

For immediate release

ELAN Quebec thrilled with Government of Canada's \$7.5 million investment in arts and culture micro-grants for official language minority schools

Montreal – September 25, 2018 – [ELAN Quebec](#) is proud to support the Government of Canada's new Community Cultural Action Micro-Grant Program for Minority Schools that will fund artistic and cultural activities in 1000 official language minority schools throughout the country.

"Providing students in Quebec schools with opportunities to explore their identity through the arts contributes to developing creativity and a sense of belonging," said Christie Huff, ELAN's [ACE \(Arts, Communities, Education\) Initiative](#) Project Manager.

The new micro-grants are made possible by an investment of up to \$7.5 million over four years starting April 1, 2019, announced today by the honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Tourism, Official Languages and La Francophonie. The investment falls under the Government of Canada's [Action Plan for Official Languages 2018-2023: Investing in Our Future](#).

"Artistic and cultural activities in education are a key building block of community vitality in Quebec's official language minority," said Bettina Forget, President of ELAN. "Through these micro-grants, Canadian Heritage and Minister Joly have made an important investment in this vitality."

ELAN will distribute micro-grants in Quebec to community-based organizations, along with official language minority schools. A transparent, simple, and accessible application process will be developed with Canadian Heritage and ELAN's French-language counterpart outside Quebec, la Fédération culturelle canadienne-française (FCCF), and in consultation with ELAN's community and education partners.

ELAN's participation reflects its commitment, and that of its sister organizations, partners, and members, to developing collaborations between arts and culture and other sectors. Since 2016, ELAN's ACE Initiative (also funded by Canadian Heritage, as well as the Government of Quebec) has facilitated participatory activities between artists, students, and school communities throughout the province. Through ACE, ELAN has witnessed the power of artists sharing their craft, students flourishing through artistic expression, and educators finding new ways to inspire young minds.

ELAN looks forward to collaborating with Canadian Heritage and FCCF to continue empowering diverse artists, schools, and communities with the common goal of sparking creativity and engagement in official language minority communities.

elan

english language
arts network

ELAN (English-Language Arts Network) Quebec is a not-for-profit organization that connects, supports, and creates opportunities for Quebec's English-speaking artists and arts communities. ELAN members are individuals and organizations from a wide array of artistic disciplines, cultural and geographic backgrounds, and linguistic and cultural communities. Together this network reflects an evolving Quebec identity and celebrates the province's cultural, artistic, and social diversity.

For further information:

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