

Thank you for reaching out with your questions. I firmly believe that the francophone community have an important place in Thunder Bay. Historically, during the fur trade in Fort William they were the main support system of the Hudson's Bay Company. Retaining one's language and culture is an important part of a person's identity and should be celebrated.

In Canada we have a diverse population which enhances tolerance and acceptance of varying backgrounds. The francophone community locally is dynamic and continues to support the passing of the French language and culture to future generations. Economically, being able to speak French supports tourism with a francophone community encouraging immigration to our city of French speaking people.

Regarding the local policies to ensure that the French language is made available, I would like to see that bilingual staff are available to assist with accommodating people in this area. Any digital sites should have the French language available as well as any written format.