

## Application Summary: 2026 - 3403 - Community Impact Grant - Community Programs and Projects

### Application ID

2026 - 3403 - Community Impact Grant - Community Programs and Projects

### Applicant Information

#### Organization Information

Association Canadienne Francaise de l'Alberta, Regionale de Wood Buffalo  
100-312 Abasand Drive  
Fort McMurray, AB, T9J 1B2

#### Primary Contact

Maryse Champagne  
100-312 Abasand Drive  
Fort McMurray, AB, T9J 1B2

Phone: (780) 791-7700  
Email: [administration.woodbuffalo@acfa.ab.ca](mailto:administration.woodbuffalo@acfa.ab.ca)

## Application Summary: 2026 - 3403 - Community Impact Grant - Community Programs and Projects

### Is the organization a registered non-profit?

Applicants must be a registered non-profit organization or a community group in partnership with a registered non-profit organization. If you have any questions regarding grant eligibility, please contact [cip@rmwb.ca](mailto:cip@rmwb.ca) to book a pre-application meeting.

Yes

### Has the organization operated within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo for at least one year?

Applicants must have resided or operated within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo for at least one year prior to applying. If you have any questions regarding grant eligibility, please contact [cip@rmwb.ca](mailto:cip@rmwb.ca) to book a pre-application meeting.

Yes

### In the last year, have there been any significant changes to your organization or program?

No

### What is your organization's Mission Statement?

The ACFA régionale de Wood Buffalo mission is to promote cultural, intellectual, social and economical wellbeing to all Francophones through French-language services, resources and other supports since 1980.

## Application Summary: 2026 - 3403 - Community Impact Grant - Community Programs and Projects

### **Brief Summary of the Proposed Program(s) and/or Project(s).**

The ACFA régionale de Wood Buffalo has designed a program that promotes leisure and cultural activities that support the well-being of Francophone adults, youth and families:

-Fitness Program Wellness: Family fitness classes with qualified French instructors. We propose two (2) fitness classes that are held on different days of the week in different places, depending of the availabilities: the Barre Above class that focuses on varied stretching flows with full-body exercises that strengthen the body and mind; the energetic High Fitness that uses old-school aerobics with intense fitness-based movements with music from all genres and decades.

-French Soccer Program for children ages 6-12 led on spring and fall. These Indoor soccer training and skills program with a qualified French soccer coach will allow participants to socialize in a group, develop their motor skills, endurance and coordination while having fun, learn soccer training techniques and purchase soccer equipment.

-Workshops promoting Inner Well-Being and Community Resilience : Fort McMurray has faced multiple crises in recent years, including wildfires, floods, and the COVID-19 pandemic, which have deeply impacted the community mental health and well-being. In response, the ACFA régionale de Wood Buffalo offers workshops focused on inner well-being and self-care to support Francophone and Francophile residents. These workshops aim to strengthen emotional resilience, provide practical self-care tools, and foster a sense of connection and belonging within the community. Through these initiatives, the ACFA contributes to the healing and rebuilding of a stronger, healthier, and more united Francophone community in the Wood Buffalo region.

### **Please note any restrictions on participating in your organization's programs, projects, services or events.**

The ACFA régionale de Wood Buffalo supports all individuals in need, including newcomers to the community. We keep our members informed about local activities and events through a monthly newsletter and regular updates on social media, fostering engagement and participation. Our organization mission is to educate, connect, and empower Francophones and Francophiles, by providing resources, networking opportunities, and programs that strengthen community ties, promote inclusion and enhance a sense of belonging.

### **Minimum number of board members according to the organization's bylaws:**

## Application Summary: 2026 - 3403 - Community Impact Grant - Community Programs and Projects

**Please list your current Board of Directors in the table:**

### Board of Directors

Name	Board Position	Years on Board
Erin Parent	President	26
Marie Pier Tailly	Vice-president	4
Debbie Savage	Secretary Treasurer	2
Patrick Ferdinand Novella	Director	5
Rahul Paul	Director	5

**Do one or more board representatives or program staff have lived experience or expertise reflective of the demographics your organization serves?**

Yes

**If Yes; please briefly explain the lived experience or expertise.**

Board members and staff have lived experience within the Francophone and Francophile community and bring expertise in community development, education, and wellness programs tailored to their needs.

