

The FCCF receives federal investments of \$12.4 million in support of French-language arts in schools

Ottawa, August 28, 2024 – The Fédération culturelle canadienne-française (FCCF) is pleased with the significant investment of nearly \$12.4 million announced today by the federal government for its programs aimed at supporting arts education.

With this funding, the FCCF will be able to consolidate and enhance its services to Francophone educational and artistic communities across the country, particularly through its PassepART program, the La ruchée arts education laboratory, and the brand new ImmersART program.

By 2028, the Canadian government will have invested a total of \$25 million to support the FCCF's arts-in-school initiatives.

“We applaud the government’s commitment to promoting and supporting French-language arts and culture in schools. Students who benefit from these initiatives develop their sense of belonging to a diverse and inclusive Canadian Francophonie. The integration of arts and culture in schools helps to develop young people so that they can rise to the challenges of the future. It nourishes its creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving skills”, said Marie-Christine Morin, Executive Director of the FCCF.

PassepART and La ruchée: Exceptional Outcomes

Over the past 5 years, the PassepART and La ruchée initiatives have had a tremendously positive impact on students and on the vitality of the Franco-Canadian and Acadian artistic, cultural and educational communities.

From 2019 to 2023, the **PassepART program** awarded nearly \$4.5 million in micro-grants to support the delivery of French-language cultural, artistic and heritage activities in Franco-Canadian and Acadian schools. PassepART reached all targeted schools—750 across the country—and helped carry out 1,771 activities, in collaboration with nearly 300 cultural and artistic organizations.

La ruchée, an arts education laboratory, meanwhile, has forged partnerships with 19 school boards, four universities and one ministry. As many as 375 teachers, artists and other participants,

from 12 provinces and territories have benefited from its pilot projects, reaching over 8,000 students. La ruchée has since initiated a nationwide rollout of a wide range of services and tools to support the teaching of the arts and their integration as a pedagogical tool. These services include training, mentoring, coaching, educational resources and a community of practice.

ImmersART: A New Program for Immersion Schools

This fall, the FCCF is also launching the **new ImmersART micro-grant program**, aimed at funding French-language artistic, cultural and heritage activities in French immersion junior and senior high schools across Canada.

With ImmersART, immersion students will have the chance to enjoy more enriching experiences in French, and to discover the diversity of Franco-Canadian cultural expressions. The program will reinforce ties between the cultural and educational communities, and increase professional opportunities for Franco-Canadian and Acadian artists.

To qualify for a subsidized activity, a school and a non-profit organization (NPO) must agree to carry out an eligible activity between September 2024 and June 2025. NPOs can **apply now** for \$1,500 or more to fund an activity.

For more information

- laruchee.ca
- monpassepart.ca
- immersart.ca
- fccf.ca

The Fédération culturelle canadienne-française

For over 40 years, the [Fédération culturelle canadienne-française](http://fccf.ca) (FCCF) has been advocating for and promoting the role of arts and culture in Canada's French-speaking communities. Based in Ottawa, the organization is the sole political voice for arts and culture in Canada's Francophone and Acadian communities. It is comprised of 21 invested members across Canada: 13 provincial and territorial organizations, 7 national organizations representing media arts, visual arts, songs and music, publishing and theatre, and a pan-Canadian group of performing arts presenters.

Quotes

“Young people deserve access to the resources and opportunities that will allow them to thrive as Francophones. This investment brings us closer to creating environments where youth culture, language and talents are celebrated. By supporting these programs, we are allowing young people to preserve their heritage and build strong connections with members of their community.”

— Randy Boissonault, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Official Languages

“This investment will ensure that culture, the arts and community activities remain central to the development, sense of belonging and growth of young Francophones. Our government is implementing concrete measures to advance projects that actively contribute to a better society. By investing in these programs, we are strengthening not only the future of young Francophones but also that of the Francophone communities in Canada.”

– *The Honourable Mona Fortier, Member of Parliament (Ottawa–Vanier)*

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