coordination***

Cooperation activities will be coordinated through the **International Relations and Multilateral Francophonie Branch (IRMFB) of Intergovernmental Affairs** in the Executive Council Office of New Brunswick and the **Council for the Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL)**, Agency of Francophone Affairs, in Louisiana. They will work together with their fellow citizens in charge of cooperation projects to play a facilitation role with relevant local partners and with the partner governments of this agreement.

The partners will make every effort to ensure reciprocity and complementarity in their exchanges.

If coordination involves travel to the partner region by employees in charge of this agreement and co-workers having a relevant role or their delegates, the hosting party shall ensure the following aspects: organization of working meetings, welcoming of the delegation upon its arrival in the partner region, and transportation of the delegation to the program meeting site.

Out of concern for efficiency and rationalization of expenses on both sides, the members of the delegations shall undergo rigorous selection based mainly on their expertise in the fields of activity during missions.

***Funding***

In terms of the operating budgets of each institution and after consultation and following joint agreement of the partners, each party shall select and fund its local partners unless different arrangements have been discussed ahead of time.

**Article 4 – Duration of the agreement**

This cooperation agreement shall come into effect upon its signature and shall remain in effect unless one of the parties decides to terminate it by means of an official letter two months prior to renewal of the cooperation action plan.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties have executed this agreement by their respective representatives duly authorized to that effect on the day and date that appear after their respective names.**

**Dated at:**

**this:**

FOR THE STATE OF LOUISIANA  
(COSIGNER):

**State Senator ÉRIC LAFLEUR**  
Representing the Lieutenant Governor of the  
State of Louisiana, the Hon. Jay Dardenne

FOR THE PROVINCE OF NEW  
BRUNSWICK:

**The Hon. David ALWARD**  
Premier of New Brunswick

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COSIGNER FOR THE STATE OF  
LOUISIANA

**Dr. William ARCENEUX**  
President of CODOFIL – Agency of  
Francophone Affairs, Louisiana

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WITNESS FOR THE PROVINCE OF NEW  
BRUNSWICK:

**Roger DUVAL**  
Executive Director  
Intergovernmental Affairs

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