

MANICOUAGAN



GUIDE 9

LEARNING AND SPEAKING FRENCH

Manicouagan is one of those spaces that stands naturally apart from the rest. Those unspoiled lands where opportunities abound. Those Côte-Nord regions where the warmth of the people, as much as the beauty of the landscape, takes your breath away.

Here, the feeling of immensity is intertwined with a true culture of proximity. In Manicouagan, dynamism and enthusiasm go hand in hand with the philosophy of living in the present and making the most of every moment.

Choosing to live in Manicouagan means contributing to the bright future of the territory, all while making your own dreams come true.

As a newcomer, this guide is for you. It was created to help you settle and integrate into Manicouagan. In it, you will find a wealth of practical information on the resources and services available.

WELCOME HOME!

FIRST EDITION, JANUARY 2025

Please do not hesitate to write to us at info@mrcmanicouagan.qc.ca to let us know about any changes that may have occurred since the writing of this guide.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Manicouagan municipalities are located on Nitassinan, the traditional unceded territory of the Innu people. In a spirit of friendship and solidarity, the municipalities acknowledge and honour the First Nations for the important contributions they made and continue to make to this territory.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

[Learning and Speaking French](#)

[French Courses](#)

[French Courses for Adults](#)

[A Few exemples Québécois Expressions](#)

LEARNING AND SPEAKING FRENCH

French is the mother tongue of the majority of Québec's population.

Choosing to live in Québec means living in a French-speaking society.

According to the Charter of the French Language, French is the official and common language of Québec and its public institutions. Speaking French will make your integration and participation in Québec society easier.

In Manicouagan, 93% of the population speaks French daily.

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL IMPORTANCE OF FRENCH IN QUÉBEC

In Canada, the largest concentration of people whose mother tongue is French live in Québec. **About 80% of Quebecers say French is their first language, and about 83% speak French at home and in their daily life.** While Francophones make up a majority in Québec, they are a minority in the rest of Canada and North America.

In 1977, Bill 101 asserted the social and cultural choice to defend and protect the French language in the only predominantly French-speaking community in North America, and made French the common and usual language of Québec.

The integration of young allophones (i.e., a person whose first language is neither French nor English) into French schools was one of the main goals of the Bill. Most immigrant children, regardless of their mother tongue, must attend a French elementary and high school. Most francophone Quebecers are subject to the same law.



GOOD TO KNOW

Language, academic, and social integration programs have been put in place to give students who have not mastered French yet the means to succeed in school. Children who need it can take advantage of these welcome and support services to learn French.

FRENCH COURSES

Francisation Québec is the only government access point for French courses and learning. It was established within the ministère de l'Immigration, de la Francisation et de l'Intégration by the Charter of the French Language.

Francisation Québec oversees and manages French courses and French language learning for the government. It offers courses to:

- Adults living in Québec (aged 16+);
- People who plan to settle in Québec;
- Employees of companies established in Québec.

The Charter of the French Language stipulates that everyone who lives in Québec has the right to access French learning services.

Francisation Québec offers a wide range of courses that can be adapted to the needs of its different clientele:

- General and specialized courses by field of employment;
- Full-time and part-time courses;
- In-person, distance, or online learning options.

Students can gradually progress through the different levels with beginner, intermediate, and advanced courses.

Francisation Québec also offers open access online resources to further help people in their learning.

FRENCH COURSES FOR YOUTH

Integration classes and learning support services are available to young people.

Elementary school

The language integration class is located in the Bois-du-Nord School in the Mingan sector. This class is open to students in grades 3 to 6 who do not speak French. Children in kindergarten to Grade 2 are directly integrated into the regular class.

High school

The language integration class is located at the Polyvalente des Baies, in the Marquette sector.

All immigrant students must attend this class. Their time spent in the class will vary by student.

Francization services

Francization support services are available to both elementary and high school students.

School bus services

Questions about student transportation must be addressed directly to the school's administration or the school board's transportation service.

418-589-0806 ext. 4849

francisation@cssestuaire.gouv.qc.ca



For more information, visit:

www.quebec.ca/education/apprendre-le-francais

FRENCH COURSES FOR ADULTS

To learn French in Manicouagan, you will be directed to the following two establishments:

Centre d'éducation des adultes de l'Estuaire
www.caaestuaire.com
 418-589-0867

ABC Côte-Nord
www.abccotenord.com
 418-294-2400

Do not hesitate to contact them if you need assistance registering for courses.

A FEW OTHER RESOURCES TO HELP YOU LEARN FRENCH

Office québécois de la langue française
www.oqlf.gouv.qc.ca

Centre de lecture et d'écriture de Montréal (CLÉ)
 Online exercises
www.clemontreal.org/fr

Conjugeur en ligne
 Online conjugation tool
www.bescherelle.com/conjugeur.php

Alloprof – Homework help
www.alloprof.qc.ca



A FEW EXEMPLES QUÉBÉCOIS EXPRESSIONS

Ben manque
 Probably

Avoir la broue dans le toupet
 To be very busy,
 to be overwhelmed

Piastre ou piasse
 Dollar

Checker
 To look, to check

Blonde
 Girlfriend, spouse

Chum
 Can also mean “buddy”
 or “pal”.

