CASA celebrates the extension of the Government of Canada's Francophone Minority Communities Student Pilot

Ottawa, ON, September 9, 2026-The Francophone Minority Communities Student Pilot is an immigration program that supports French-speaking international students in minority French speaking communities (outside of Quebec) access settlement services in Canada while they study. The program saw success in its last year, with its approval rates remaining high, despite other study permit application approval rates consistently declining.

CASA supports the recruitment of French-speaking international students into the country. The recruitment of these students into minority French-speaking communities will allow these communities to benefit from the talent of international students while creating thriving Francophone communities not just in Quebec, but across Canada. Further, considering the significant economic, cultural, and societal benefit that international students bring to Canada, CASA supports the program's goal of connecting international students to settlement services, allowing these students to stay and continue to contribute to growing minority Francophone communities across the country.

"French-speaking international students have an important role to play in strengthening Francophone communities across Canada," remarked Sabina Kapoor, CASA's Chair. "Making sure these students have access to settlement support while they study can make a real difference in helping them feel connected and supported. We are pleased to see the Government of Canada extend a program that supports both students and the growth of Francophone communities outside of Quebec."

-30-

About CASA

Established in 1995, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations is a non-partisan, not-for-profit national student organization composed of 26 student associations across the country. Through our partnership with the Quebec Student Union/Union étudiante du Québec, CASA represents 365,000 post-secondary students across Canada.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Canadian Alliance of Student Associations

Mariam Trifess

Communications & Public Relations Officer

CASA
Canadian Alliance of Student Associations

ACAE
Alliance canadienne des associations étudiantes

Email: communications@casa.ca
Phone: (438) 225-4492