## Application Summary: 2026 - 3403 - Community Impact Grant - Community Programs and Projects

### Program/Projects Details

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#### Are you applying for more than one program or project?

If you are unsure, please contact CIP@rmwb.ca for clarification.

No

### Program/Projects

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**Step 1:** Click on the button below to enter the name of your program(s) or project(s).

**Step 2:** Click on the Save Draft button at the bottom of the screen.

**Step 3: Click on the "Program/Project Details" button below to complete the details of each Program/Project. Please be sure to submit the current program/project information form before moving onto the next project information form.**

**Program/Project: Promoting health and well-being for Francophone and Francophile community   Status: Completed**

## Application Summary: 2026 - 3403 - Community Impact Grant - Community Programs and Projects

### Finances

#### Organization's most recent Fiscal Year End date

Please click Save Draft to update the following two questions with this date.

03/31/2025

#### Unrestricted Net Assets

Unrestricted Net Assets (accumulated net assets/surplus that the organization has not set aside for a particular purpose or earmarked by a donor for a specific program or project) from your Financial Statements ending: 03/31/2025

\$138,543.00

#### Total Operating Expenses

Total Expenses from your Financial Statements Ending: 03/31/2025

\$679,875.00

#### What efforts have been made in the past fiscal year to increase the financial support for your organization?

Over the past fiscal year, we have submitted funding applications at the provincial, federal, and local levels to support our cultural, educational, and community initiatives. With increased enrollment in our childcare and after-school programs, we have strengthened our financial strategies to optimize resource allocation and ensure the sustainability of our services.

**Please complete the following budget table: If there are multiple programs, projects, services or events included in this application, please provide the total budget for all requests in the budget table. Additionally, attach a detailed breakdown of the budget by program, project, service or event on the Attachment tab.**

#### Secured Revenue

## Application Summary: 2026 - 3403 - Community Impact Grant - Community Programs and Projects

Revenue Sources	Description	Revenue (Jan-Dec)
Government of Canada Grant	Canadian Heritage	\$1,500.00
Casinos/Bingos	AGLC	\$1,000.00
In-Kind Donation	École Boréale	\$2,250.00
In-Kind Donation	ACFA régionale de Wood Buffalo	\$3,000.00
		<b>\$7,750.00</b>

### Revenue in Progress

Revenue Sources	Description	Revenue (Jan-Dec)
Program/Project Income (Ticket sales, admission, etc.)	Programm fee	\$4,500.00
		<b>\$4,500.00</b>

### Expenses

Type of Expense	Description	Total Expenses	Requested RMWB Grant
Program Staff wages & Benefits	Honorariums	\$12,000.00	\$9,500.00
Rent - Venue/Facility/Room/Equipment	Facility rental Equipment	\$6,000.00	\$4,500.00
Administration Costs 15% Maximum		\$2,500.00	\$1,750.00
Advertising/Marketing	Visibility	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Food Costs	Snacks and drinks	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Insurance - Program, Project, Service or Event	Insurance Entandem	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Other (Provide Detail)	Cleaning Costs	\$500.00	\$0.00
Program Materials & Supplies	Materials	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
		<b>\$25,000.00</b>	<b>\$17,250.00</b>

### Shortfall

	Total
(Total Secured Revenue - Total Expenses)	\$17,250.00

## Application Summary: 2026 - 3403 - Community Impact Grant - Community Programs and Projects

### Total RMWB Grant Request

	<b>Amount</b>
Total	\$17,250.00

## Application Summary: 2026 - 3403 - Community Impact Grant - Community Programs and Projects

### Total Cost of Program, Project, or Service

Total cost includes all costs of the entire program, project or service.

\$25,000.00

### Total Grant Amount Request

Up to 75% of total program, project cost up to maximum of \$100,000.

\$17,250.00

### Grant request as percentage of total cost of program, project or service

Click on the Save Draft button to calculate the percentage.

69%

### Outline any expected non-financial resources being leveraged for this program, project, service or event to demonstrate community support.

