

MUNICIPALITÉ DE LA CÔTE-NORD-DU- GOLFE-DU-SAINT-  
LAURENT  
COMTÉ DE DUPLESSIS  
PROVINCE DE QUÉBEC

ORDONNANCE NO. 834-2024

**CHARTER OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE – ADOPTION OF A DIRECTIVE**

**WHEREAS** the Municipality of the North Shore of the Gulf of St-Lawrence has been erected and is governed by Chapter 97-1963, amended by Chapter 109-1968;

**WHEREAS** by virtue of the said Act, a manager or an assistant-manager appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in council takes the place of a municipal council;

**WHEREAS** the Lieutenant-Governor in council by virtue of his order in council number 1489-2023, dated October 4th, 2023, has appointed Mrs. Darlene Rowsell Roberts, manager of the Municipality of the North Shore of the Gulf of St-Lawrence;

**WHEREAS** the *Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec* (S.Q. 2022, c. 14), assented to on June 1, 2022, amended the *Charter of the French Language* (CQLR, c. C-11) (hereinafter the “Charter”);

**WHEREAS** the Charter establishes a duty of exemplarity for the civil administration, notably requiring municipal bodies to use the French language in an exemplary manner in their activities;

**WHEREAS** the Language policy of the State, which came into effect on June 1, 2023, applies to municipal bodies;

**WHEREAS** the *Regulation respecting the language of the civil administration* (CQLR, c. C-11, r. 8.1) and the *Regulation respecting the derogations to the duty of exemplarity of the civil administration and the documents drawn up or used in research* (CQLR, c. C-11, r. 5.1) complement the legal regime applicable to the civil administration regarding the use of French and provide, in addition to those stated in the Charter, situations where a language other than French may be used;

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with section 29.15 of the Charter, an agency of the civil administration to which the language policy

of the State applies must adopt a directive specifying the nature of situations in which it intends to use a language other than French in cases allowed by the Charter and its regulations;

**WHEREAS** an organization recognized under section 29.1 of the Charter may depart from the obligation to use French in an exemplary manner when, in accordance with the Charter, it uses the language that its recognition allows it to use;

**WHEREAS** each municipal body has the responsibility to make its directive public once adopted;

**CONSEQUENTLY**, the administrator decrees and orders by the present ordonnance bearing number 834-2024 as follows:

**ARTICLE 1.-** That the municipality of the Côte-Nord-Du-Golfe-Du-Saint-Laurent commits, in an exemplary manner, to use the French language, to promote its quality, to ensure its influence in Québec, as well as to ensure its protection;


**ARTICLE 2.-** To adopt the "Directive on the Use of a Language Other than the Official Language" of the municipality of the Côte-Nord-Du-Golfe-Du-Saint-Laurent attached in Appendix;

**ARTICLE 3.-** That this specific directive of the municipality of the Côte-Nord-Du-Golfe-Du-Saint-Laurent replaces the general directive of the Minister of the French Language in force since June 1, 2023;

**ARTICLE 4.-** That the directive be published on the municipality's website;

**ARTICLE 5.-** The present Ordonnance will come into force in accordance with the Law.

Given at Chevery, this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July 2024

  
Darlene Rowsell Roberts, administrator  
Municipalité de la Côte-Nord-du-golfe-du Saint-Laurent

# Municipality of Côte-Nord-du-Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent

Courtesy translation

Language directive

## Exceptions

List of exceptions to the Charter of the French Language and its regulations.

### **Theme 3 - Written and oral communications with individuals and other communications**

When health requires it - CLF 22.3

The organization may use another language, in addition to the official language, in its communications when health requires it.

- 1. In what cases, under what circumstances, in what situations and for what purposes does the organization intend to use a language other than French?**

When responding to unilingual English-speaking citizens. Especially when it comes to public safety. We need to ensure the best possible understanding of the greatest possible majority of citizens. Especially when it comes to health and safety.

- 2. What measures or instructions must the organization put in place before a language other than French can be used?**

Challenge since the majority of the MRC's territory is unilingual English-speaking. Postings and communications in the 2 official languages can be duly done. Ideally and when required, for the benefit of the greatest number of citizens, there is a FR and ANG translation.

Correspondence in English before May 13, 2021 - CLF 22.2

The organization may correspond or otherwise communicate in writing in English when the Administration corresponded only in English with a particular individual in connection with a file concerning that individual prior to May 13, 2021 and for a reason other than a state of health emergency.

