



Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport



Manitoba Education and Advanced Learning

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND ADVANCED LEARNING
OF THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA, CANADA
AND
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT
OF SPAIN

BACKGROUND AND RESOLUTION

The Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport of Spain (“Ministry”) represented by Mr. Xavier Gisbert da Cruz, Counselor of Education at the Embassy of Spain to the United States and Canada by approved signing on behalf of the State Secretary of Education, Vocational Training and Universities, and the Department of Education and Advanced Learning of the Province of Manitoba (“Department”) represented by Dr. Gerald Farthing, Deputy Minister hereinafter jointly referred to as the “Participants”:

Considering the mutual interests of the Ministry and the province of Manitoba in fostering understanding and cooperation between their respective citizens;

Considering that multicultural and multilingual education, in addition to preserving cultural identity, lead to cultural enrichment and knowledge enhancement among nations; and

Considering that knowledge of the Spanish language constitutes an important key to opening opportunities to Manitoba’s citizens:

Therefore, the Participants consent to sign this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to encourage and enhance Spanish language programming in schools in the province of Manitoba as outlined in the following text:



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I.- GENERAL PRINCIPLES

I.1.- The main objective for the cooperative programs that will be developed under this MOU is the improvement of the quality and extent of the teaching of the Spanish language and culture in the Province of Manitoba, in order to:

- a) Promote relationships between citizens of Manitoba and Spain;
- b) Foster knowledge and appreciation of their respective cultures;
- c) Provide students who register in these programs with a bilingual and multicultural education that trains them for future personal, academic and professional success; and
- d) Provide professional development opportunities to teachers of Manitoba and Spain.

I.2.- The cooperative programs described below will involve Manitoba school divisions operating schools where the Spanish language is taught and/or other subjects of the curriculum are instructed in Spanish.

II.- COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS

The following programs will form the basis of cooperation between the Ministry and the Department:

II.1. - Visiting Teachers:

II.1.1.- The Department, in collaboration with the Ministry, will promote the placement of visiting teachers from Spain who are qualified to teach in Spanish bilingual programs and/or Spanish language and culture in schools in the Province of Manitoba.

II.1.2.- Each school year, the Department will assist school divisions, as necessary, to determine the number of visiting teachers required to be employed in early, middle or senior-years schools in the Province of Manitoba. To this end:

- a) The Ministry will promote the visiting teachers program in Spain.
- b) The Department will invite school divisions to take part in the program and will cooperate in the selection of those teachers who may be employed by the schools divisions. The Ministry will cooperate in the final selection process.



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- c) It is the intent that the teachers will be employed by the school divisions.

II.2.- Spanish Education Language Advisor

A Spanish Education Language Advisor from the Ministry will support the participating school divisions, schools and teachers with assistance in the field of Spanish language and culture.

II.3.- In-Service Training Programs for Teachers of Spanish as a Foreign Language

- a) The Ministry, working in collaboration with the Department, will promote the participation of educators and school administrators in courses offered by Spanish universities to enhance the teaching of the Spanish language and culture and the teaching of Spanish as a foreign language.
- b) Education authorities in Manitoba will encourage school divisions and post-secondary institutions to recognize the above mentioned courses taken at accredited Spanish universities.

II.4.- Bilingual Programs in Spanish:

The Department and the Ministry will cooperate with interested school divisions in supporting the implementation of Spanish bilingual programming, which may be the basis of incorporation of the Manitoba school(s) into the *International Spanish Academy (ISA)* network. The main aim would be to promote a high level of bilingual education through the support of the Ministry and other Spanish institutions dedicated to the promotion of the Spanish language and culture.

- a) In the case of the incorporation of a school into the ISA network, the Ministry will offer additional support, including pedagogical guidance, teaching resources and specific teacher training activities through the Spanish Education Language Advisor.
- b) The incorporation of a school into the ISA network will require a separate agreement signed by the Ministry, the Department and the participating school division. This agreement would outline, among other items, the requirements and the percentage of Spanish used as the language of instruction.
- c) Manitoba ISA schools will remain subject to the regulations and educational policies of Manitoba in terms of teaching staff, students, programs and school activity in general.



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II.5.- Educational Exchanges

- a) The Ministry and the Department mutually consent to encourage student and educator exchanges between their respective jurisdictions.
- b) These exchanges may be implemented by making use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) as a way to incorporate ICT into the process of language learning of those students who participate in the programs.
- c) Likewise, both Participants will promote the development of school partnerships to offer Spanish language and culture programs to Manitoba students and English and/or French language programs to students from Spain.
- d) The Ministry and the Department will collaborate in promoting the use of Spanish Language and Culture Assistants in Manitoba and Manitoba Language and Culture Assistants in Spain. These programs provide opportunities for graduated students, or those in their last year of university or college in Manitoba and in Spain, to act as Language and Culture Assistants in the other's jurisdiction.

III.- EVALUATION

Annually, the Participants will develop a report relative to the application of the Cooperative Programs. This report will suggest proposals for improvement.

IV.- DURATION

- a) This MOU is established for four years, from the date on which it is signed, and can be terminated by either Participant provided that at least six months' written notice is given.
- b) This MOU may be amended with the mutual written consent of the Participants. During the term of the MOU, provisions for its improvement may be added when agreed upon in writing by both Participants.
- c) Unless cancelled by either Participant, this MOU will automatically be renewed for one-year periods, until such time as a new MOU that substitutes or modifies it is signed or that either Participant provides notice of intent to cancel.



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- d) Each Participant will be responsible for their own costs resulting from the activities undertaken through the MOU, subject to the availability of funds in their respective annual budgets.

Signed in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on 2014

Representing the Department of Education and Advanced Learning
of the Province of Manitoba

Original signed by

Dr. Gerald Farthing

Deputy Minister, Manitoba Education and Advanced Learning

Representing the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport of Spain

Original signed by

Mr. Xavier Gisbert da Cruz

Counselor for Education, Embassy of Spain in Canada