The program benefits from strong community support through an in-kind contribution from École Boréale. The school provides free access to its gymnasium and community hall for workshops, recreational activities, and wellness programs such as Indoor Soccer, Barre Above, and mental health sessions. This partnership reduces operational costs, enhances program delivery, and demonstrates École Boréale strong commitment to supporting the vitality and well-being of the Francophone community in the Wood Buffalo region.

## Application Summary: 2026 - 3403 - Community Impact Grant - Community Programs and Projects

### Attachments

**Please attach a budget breakdown for each program, project, service or event if there are multiple requests included in this application.**

**Please attach a Partnership Letter(s) of Support for the proposed program, project, service or event to demonstrate authentic partnership and collaboration.**

Applicants may use the >Partnership Letter of Support Template or submit a customized letter.

Each letter should include the following five key elements:

1. Commitment to the partnership and shared initiatives
2. Confirmation of the community need
3. History of prior collaboration or rationale for a new partnership
4. Defined roles, responsibilities, and resource commitments
5. Contact information for the partner organization

Each letter must be signed by an authorized representative of the partner organization.

Please note: The partnership letter is a mandatory requirement for Community Sustaining applicants and optional for Community Impact Grant application.

**Please attach signed Financial Statements for the most recent fiscal year end.**

Year-end date must fall between July 1, 2024 of last year and June 30, 2025.

[États\\_financiers\\_signés.pdf](#)

986.5 KB - 10/10/2025 5:32 PM

Total Files: 1

## Application Summary: 2026 - 3403 - Community Impact Grant - Community Programs and Projects

### Declaration

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Declaration: In making this application, I, the undersigned, confirm:

- that I have read the appropriate Grant Guidelines;
- that I understand that this application form and all required attachments must be completed in full and received before 2025-10-14 4:30 p.m. MT;
- that I understand that this application form and any attachments shall be part of the Community Investment Program Approval Committee (CIPAC, Council Appointed) meeting agenda and accessible through all methods that the public meeting agenda is available;
- that I understand the term of the Grant is January 1 to December 31, 2026 and that all expenditures must happen during this term; and
- that I am authorized by the applicant organization to complete the application and hereby represent to the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo's Community Investment Program and declare that to the best of our knowledge and belief, the information provided is truthful and accurate, and the application is made on behalf of the above-named organization and with the Board of Directors' full knowledge and consent.
- that I understand the personal information collected in this application is collected under the authority of Section 4(c) of the Protection of Privacy Act and is managed in accordance with the Act. It will be used to process your application and contact you if needed during the review of this application. If you have questions about the collection or use of your personal information, you may contact the Manager, Community Partnerships and Initiatives, at 9909 Franklin Avenue, Fort McMurray, AB T9H 2K4 or at 587-919-5522.

### Acknowledgement

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I do hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, this application contains a full and correct account of all matters stated herein.

### Applicant Name

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Maryse Champagne

### Position/Title

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Executive Director

**Date:** 10/10/2025

## Project Summary

### Promoting health and well-being for Francophone and Francophile community

**Activity Type:** Project

**Primary Contact:** Maryse Champagne

**Status:** Completed

**Created By:** Maryse Champagne

**Created Date:** 10/10/2025 4:47 PM

**Modified By:** Miranda Russell

**Last Modified:** 10/14/2025 8:35 AM

#### Program, Project or Service Name

Promoting health and well-being for Francophone and Francophile community

#### Beginning Date

01/01/2026

#### Completion Date

Note: The term of the grant is January 1 - December 31, 2026. The program, project, service or event and all expenditures must occur during this term.

12/31/2026

#### Location program, project or service will be provided:

Note: If the grant is approved, the communities served will be included in the Grant Agreement and data collection from all communities will be required.

Do not select the rural community if the service is provided to the clients from rural communities through the urban service area.

Fort McMurray

#### Please complete the following Program/Project or Event Delivery Details.

#### Program, Project, or Event Delivery Information

## Project Summary

### Promoting health and well-being for Francophone and Francophile community

**Council approved seven funding priorities. Please indicate which funding priority/priorities are applicable to this application.**

Please select at least 3 funding priorities for the Community Sustaining and Subsidiary Grant applications.  
Please select at least 1 funding priority for the Community Impact Grant (Community Programs and Projects or Community Events) application.

