



# **Legislative Assembly Briefing Binder**

Spring 2026

**French Language  
Services Directorate**

BRIEFING NOTES	LAST UPDATE	TAB #
HOT TOPICS		

URGENT REQUESTS AND QUESTION PERIOD RESPONSES		
Bilingual emergency preparedness and response		A
FLSD's role in supporting a thriving Francophone community		B
FLSD's ongoing priorities		C

CORPORATE ISSUES		
2026–27 Budget Highlights		I

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION		
FLSD at a glance		1
Government of Yukon's 2025–28 Strategic framework for French-language services		2

## **Bilingual emergency preparedness and response**

---

FLSD

**Topic:** Information related to emergencies is not always available at the same time in English and French, and work is ongoing to narrow this gap.

### **Recommended response:**

- We strive to provide timely and accurate information to Yukoners in both English and French.
- FLSD supports the Department of Community Services and other departments in meeting their bilingual emergency communications requirements by providing advice and centralized services.
- When activated, FLSD translates and publishes French-language emergency communications promptly.

### **Additional response:**

- We keep communications channels, like the Wildfire Hub, up to date in both English and French.
- We also share information quickly on the government's Facebook official French-language page @LeYukonFr, where Yukoners can stay informed during emergencies, but also get updates on programs, services, and news.

### **Background:**

- Over the years, the French Language Services Directorate (FLSD) developed and implemented a balanced and scalable approach to support the government's bilingual emergency response, allowing to manage resources efficiently, while enabling timely French-language emergency communications.

### Bilingual emergency preparedness and response

---

FLSD

- During the flood and wildfire season, dedicated resources are on standby to ensure timely French-language information during and outside regular office hours.
- Outside the high season, an on-call model is used to mobilize resources as needed, ensuring the information is available in French as quickly as possible.

**Approved by:**

Philippe Mollet  
Deputy Minister, FLSD

03/20/2026

## **FLSD's role in supporting a thriving Francophone community**

---

FLSD

**Topic:** The French Language Services Directorate (FLSD)'s role as a central agency is to provide guidance and support to help departments and public bodies meet the requirements of the *Yukon Languages Act* and empower them to serve and inform the public in French. The work of FLSD is guided by the 2025–2028 YG's strategic framework for French-language services.

### **Recommended response:**

- Through the French Language Services Directorate, we regularly seek input from the public and stakeholders, including the Association franco-yukonnaise (AFY) and the Table de gouvernance de la Franco-Yukonnie (Table), to ensure that government's efforts align with the Francophone community's evolving priorities.
- We recognize the essential role AFY plays as a key stakeholder, helping us align our shared priorities to advance bilingual service delivery.
- I had a very productive and meaningful meeting with AFY shortly after becoming the Minister responsible for the French Language Services Directorate to set a strong foundation for our work together.

### **Additional response:**

- The Directorate is well positioned to support the actions of our government, and I look forward to continuing supporting my colleagues to enhance Yukoners' access to bilingual services.
- Our government is committed to considering the Francophone perspective when developing major initiative strategies and policies.

## **FLSD's role in supporting a thriving Francophone community**

---

FLSD

- Our government will support opportunities for the Francophone community to participate across various advisory bodies.
- Maintaining an open dialogue with AFY answers directly to one of the pillars of the 2025–28 Strategic framework for French-language services “Support a thriving Francophone community”.

### **Background:**

- Regular meetings between elected officials and representatives of the Government of Yukon and AFY ensure sustained dialogue, collaboration and opportunities for AFY to share concerns and priorities of the Francophone community.
- As a key stakeholder, AFY has consistently advocated for guaranteed representation of the Francophone perspective on:
  - the Yukon Hospital Corporation Board of Trustees, and later, the initial Board of the new Shāw Kwä'ą / Health and Wellness Yukon / Santé et mieux-être Yukon (since 2016); and
  - the Yukon University Board of Governors (since 2017).
- FLSD meets with the Table de gouvernance de la Franco-Yukonnie annually or as needed. The Table is made up of a dozen institutions and organizations that support the Francophone community in various areas such as education, childcare, health, economic development, immigration, arts, and culture and heritage.

<b>Approved by:</b>
---------------------

Philippe Mollet
-----------------

Deputy Minister, FLSD
-----------------------

03/20/2026
------------

## FLSD's ongoing priorities

---

**Topic:** With the renewal of the Canada-Yukon Agreement on minority-language services, the Government of Yukon will continue increasing access to bilingual services across the Yukon.

