

The Community Learning Centre Initiative



In the province of Quebec, English speakers do not always have equitable access to educational resources, employment, health and social services. As a result, English speakers continue to leave the province every year; a trend that threatens the survival of English language communities and schools in Quebec.

To support the vitality of English language communities and schools in Quebec, the Community Learning Centre Initiative was launched in 2006 by the Secteur des Services à la Communauté Anglophone of the Quebec Ministry of Education.

Community Learning Centre (CLC) schools have a dual mandate: supporting student success and contributing to the vitality of English-speaking communities.

In CLC Schools and Centres, a Community Development Agent (CDA) is integrated as a member of the school staff. They work closely with school principal(s) and staff members to facilitate the development of school-community partnerships. CDAs are also responsible for participating in regional tables de concertations; where they are often the only representative of English-speaking communities.

These partnerships help educators leverage community resources and integrate real-world, authentic and engaging learning opportunities for students. In turn, the schools/centres become access points for community organizations and service providers to offer programming and resources to students, their families and the English-speaking community at large.

Funded through the Canada-Quebec Agreement for Minority Language Education and Second Language Instruction, the CLC Initiative was initially launched in 15 schools and adult centres. Today the network has expanded to include more than 85 schools and adult education/vocational centres, located in urban, rural, and remote communities across the province.

CLC school teams are supported by LEARN's Provincial Resource Team (PRT), which provides coaching, mentoring, capacity-building, and professional development.

The CLC Initiative is aligned with the Ministry of Education's new Educational Policy for Success (2017), which states:

“The concerted action and support of community stakeholders, notably community organizations, are prerequisites for success at every level of intervention and at every stage of children's and students' educational paths.”

“...just as schools need community support, communities, especially smaller and remote communities, draw their vitality from their schools.”

“...education is a social responsibility that requires a shared vision of educational success in order to ensure consistent and complementary actions.”

To find out more, please visit
www.learnquebec.ca/clc