- Community support services and wellness
- Accessibility, inclusion and belonging
- Hosting events/new business and visitors
- Partnership and collaboration
- Rural and Indigenous Communities and Relationships
- Social participation
- Value of culture, heritage and regional pride

#### **Describe how the proposed program, project, service or event align with these priorities.**

In the Wood Buffalo community, very few activities are offered entirely in French. Our programs aim to address this gap by providing services and activities in French, by offering services and activities in French with French-speaking professionals and instructors. The needs of French-language projects are considered an asset by the governments of Canada (Official Languages and Canadian Heritage) and the Government of Alberta (through Francophone Secretariat). These governments are committed to enhancing French-language services and supporting the vitality of the Francophone community in Alberta in a targeted and sustainable way, within available resources.

## Project Summary

### Promoting health and well-being for Francophone and Francophile community

**In the table below, please identify the total number of unique participants that you anticipate will access the funded program, project, service or event.**

#### Target Population

Age	Target Population
Children (0-12 years)	0
Youth (13-18 years)	0
Adults	0
Seniors (65+)	0
Families	0
Community	4380
Total	4380

**Please identify the equity deserving population the program, project, service or event will serve.**

Youth, Seniors, 2SLGBTQIA+, Immigrants, refugees and/or newcomers, First Nations, Métis, and/or Inuit Peoples, Other racialized communities, Youth, Seniors, Women and/or girls, People experiencing poverty and/or homelessness, People living with disabilities, People living in rural communities

## Project Summary

### Promoting health and well-being for Francophone and Francophile community

**How does your organization ensure that its programs, projects, services or events are accessible and inclusive for anyone who has an interest? Please share examples and success stories of accessibility and inclusivity.**

The Wood Buffalo Regional Association is dedicated to ensuring that all its programs are accessible and inclusive for anyone regardless of age, background, or ability. All activities take place in fully accessible venues, and we strive to offer them in French, supporting the Francophone and Francophile community while welcoming participants from diverse linguistic backgrounds.

Our programs are hands-on, interactive, and adaptable to different learning styles. For example, our soccer sessions allow children and parents to participate together. Participation is often so high that coaches must create groups and rotate players, promoting family inclusion, intergenerational interaction, and stronger community.

High Fitness and Barre Above classes are designed for all skill levels, enabling participants to move, engage, and build confidence in a supportive environment. Senior participant regularly attend Barre Above because it improves their well-being, and exercises are adapted to their abilities.

Our Wellness workshops focus on inner well-being, particularly in a community affected by wildfires, flooding, and the pandemic. Participant shared that attending these workshops makes them feel better, highlighting the impact of mindfulness exercises and hands-on creative activities. These sessions help participants build resilience, reduce stress, and connect with others, reflecting our commitment to accessibility, inclusion, and community well-being.

**If applicable, please explain how your program, project, service or event celebrates Indigenous culture, serves Indigenous communities and/or promotes Indigenous healing, language, cultural restoration, or reconciliation.**

Our office has a federal mandate to organize and lead events that highlight the truth of Canada's residential school system and provide a platform for Indigenous Elders to share their stories and cultures. These events are vital opportunities to acknowledge both the history and the ongoing impacts of this system on Indigenous communities. Each year, on September 30, we commemorate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, honoring the children who were lost, the survivors, and their families. Through these events, we aim to foster understanding, support healing, and recognize the resilience and strength of Indigenous peoples and their cultures.

## Logic Model

## Project Summary

### Promoting health and well-being for Francophone and Francophile community

#### **Statement of Need: What social problem or gap do you hope to address by delivering the program, project, service or event? What evidence do you have that this problem or gap exists?**

In the Wood Buffalo region, Francophones are a linguistic minority within a predominantly English-speaking population. Many residents have relocated from other parts of Canada or abroad, which enriches the community but also creates challenges for connection and cultural integration. Access to French-language services and activities is limited, reducing opportunities for Francophones to fully participate in cultural, educational, and community life. This gap affects social inclusion, well-being, and the preservation of Francophone identity, particularly for newcomers, families, youth, and seniors. A recent survey of ACFA members confirmed a growing demand for French-language programs, and both the Governments of Canada and Alberta recognize the importance of supporting minority Francophone communities through enhanced services.

