

Provincial Court Launches New Bilingual Website

Chief Judge M. Reginald Reid is pleased to announce the official launch of the Provincial Court's bilingual website.

This renewed site is much improved and expanded from the first generation effort and aims to provide improved information and access in both official languages.

Chief Judge Reid stated: "This is an example of the Provincial Court's efforts to improve access to our justice system. We believe this initiative will allow francophones in our province to have a meaningful opportunity to be better informed about the services offered by the provincial court."

As an objective of the Provincial Court's Strategic Plan, improving public access to court services coincides with an objective under the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador's Strategic Plan on French Language Services. It is also a priority area for the Ministerial Conference on the Canadian *Francophonie*.

To develop the French version of the website, the Court worked with the Office of French Services, Public Service Secretariat. The translation is provided under the Canada/Newfoundland and Labrador Agreement on French Language Services.

The site contains a variety of information including summaries of the types of services offered by the Provincial Court as well as contact information for courts located throughout the province. Various forms available through the site will also be available in both official languages within a few weeks.

The launch of the site coincides with Provincial Francophone Day, which is celebrated on May 30 and serves to recognize the cultural and historic contribution of the province's francophone and Acadian communities.

The French version of the website can be accessed at http://www.court.nl.ca/provincial_fr/default_fr.htm

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