- 1. In what cases, under what circumstances, in what situations and for what purposes does the organization intend to use a language other than French?**

Circumstances: Answers to unilingual English-speaking citizens. Whether in response to questions of understanding or information related to the services offered by the Municipality for its citizens. Citizen service remains our top priority.

- 2. What measures or instructions put in place by the organization must be respected before a language other than French can be used?**

is still a challenge, since the majority of citizens on the MRC territory are unilingual English speakers, as is the Municipality. The use of French may be recommended when the citizen is French-speaking, but English is used in the opposite case to offer quality service to the population as a whole. There is always a FR and ANG translation whenever possible.

Dissemination of financial information - RDR 1(3)

The organization may use another language, in addition to the official language, when communicating in order to disseminate any financial information it deems necessary for the management of the consolidated revenue fund and the public debt, as well as for the management of the issuance of municipal debt securities.

- 1. In what cases, under what circumstances, in what situations and for what purposes does the organization intend to use a language other than French?**

Answers to unilingual English-speaking citizens. To ensure that they receive the right information in the language they understand best. For the benefit of both the citizen and the Municipality. To facilitate understanding of the services offered to the population.

- 2. What measures or instructions does the organization have in place that must be respected before a language other than French can be used?**

This can sometimes be a challenge, and depending on the community you're addressing, the majority of citizens may be unilingual English speakers. If the citizen is French-speaking, of course French is preferred. Ideally, whenever possible, there is a FR and ANG translation.

#### Budget speeches and similar documents - RDR 1(5)

The organization may use another language, in addition to the official language, to disseminate the public accounts, the pre-election report, the report on any special mandate produced in accordance with section 51 of the *Public Administration Act*, and any other document reporting on the economic situation of Québec and the government's revenues and expenditures.

- 1. In what cases, under what circumstances, in what situations and for what purposes does the organization intend to use a language other than French?**

Answers to unilingual English-speaking citizens. To ensure that they receive the right information in the language they understand best. For the benefit of both the citizen and the Municipality. To facilitate understanding of the services offered to the population.

- 2. What measures or instructions does the organization have in place that must be respected before a language other than French can be used?**

This can sometimes be a challenge, and depending on the community you're addressing, the majority of citizens may be unilingual English speakers. If the citizen is French-speaking, of course French is preferred. Ideally, whenever possible, there is a FR and ANG translation.

#### Theme 4 - Signage

##### Health and safety - CLF 22

The organization may post in French and in another language when required for public health or safety.

- 1. In what cases, under what circumstances, in what situations and for what purposes does the organization intend to use a language other than French?**

Since the local population is either French-speaking, English-speaking or unilingual English-speaking, it is essential, in matters of health and safety, to be able to communicate in both languages at all times, which the Municipality duly does whenever possible.

- 2. What measures or instructions does the organization have in place that must be complied with before a language other than French can be used?**

When it comes to health and safety, we have to make sure we reach our entire population. Posting in both languages is an obligation for our local government.

##### Commercial activities - RLA 8

The organization may post signs in French and in another language when the signs relate to activities of a commercial nature, provided that French is clearly predominant, except :

(1) if the sign is on any support with a surface area of 16 m<sup>2</sup> or more and is visible from any public road, as defined in section 4 of the *Highway Safety Code*; or

(2) if the posting is made on or in any public conveyance and its accesses, including bus shelters.

- 1. In what cases, under what circumstances, in what situations and for what purposes does the organization intend to use a language other than French?**

In order to reach the entire population, it is necessary to produce signage in English as well. Otherwise, both the information and the promotion of important information will not reach the target audience, i.e. the citizens. It's not a specific organization that's being targeted, but an entire population that needs to be well informed and understand what's going on within its local government, the Municipality.

- 2. What measures or instructions does the organization have in place that must be complied with before a language other than French can be used?**

Signage is produced in the languages, where appropriate. This is always done with respect for the English-speaking and French-speaking population. From the outset, communications are produced in both languages, to meet the needs of as many citizens as possible, and to ensure that they fully understand what's going on in the community.

#### Commercial activities - RLA 8

The organization may post signs in French and in another language when the signs relate to activities of a commercial nature, provided that French is clearly predominant, except :

- (1) if the sign is on any support with a surface area of 16 m<sup>2</sup> or more and is visible from any public road, as defined in section 4 of the *Highway Safety Code*; or
- (2) if the posting is made on or in any public conveyance and its accesses, including bus shelters.