The ACFA régionale de Wood Buffalo addresses this need by fostering engagement, belonging, and collaboration through its programs and outreach initiatives. Wellness workshops, cultural events, and educational activities create opportunities for social connection while strengthening community ties. By supporting the resilience of the Francophone community, the ACFA ensures the safety, inclusion, and well-being of all members, preserves cultural identity, and contributes to the overall cohesion, vitality, and integration of Francophones in the Wood Buffalo region.

## Project Summary

### Promoting health and well-being for Francophone and Francophile community

#### **Broad Strategy: How will the program, project, service or event address the social problem? (e.g., What approach are you taking that you hope will lead your program, project, service or event to support the social problem?)**

The program will address the social problem of limited French-language services and cultural engagement by providing a range of targeted activities designed to foster inclusion, community building, and well-being among the Francophone and Francophile populations.

-Inclusive programming: We are offering French-language workshops, fitness classes, cultural events, and educational programs. These activities create accessible spaces where Francophones can participate in community life without language barriers, promoting social interaction and cultural pride.

-Multigenerational approach: The program caters to all ages—youth, adults, and families. This ensures that everyone in the community, from children to seniors, can engage and benefit from activities that promote cultural identity, language retention, and social integration.

-Partnership and collaboration: We are working closely with local schools, cultural organizations, and government agencies to ensure that the program addresses community needs and reaches a wider audience. By collaborating with stakeholders, we increase visibility and participation.

-Inner well-being focus: Through wellness and self-care workshops, including mindfulness and art therapy, we aim to support the inner well-being of residents, particularly those affected by past crises (wildfires, floods, and the pandemic).

This comprehensive strategy promotes community connection, strengthens cultural identity, and addresses the isolation many Francophones face.

## Project Summary

### Promoting health and well-being for Francophone and Francophile community

**Rationale: What evidence or research do we have that this strategy will work? To demonstrate for example, "If [my organization] does 'x' program, project, service or event, then [this] change will happen for the target population."**

Our strategy, informed by research and community feedback, demonstrates that culturally tailored, language-specific programs foster engagement, well-being, and inclusion. By offering programs in French, we reduce social isolation and create a welcoming environment for Francophones.

Multigenerational activities allow families to participate together, strengthening community bonds, while workshops in mindfulness, art, and physical activity support mental health and recovery from recent crises. Partnerships with schools, local organizations, and government enhance program effectiveness.

Together, these initiatives are expected to increase social inclusion, well-being, and cultural pride in the Wood Buffalo Francophone community.

**Inputs: What resources will be invested to achieve your goal? (e.g., staff labour, venue space, volunteers, computers, etc.)**

To achieve our goals, we will invest a variety of resources, including dedicated staff and part-time facilitators to manage and coordinate programs, volunteers to assist with logistics and participant support, and accessible spaces such as our community hall and school gymnasium for events. We will provide necessary materials and equipment for workshops, fitness, and youth programs, as well as computers and digital tools for online registration, communication, and hybrid programming. Partnerships with schools and local Francophone organizations will contribute additional expertise, venues, and outreach channels. Together, these resources will ensure successful program delivery and meet the needs of the community.

## Project Summary

### Promoting health and well-being for Francophone and Francophile community

#### Activities: What activities make up the program, project, service or event? (e.g., workshops, mentorship sessions, etc.)

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The program includes several key activities designed to meet the needs of the Francophone community in Wood Buffalo:

- Wellness and well-being workshops: Participants will engage in sessions that focus on mindfulness, stress reduction, and creative activities to promote mental and emotional well-being. Each workshop will be offered once per season (winter, spring, and fall).
- Family fitness classes: Sessions such as Barre Above, which combines stretching and full-body workouts to strengthen both body and mind, and High Fitness, an energetic program blending classic aerobics with fun, music-driven moves, will promote physical and mental health for all ages.
- French indoor soccer program: Children ages 6–12 will participate in a structured soccer program led by a qualified French-speaking coach, designed to develop motor skills, teamwork, and coordination.