### Recommended response:

- In 2025, we renewed our partnership with the Government of Canada through a three-year, \$21 million dollars agreement to continue increasing access to bilingual services in the Yukon.
- This agreement's timeline aligns with the 2025–28 Strategic framework for French-language services, which reflects the priorities of the Francophone community.
- Priority areas include health, justice, and emergency services, as well as high-traffic points of service.

### Additional response:

- In addition to the main 2025–28 agreement with Canada, the Directorate secured federal funding to conduct two multiyear special projects:
  - FLSD and Health and Social Services collaborate on the \$2.5M five-year research project (2023–28) “Leveraging technologies to increase access to healthcare services in French” which aims to explore innovative strategies to strengthen the accessibility and delivery of timely healthcare services in French across the territory.
  - FLSD and the Department of Justice partner on the \$690,000 three-year bridge project (2024–27) “Increased access to services in French for legal aid and education”, collaborating with community-based organizations, the Yukon Legal Services Society and the Yukon Public Legal Education Association.

#### Background:

- The Canada-Yukon Agreement on minority-language services is part of the long-term commitment of the Government of Canada to provide financial support to the Government of Yukon for the planning and delivery of territorial services in French, other than education<sup>1</sup>.
- The government's 2025–28 Strategic framework for French-language services outlines four key priorities: enhancing access to bilingual services, promoting service availability, embedding bilingual capacity across government and supporting a thriving Francophone community.
- FLSD's financial support to departments is primarily based on the Designated Bilingual Positions (DBP) model, which has been instrumental in delivering both public-facing and in-depth services, such as counselling. Through this approach, the directorate contributes to salaries and benefits, helping maintain bilingual service across government.
- This model has proven effective over time and has supported the steady growth of French-language services. However, within the current budget, this capped structure now offers limited flexibility and has largely reached its capacity to expand, making it more difficult to respond to evolving priorities and service needs.
- To continue enhancing access to bilingual services for Yukoners, we are exploring a new funding approach, shifting from designated bilingual positions to designated points of service. This model will support more flexible and consistent service delivery, while

---

<sup>1</sup> The Department of Education has a separate agreement – Canada-Yukon Agreement for minority-language education and second-language instruction – with Canada.



## FLSD's ongoing priorities

---

strengthening existing capacity, including DBPs where they are most needed.

- We have already piloted and implemented this approach at high-traffic points of service and in priority areas, such as the Tombstone Territorial Park and Constellation Health Centre, with strong results.

**Approved by:**

Philippe Mollet  
Deputy Minister, FLSD

04/07/2026

---

**Topic:** Key highlights from the 2026–27 Main Estimates.

**Key messages:**

- The 2026–27 Main Estimates represent a balance of fiscal discipline in the face of our current financial situation and investment in key priorities to improve the lives of Yukoners.
- The Government of Yukon needs to focus investments on critical priorities and, in time, balance spending.
- Budget 2026 includes gross O&M expenditures of \$1.97 billion, addressing O&M pressures in health and energy affordability, as well as housing, education and public safety.
- The 2026–27 Main Estimates forecast a \$81.8 million deficit as we continue to prioritize service delivery for Yukoners while undertaking further planning for future capital investments.
- As we identify strategic capital investments in future years, these additions to publicly owned assets will have an upward effect on the surplus.

**Key facts and stats:**

- 2026–27 Operations and Maintenance Expenditures total \$1.97 billion, plus a \$100 million contingency vote, with recoveries totaling \$188 million.
- Capital expenditures are estimated at \$385 million, with \$105.8 million in recoveries.
- Revenue will increase by \$138 million, or 7.6 per cent, over the 2025–26 Main Estimates, which is driven mainly by increased federal transfers.

- Transfers from Canada are forecast to increase by \$130.8 million, due to an increase in the Territorial Formula Financing Grant.
- Tax and General Revenue are expected to increase by \$7.7 million compared to last year's Main Estimates.

### **Ensuring Reliable Power for Yukoners and Protecting the Integrity of the Electricity Grid:**

- Budget 2026 reflects our commitment to make energy affordable through the \$13 million the Affordability Rate Relief program, for rebates on residential electricity bills.
- Major investment in our energy grid is required to ensure our grid is stable. We have earmarked up to \$100 million in additional debt space for Yukon Energy Corporation to undertake critical investments in its infrastructure this year, including upgrades to the Mayo site.

