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NWT to Host Conference on the Canadian Francophonie

YELLOWKNIFE (Sept. 28) -- Canada's federal, provincial and territorial Ministers responsible for the Canadian Francophonie will be coming to the Northwest Territories (NWT) next year as Yellowknife hosts the 15th Ministerial Conference on the Canadian Francophonie June 22- 23rd.

The Conference accepted the invitation offered by NWT Minister of Education, Culture and Employment Jackson Lafferty when they met in September. Minister Lafferty's offer to host the conference included a gift package of traditional Bannock (recipe included) for a small taste of what they can expect in the North.

The ministers will have an opportunity to meet with residents of Yellowknife and Behchoko to learn more about the languages of the NWT.

"This will be a unique opportunity for my colleagues and the Federal Minister of Canadian Heritage to gain an appreciation for the NWT's many languages and the challenges associated with having 11 official languages," Minister Lafferty said.

The Ministerial Conference on the Canadian Francophonie was created in 1994 and provides a forum for federal, provincial and territorial ministers to meet annually to deal with various issues related to the Canadian Francophonie and to provide direction for intergovernmental cooperation.

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