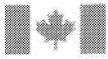


DEC 23 2024



Patrimoine
canadien Canadian
Heritage

Sous-ministre Deputy Minister
Gatineau (Québec) Gatineau, Quebec

PROTECTED A

MEMORANDUM TO THE HONOURABLE PASCALE ST-ONGE

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE DELIVERY

(For Information)

69(1)(g) re (a)

SUMMARY

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- Current program delivery has resulted in risks relating to consistency, transparency and accountability, as noted in the program's recent evaluation. [Redacted]

69(1)(g) re (a)

Background

- Six not-for-profit industry organizations have been delivering the Local Journalism Initiative on behalf of the Department since the launch of the program in 2019: 1) News Media Canada; 2) Réseau.Presse; 3) Quebec Community Newspapers Association; 4) National Ethnic Press and Media Council of Canada; 5) Canadian Association of Community Television Users and Stations (in partnership with Fédération des télévisions communautaires autonomes du Québec); 6) Community Radio Fund of Canada (in partnership with Alliance des radios communautaires du Canada, Association des radiodiffuseurs communautaires du Québec; and National Campus and Community Radio Association).

69(1)(g) re (a)

- The 2023 Fall Economic Statement announced the extension of the program to March 31, 2027; [Redacted]

21(1)(a)

21(1)(b)



21(1)(a)

21(1)(b)

(2) Planned activities to support these objectives 2025-26 and 2026-27



(3) Other Evaluation Recommendations

- The progress report also addresses recommendations raised by the program evaluation with respect to improving accountability, transparency and efficiency as outlined in the Management Response and Action Plan.

PCH Comments

○

[Redacted]

2) The Local Journalism Initiative evaluation covering the period of 2019-20 to 2021-22, called upon the Department to improve administration of the program by examining the composition of Initial Recipients, noting inconsistencies between how some deliver the program and opportunities to improve efficiency (e.g. through leveraging economies of scale in processing applications).

[Redacted]

21(1)(a)

21(1)(b)

4) The Local Journalism Initiative will be implementing a new funding stream as part of the Changing Narratives Fund for 2025-26 and 2026-27. This new stream will add delivery pressures on organizations administering funding.

[Redacted]

Stakeholder Reactions and Mitigating Measures

○ All current funding delivery organizations are aware of the evaluation report findings and the need to examine the delivery model.

[Redacted]

○

○

○



21(1)(b)
21(1)(a)

Next Steps

○



69(1)(g) re (a)

○




Isabelle Mondou

Attachments

Prepared by: Curtis Wolfe, Creative Industries and Trade, 613-327-3923

**Pages 5 to 9
are withheld pursuant to section**

69(1)(g) re (a)

of the Access to Information Act

PROTECTED
A

21(1)(a)

20(1)(c)

20(1)(b)



Current Delivery

Six not-for-profit organizations representing different segments of the news industry administer the Initiative.

1. Réseau.Presse;
 2. Quebec Community Newspapers Association;
 3. News Media Canada;
 4. National Ethnic Press and Media Council of Canada;
 5. Canadian Association of Community Television Users and Stations (in partnership with Fédération des télévisions communautaires autonomes du Québec; and
 6. Community Radio Fund of Canada (in partnership with Alliance des radios communautaires du Canada; Association des radiodiffuseurs communautaires du Québec; and National Campus and Community Radio
- 