### **Improve timely access to frontline health care services for Yukoners:**

- We have prioritized support to ensuring access to front-line health care, reflected through increased investment in the Yukon Hospital Corporation.
- The 2026–27 Main Estimates include an additional \$12.5 million in O&M funding. Including increases at the supplementary estimates, this is a \$15.8 million or 11.7% increase in O&M funding for the hospital corporation over the 2025-26 Main Estimates.
- We will also move ahead with planning for the Whitehorse General Hospital Expansion and have allocated \$4 million in capital for that planning work in 2026–27.

### **Theme 3: Increase the affordability and availability of housing and land**

- Budget 2026 includes investments to expand the availability of housing stock and make homes more affordable.
- \$16.2 million has been allocated to complete the replacement of the Korbo apartments in Dawson and \$9.2 million for the replacement of the Ryder apartments in Whitehorse.
- The 2026-27 Main Estimates also include \$1.1 million for an anticipated lease agreement for 75 units at the new Winter Crossing development in Whistle Bend.
- \$22.2 million is allocated to advance land development in Whitehorse and rural Yukon.
  - In Whitehorse, work will continue on the Range Point Subdivision. Additionally, Whistle Bend Phases 12 and 13 will be completed, with design work completed for Phases 10 and 11.
  - In rural Yukon, work is planned on the Dredge Pond Phase II subdivision in Dawson and Mitchell Road lots in Faro.

### **Theme 4: Put the needs of students at the centre of our education system**

- Budget 2026 provides additional funding totaling \$2.7 million for more teachers and learning assistants to support students.
- As we continue to assess improvements to how the Department of Education supports our education system, we are moving ahead with planning for a new school in Whitehorse, with \$400,000 for planning in 2026–27.

- Construction of the new school in Burwash will continue, with \$17.3 million in capital earmarked for that project in 2026–27.

### **Theme 5: Restoring public safety and keeping communities safe**

- Budget 2026 includes a significant \$4.3 million increase in funding for the RCMP, which will allow for the hiring of 10 new officers and two support staff, as well as upgrading equipment.
- In addition, \$3.1 million in capital upgrades will be invested in RCMP detachments.
- We are investing an additional \$550,000 for gear, equipment and training for the Fire Marshal’s Office. With the \$812,000 provided at the 2025–26 Supplementary Estimates to address ongoing personnel pressures, this is a \$1.4 million year-over-year increase to the Fire Marshal, or a 62 per cent increase in that budget from the 2025–26 Main Estimates.

### **Theme 6: Creating the conditions to allow the private sector to grow and lead economic growth**

- To streamline and refocus government’s investment in our tourism, cultural and economic sectors, we are merging the departments of Economic Development and Tourism and Culture.
- The capital budget includes up to \$7.5 million to complete delayed planning work on the proposed Convention Centre.

