

French-language Services Plan for 2007-2008

1. Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources
2. The Department of Natural Resources is pleased to present this French-language Services Plan, another step in efforts to better serve Nova Scotia's Acadian and Francophone communities.
3. During the coming year, we will continue this work by reviewing programs and services to determine how we can further improve our French-language operations.
4. In early 2007, instruction will be provided on how Department of Natural Resources' staff are to respond to verbal and written requests from the public to communicate in French.
5. French-language services offered now:
 - a. Select publications produced in both English and French;
 - b. Three extension modules (*Les programmes éducatifs des Ressources Naturelles pour les jeunes*) are offered on the DNR website;
 - c. Budget support provided for teachers to attend the French session of the Canadian Woodland's Forum Atlantic Teacher's Tour;
 - d. Continued participation in the French Language Services Coordinating Committee and Subcommittees.
6. How the plan will contribute to the preservation or growth of the Acadian and Francophone community.

The French-language Services Plan will help ensure the understanding and consistency that allows Department of Natural Resource staff to better meet the needs of the Acadian and Francophone community in accordance with the French-language Services Act and Regulations.

7. Goals, Objectives and Measures for 2007-2008

As required by the French Language Services Regulation, the following priorities have been identified for enhancing the Department of Natural Resources's capacity to deliver French language services to its clients.

- a. increasing employee awareness of the provincial government's commitment to provide French language services;
- b. establishing a departmental French-language Services working group to promote interest and involvement in service delivery and to identify priority areas and monitor progress;
- c. continuing to build departmental capacity to provide service in French through employees;
- d. training in the French language;
- e. conducting a survey of the Department to inventory our current ability to deliver services and to identify gaps