



ASSOCIATION FRANCO-YUKONNAISE

302, rue Strickland, Whitehorse (Yukon) Y1A 2K1

867 668-2663 | [afy@afy.ca](mailto:afy@afy.ca) | [www.afy.ca](http://www.afy.ca)

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Press Release  
For Immediate Release

## The Association franco-yukonnaise urges the Federal Government to Adopt Francophone Immigration Targets Sufficiently Ambitious to Ensure the Growth of Canada's Francophone Minority Communities

**Whitehorse, October 27, 2023** — As the federal government prepares to announce Canada's immigration levels for the next three years, the Association franco-yukonnaise (AFY) joins organizations representing Francophone minority communities in 11 provinces and territories in voicing concern regarding the low targets for Francophone immigration outside Quebec currently being considered by Minister Marc Miller. The minister recently stated that he was considering a target of 6 percent for 2024, which would increase to 7 percent in 2025 and 8 percent in 2026.

The AFY urges the government to adopt targets high enough to reverse the demographic decline of the Francophone communities and put them back on a path to growth. For two years now, the AFY and the Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne (FCFA) du Canada have been calling for a 12% target for Francophone immigration starting in 2023.

"The government will be announcing immigration levels in the next few days. Despite years of advocacy by our communities, we have no assurance that the Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship of Canada will adopt sufficient targets to increase the demographic weight of our communities. It's alarming, because if we miss the boat, we will miss it for the next three years", says Lorraine Taillefer, president of the AFY.

The AFY wishes to emphasize that the *Official Languages Act*, modernised in June 2023, requires the government to take action to restore the demographic weight of Francophone minority communities to what it was in 1971. If Canada's immigration levels are announced with insufficient Francophone immigration targets, this will be a blatant breach of the *Act*.

### Association franco-yukonnaise

Official voice and leader in the development of the Yukon French-speaking community since 1982, AFY aims to improve the quality of life of Yukon Francophones.

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### Medias Relations

Audrey Percheron

Communications and Community Relations Director

Association franco-yukonnaise (AFY)

867 668-2663, extension 332

[apercheron@afy.ca](mailto:apercheron@afy.ca)