#### **Approved by:**

Katherine White

March 16, 2026

Deputy Minister, Finance

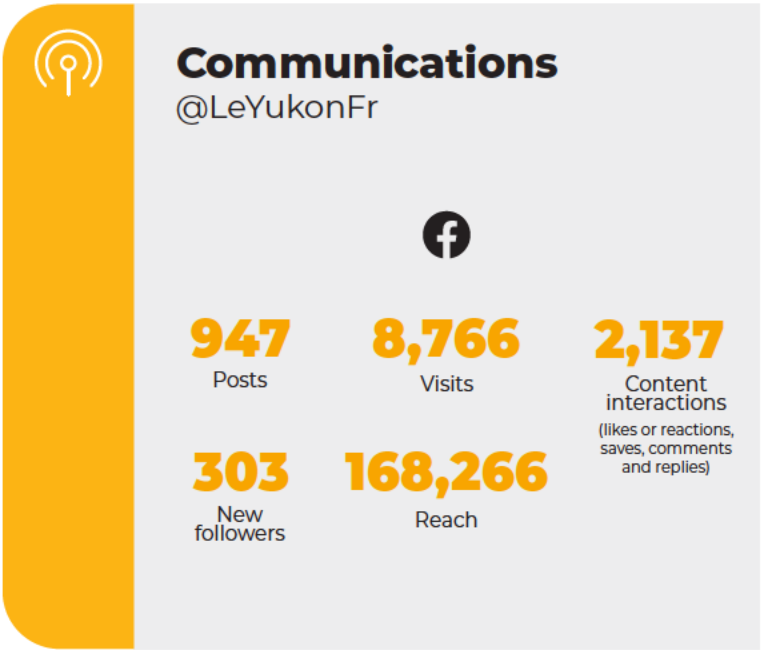
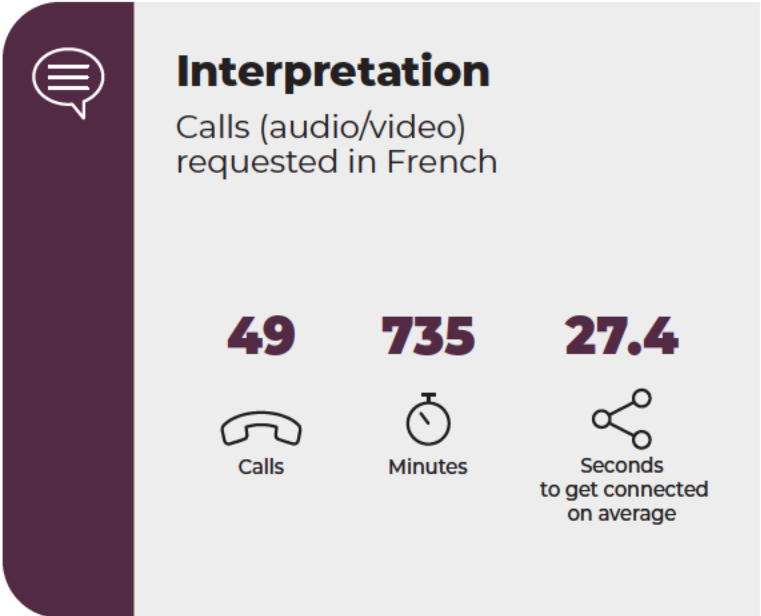
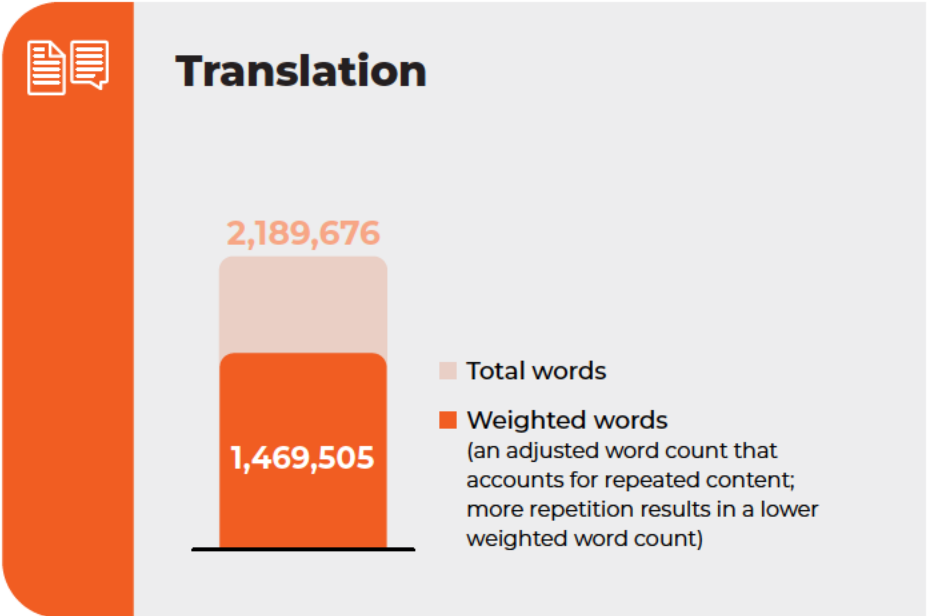
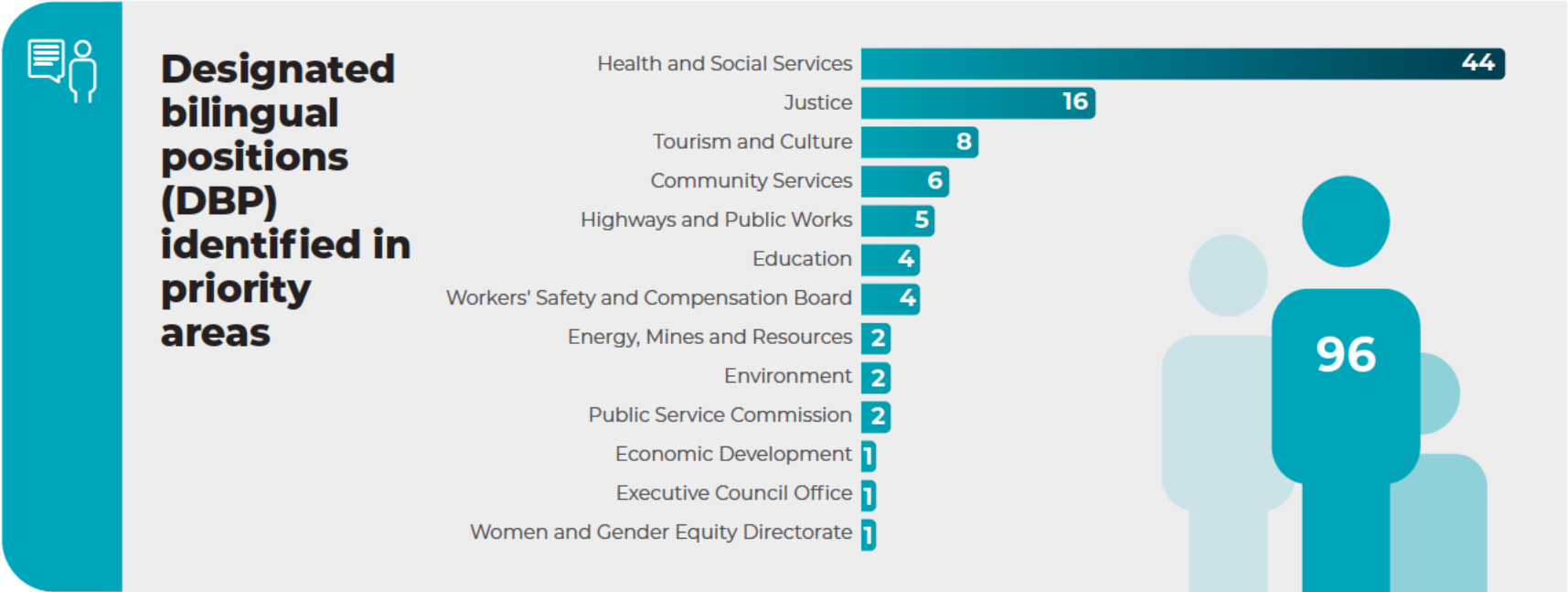
Date approved

