

**POLICY ON THE USE AND QUALITY OF FRENCH
AT MCGILL UNIVERSITY REQUIRED BY s. 88.2 OF THE QUEBEC CHARTER OF THE FRENCH
LANGUAGE**

This document sets out McGill University's policy for the use of French in the communication by the University's administration with the Government of Quebec and corporations established in Quebec as well as the teaching of French as a second language.

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

McGill University's policy on the use and quality of French is based on three fundamental principles.

First, McGill University is an English-language university and it is primarily in this language that teaching and research activity take place. Through these activities, McGill makes significant contributions to the Quebec community. The university attracts excellent students and recruits outstanding academics in every discipline, without regard for their mother tongue.

Second, McGill University is deeply rooted in Quebec and supports the important role of French in Quebec society. The university administration generally uses French in its written communication with the Government of Quebec and, in general, also uses French in written communication with corporations established in Quebec.

Finally, McGill University places great importance on the quality of the languages it teaches, particularly in its English and French as a second language courses.

POLICY STATEMENT ON THE USE OF FRENCH

1. Written language used by the McGill University administration in its communications with the Government of Quebec

French is the language generally used by the university administration in its written communications with the Government of Quebec.

Official university texts and documents enclosed with written communications sent by the university administration to the Government of Quebec, such as regulations, policies, procedures, minutes, agendas, reports and documents pertaining to study and research programs are in the language in which these documents were created.

2. Communication language used by the McGill University administration with corporations established in Quebec

The administration of McGill University generally uses French in its communications with corporations established in Quebec.

Official university texts and documents enclosed with written communications sent by the university administration to Quebec corporations, such as regulations, policies, procedures, minutes, agendas, reports and documents pertaining to study and research programs are provided in the language in which these documents were created.

3. Teaching of French

McGill University is deeply committed to facilitating the enrolment and success of Francophone students. The University's Charter of Students' Rights stipulates that: "Every student has the right to write essays, examinations and theses in English or in French except in courses where knowledge of a language is one of the objects of the course."

Communication skills are an integral element of many academic programs, particularly at the master's and doctoral levels, and particular attention is paid to the quality of the language in those programs.

The University requires the use of clear and correct French in the teaching of this language. It is the responsibility of University personnel teaching French to ensure that this principle is respected.

Students being taught French as a second language are provided with the tools to allow them to make use of this language correctly and in a manner that meets their needs, particularly if, at the end of their studies, they intend to work within professional organizations or orders in Quebec or in a country *where the use of French is required*.

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW-UP

Following approval by the Senate of McGill University, this policy on the use of French will go into effect after being adopted on the day set by McGill University's Board of Governors.

The University's Secretary-General will receive all complaints regarding the implementation and application of this policy and will ensure they are dealt with within a reasonable timeframe by the authority that has jurisdiction over the subject of the complaint.

The policy is subject to study and review by the Senate every three years.

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SOURCE:

Senate
Executive Committee

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Minute 12
Minute 13