1. **In what cases, under what circumstances, in what situations and for what purposes does the organization intend to use a language other than French?**

A large percentage of local suppliers and contractors are English-speaking, often even unilingual. In order to foster and maintain local economic development (especially since our territory is officially said to be in devitalization), it is essential to maintain the possibility of addressing our local entrepreneurs in a business language they master. All the more so when it comes to technical details (e.g. technical calls for tender).

2. **What measures or instructions put in place by the organization must be respected before a language other than French can be used?**

Once again, for viable, sustainable local economic reasons, it's essential to be able to address our business communications to local entrepreneurs in both languages. Otherwise, we're automatically ejecting these local suppliers and contractors who won't be able to grasp and master our needs, all the more so when they're technical. This is all the more important when it comes to legal documents such as contracts, agreements and technical information to ensure that the Municipality is well served.

#### Tourism - RLA 9

The organization may post signs in French and in another language for a museum, botanical or zoological garden, cultural or scientific exhibition, tourist reception or information area, or any other tourist site related to any activity, on the premises where they are located, provided that French is clearly predominant, as defined in the regulation that specifies the scope of this expression for the application of the CLF.

1. **In what cases, under what circumstances, in what situations and for what purposes does the organization intend to use a language other than French?**

Our region is renowned for its special tourist attractions, and the tourism industry is not insignificant, especially in the summer season with its fisheries and seafood products. Being able to address tourists and visitors in both languages is a great boost to our economy. Particularly as our region is said to be devitalized, this can have an impact if tourism activities are not optimized.

2. **What measures or instructions does the organization have in place that must be respected before a language other than French can be used?**

Here again, we're dealing with an English-speaking population, which is often unilingual English-speaking in some parts of the municipality. Both the local population and those, for example, from Labrador, visiting the region for tourism or to see family and friends, are targeted.

### Theme 5 - Contracts and agreements

#### Public contract - CLF 21 RLA 4(1)

The organization may attach a version in a language other than French to a contract and to the writings relating to it when it is necessary to arouse the interest of legal persons or companies not having an establishment in Québec in the context of a process aimed at the awarding or the attribution of a public contract.

1. **In what cases, under what circumstances, in what situations and for what purposes does the organization intend to use a language other than French?**

A large percentage of local suppliers and contractors are English-speaking, often unilingual. In order to promote and maintain local economic development (especially since our territory is officially said to be in devitalization), it is essential to maintain the possibility of addressing our local entrepreneurs in a business language they master, especially when it comes to services.

2. **What measures or instructions put in place by the organization must be respected before a language other than French can be used?**

Once again, for viable, sustainable local economic reasons, it's essential to be able to address our business communications

to local entrepreneurs in both languages. Otherwise, we're automatically ejecting those local suppliers and contractors who won't be able to grasp and master our needs when it comes to a service.

#### Successive performance consumer contract - CLF 22.3

A successively executed consumer contract to which the organization is a signatory may be drafted both in French and in another language in each of the following situations:

- when health, public safety or the principles of natural justice so require;
- in order to provide services in English to the person declared eligible to receive instruction in English;
- in order to provide services to the organizations referred to in section 95 or to aboriginal people;
- to provide services to welcome immigrants into Quebec society during the first six months of their arrival;
- to provide services and maintain relationships outside Quebec;
- to provide tourism services.

**1. In what cases, under what circumstances, in what situations and for what purposes does the organization intend to use a language other than French?**

This is all the more justified when it comes to recurring and successive contracts; a high percentage of local suppliers and contractors are English-speaking, often unilingual. In order to promote and maintain local economic development (especially as our territory is officially said to be in devitalization), it's vital to maintain the possibility of addressing our local contractors in a business language they master.

**2. What measures or instructions does the organization have in place that must be complied with before a language other than French can be used?**

For viable, sustainable local economic reasons, it's essential to be able to address our business communications to local entrepreneurs in both languages. Otherwise, we automatically drive out these local suppliers and contractors.

#### Writing in another language - CLF 21.6

A written document relating to a contract drawn up solely in French may be drawn up solely in another language if the organization concerned agrees and if it is an authentic or semi-authentic document or one whose legal value would take precedence over that of any French version.

**1. In what cases, under what circumstances, in what situations and for what purposes does the organization intend to use a language other than French?**

For mutual understanding between the Municipality and its suppliers of goods and services, it is essential to be able to communicate in a language that unites them and promotes good understanding and the fine detail of said writings.

**2. What measures or instructions must the organization put in place before a language other than French can be used?**

Promote communication in a language that unites both parties and fosters mutual understanding.