# FLSD AT A GLANCE

APRIL 2025 TO  
JANUARY 2026

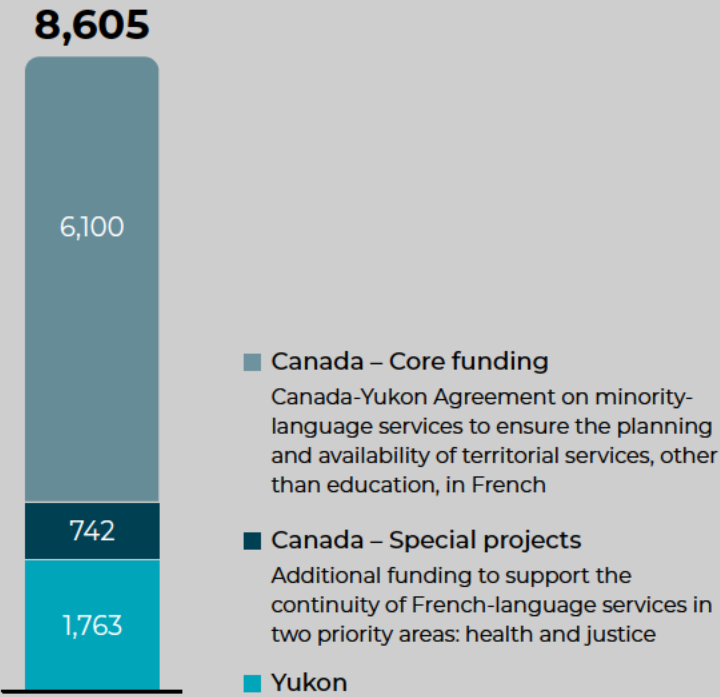
FLSD supports departments and public bodies in fulfilling the requirements of the *Yukon Languages Act* by providing:

- funding to offset costs related to French-language services; and
- central services to help departments and public bodies serve and communicate with Yukoners in French.