## Project Summary

### Promoting health and well-being for Francophone and Francophile community

**Outputs: What do you deliver? (e.g., # of total participants trained, # of organizations, # of sessions, # of events, etc.). Note, each activity should have outputs.**

Note: If the program, project, service or event is approved, your outputs may be included in the Grant Agreement and data collection on the outputs is required.

We deliver:

1. Workshops: Number of workshops organized: 3 workshops organized, one session per seasons (winter, spring and fall).

2. Fitness Program:

-Number of fitness classes delivered: 2 fitness classes (Barre Above, High Fitness) adapted to the age, level and needs of the participants. They are offered in different locations like YMCA Eagle Ridge for High fitness and Boréal gymnasium for Barre above, from September to June.

-Number of participants per class: 10 to 20 persons.

-Number of locations offering fitness classes: outside of our fitness classes, there are no fitness classes provided in French.

3. Indoor Soccer Program:

-Number of soccer training sessions organized: 7 sessions (from April to June) and 10 sessions (from September to December).

-Number of children registered (ages 6-12): 20 children.

-Number of qualified coaches involved: 2 qualified coaches, 1 main and 1 assistant.

## Project Summary

### Promoting health and well-being for Francophone and Francophile community

**Outcomes: What change do you want to see for the participants by running your program, project, service or event? Organizations are required to identify at least one outcome, that will be measured through the grant period, should the application be approved.**

Note: If the program, project, service or event is approved, your outcomes will be included in the Grant Agreement and data collection on the outcomes is required.

We hope to see participants in the proposed program based on our organization logic model, positive participation, increased involvement and commitment, as well as positive development of individuals and connections with others in the community. The program aims to generate several positive changes for participants. Social inclusion will be strengthened. By participating in activities in French, participants will strengthen their ties with other members of the community, including newcomers, reduce their isolation and create intergenerational links within the community. That will help reduce stress and anxiety among participants: adults, youth, and families.

Cultural pride will also be reinforced. By engaging in Francophone events, participants will develop a deeper sense of pride in their culture and identity, contributing to the vitality of the Francophone community in Wood Buffalo. Physical health will improve through fitness programs that promote strength, flexibility, and overall wellness. These outcomes will be monitored through surveys, observations, feedback forms, and participation analysis. Continuous evaluation during the grant period will ensure that the program effectively addresses the community needs.

#### **What tools will you use to measure the outcomes of the program, project, service or event?**

Note: If your organization is approved for funding, copies of the measurement tools selected will be requested.

Surveys, Observation

## Project Summary

### Promoting health and well-being for Francophone and Francophile community

#### **Please provide details of how your program, project, service or event differs from other services being offered in the community.**

The ACFA régionale de Wood Buffalo is committed to developing French-language activities that appeal to all Francophones and their families. These programs stand out from other community services because they directly address the needs of the French-speaking population, fostering a more multicultural and inclusive environment. According to the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages, 4,380 people in Wood Buffalo are able to hold a conversation in French, representing 6.1% of the total population. This initiative allows the ACFA to expand its offerings and better serve this community. When services are unavailable in a person's first language, it creates barriers that can negatively affect health, well-being, and participation in community life. By providing more French-language programs, the ACFA ensures Francophones can engage more fully, reducing social isolation and promoting a stronger sense of belonging. These programs are designed to reach multiple generations, encouraging family participation and fostering connections across the community. In doing so, the ACFA provides essential support to Francophones, helping them thrive while contributing to the cultural richness of the region. Access to services in French is vital for individual and community well-being, and this initiative represents a key step in addressing this need in Wood Buffalo.

#### **This grant is intended to promote an allied social profit sector within the Municipality. List the community groups or organizations that will be actively involved in the program, project, service or event delivery.**

Community Organization or Group	Role
École Boréale	School partner
La FRAP PASE de Fort McMurray	Immigration/ Newcomers partner
Fédération des aînés franco-albertains (FAFA)	Seniors partner
Réseau Santé Alberta (RSA)	Francophone Health Representative