

Municipality of Beaurivage

Municipal linguistic and cultural policy DRAFT

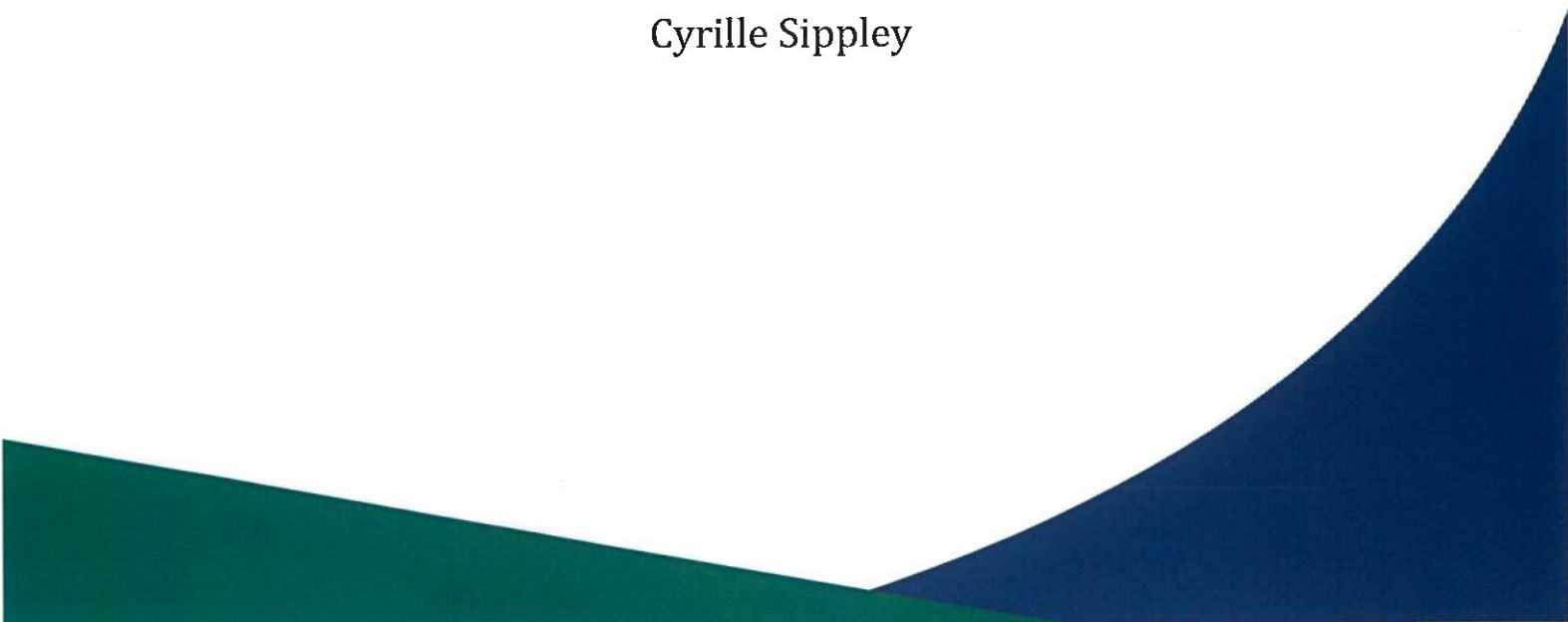
*Submitted by the Committee for the project of a Municipal
linguistic and cultural policy*

Members:

Roger Doiron

Paul Lirette

Cyrille Sippley



Official Status and Commitment

1. The municipality is committed to respecting the provisions of the Official Languages Act of Canada and the Official Languages Act of New Brunswick with regard to the language rights of citizens of both official languages of the country and the province, as well as the services to be offered to them.
2. The municipality is committed to protecting the French language and Acadian culture of its community, in accordance with Supreme Court of Canada rulings on Section 23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Communication and Services

1. Pursuant to section 35 and 36 of the Official Languages Act of New Brunswick, the Municipality of Beaurivage publishes in both official languages its new by-laws (or any amendments to its existing by-laws), its notices of public meetings, its agendas, its minutes, as well as any news releases intended for all of its citizens.
2. If the two versions of the documents listed above are published side by side, the French version will be published on the left-hand side. If the two versions are published one above the other, the French version will be published at the top.
3. Any question addressed in English to the municipal council, a member of its staff or an individual councillor may be answered in English.
4. Traffic signs within municipal boundaries will be written in both official languages, with French having priority.
5. Notwithstanding its status as a French-speaking town, the Municipality of Beaurivage recognizes the right of all its citizens to be served in the official language of their choice.

6. The municipality's press conferences are held in French and English. Answers to questions asked in English can be given in English.
7. In oral or written notices to all citizens issued by the municipal council or one of its committees, the French version will come first.
8. During municipal activities, advertising by commercial partners can be in both official languages, French first.
9. During ceremonies or other events organized by the municipality, elected representatives, employees, committee members or any other person delegated by the municipality may express themselves in both official languages, French first.
10. During activities organized by external organizations in which the municipality is invited to participate, the municipal spokesperson may speak in both official languages.

Public notices and publications

1. Public notices and publications in the form of posters issued by the municipality will be written in both official languages, French first.
2. The language used in the corporate name of businesses offering their products and services within the limits of the municipality remains the choice of the owner(s). Shops and businesses will be strongly encouraged to adopt a corporate name in both official languages.

Responsibility

1. The municipal council is responsible for reviewing and implementing this policy.

Financial incentive program

1. A financial incentive program for the implementation of a plan to francize the linguistic landscape of municipalities was designed and developed in conjunction with the “Association francophone des municipalités du Nouveau-Brunswick (AFMNB)”, taking into account its financial capacity and that of municipalities.
2. Shops and businesses that agree to change their corporate name sign to bring it into line with the municipality's linguistic and cultural policy will be eligible for a grant to help defray the costs. The text of the new sign must appear in both official languages.
3. Financial assistance will be limited to permanent exterior signage. Signs with removable lettering are not eligible.
4. The municipality reserves the right to limit the number of grants awarded to businesses and will give priority based on the date of applications received. However, applications proposing to modify an existing sign to bring it into line with the municipality's linguistic and cultural policy will be given priority over other categories of applications.

Adoption

The present linguistic and cultural policy was adopted by the municipal council of the municipality of Beaurivage on this _____ day of the month of _____ of the year _____.