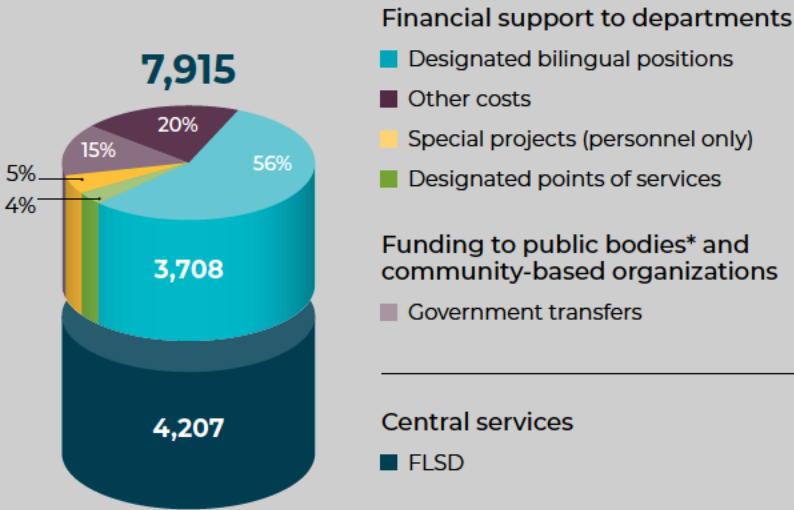
## Funding for French-language services (thousands of dollars)

Budget 2025–2026



## FLSD spending overview (thousands of dollars)

2024–25



# 2025–28 Strategic framework for French-language services

Priorities	Enhance Yukoners' access to bilingual services	Promote services availability	Embed bilingual capacity across government	Support a thriving Francophone community
Outcomes	Flexible service delivery approaches support the continuity of service in priority areas, such as health, justice, and emergency services, as well as at high-traffic points of service.	Yukoners know about government services and programs available in French and trust they will be available when needed.	Evidence-based language policy management guides the planning and delivery of sustainable bilingual services across government.	The Francophone perspective is considered when developing major initiatives, strategies and policies.
Strategies	<p><b>Increase</b> the number of designated bilingual positions where it matters most to the public</p> <p><b>Continue to improve</b> our bilingual emergency responsiveness</p> <p><b>Increase</b> the availability of bilingual online products (e.g., e-services and e-forms)</p> <p><b>Harness</b> technology to facilitate French-language service delivery (e.g., videoconferencing to connect clients with French-speaking practitioners)</p>	<p><b>Grow</b> the government's bilingual web and social media presence</p> <p><b>Promote</b> government programs and services readily available in French</p> <p><b>Enhance</b> the capacity of non-French-speaking employees to promptly connect people with French-language services, ensuring inclusive and comparable access</p>	<p><b>Empower</b> bilingual employees by modernizing training and improving understanding of the <i>Languages Act</i></p> <p><b>Strengthen</b> policy, governance and administrative processes surrounding French-language services and communications</p> <p><b>Increase</b> the French Language Services Directorate's capacity to support departments in planning and delivering services and information in French</p>	<p><b>Proactively engage</b> with the Yukon Francophone community and stakeholders</p> <p><b>Implement</b> and promote a complaint resolution mechanism</p> <p><b>Support</b> a visible and meaningful Francophone presence at official events and ceremonies</p> <p><b>Adopt</b> solutions to meet government-wide translation needs and explore ways to expand support to funded non-profit organizations</p>

## Vision

Yukoners have access to timely bilingual services and information in priority areas.

## Foundations

### Yukon *Languages Act*

The Yukon has one of the most compelling language regimes in Canada. We have been partnering with the federal government to deliver French-language services in the territory since the *Languages Act* was enacted in 1988.

### Yukon Francophone community's priorities

We engaged with Yukoners and stakeholders to inform this strategic framework, recognizing their essential role in helping us align our shared priorities and advancing bilingual service delivery.

### Public service engagement

Government employees are at the heart of our French-language service delivery model. By investing in their success, we create a culture where bilingual services are delivered with confidence and consistency.