Être aux petits oiseaux
 Be happy

Se payer la traite
 To treat yourself

Char
 Car, automobile

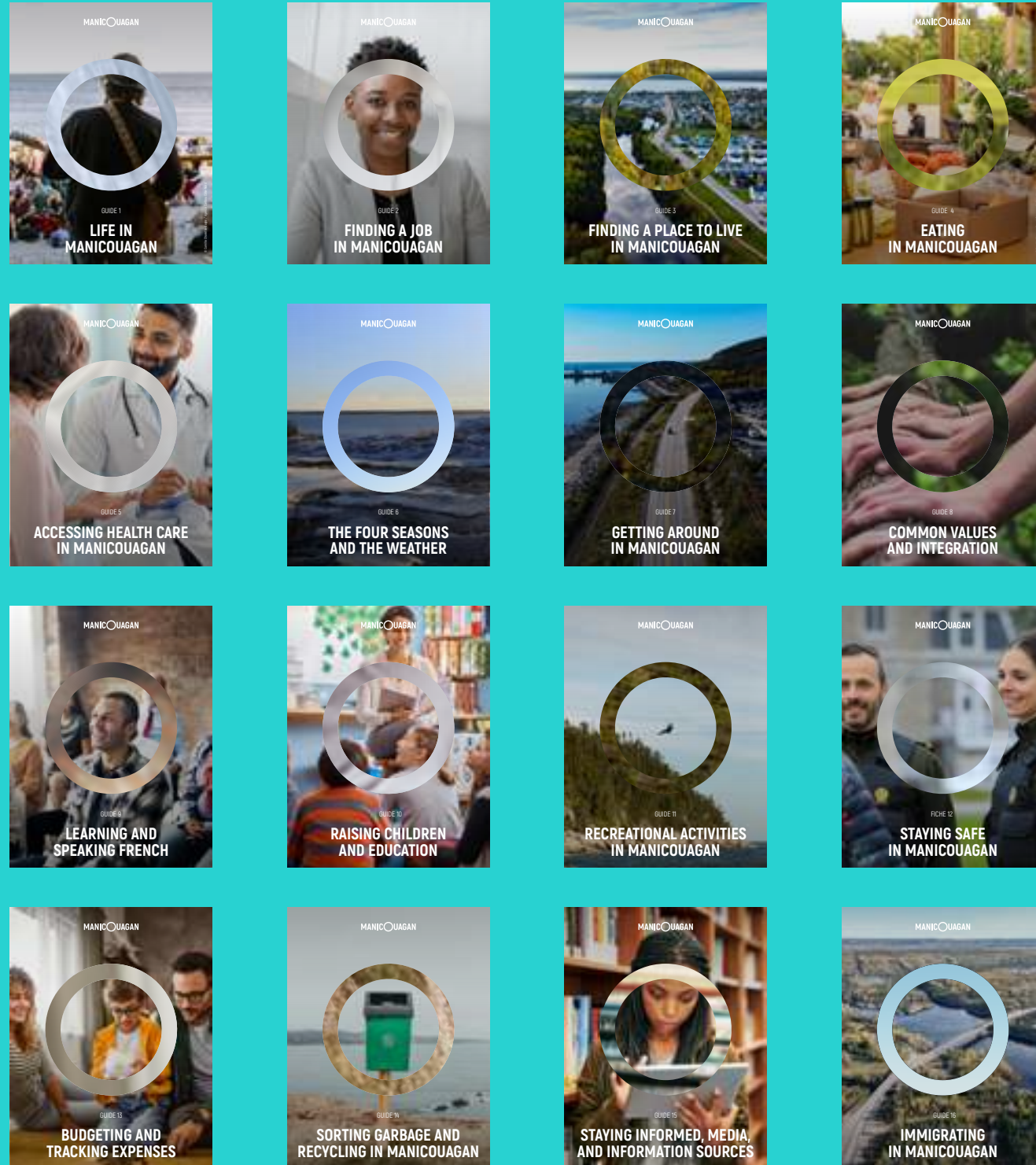
Pantoute
 Not at all

Interested in learning more vocabulary?

For a bit of fun, consults these lexicons to discover more typically Québécois expressions.

www.pvtistes.net/apprendre-le-quebecois
www.je-parle-quebecois.com/lexique/definition/expression-quebecoise.html
www.vidalingua.com/blog/quebecois-mots-expressions

CONSULT THE OTHER GUIDES



THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

The success of this project is a testament of the strength of our collaborative partnership. The Manicouagan RCM would like to thank all its partners and collaborators for their trust and their vital contributions to the project.

WORKING COMMITTEE

An initiative of



With the collaboration of



FINANCIAL PARTNERS



This project is carried out as part of the sectoral agreement that aims to attract new residents and encourage long-term settlement in the Côte-Nord and with the financial support of the following partners: Caniapiscou RCM, Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent RCM, Haute-Côte-Nord RCM, Manicouagan RCM, Minganie RCM, Sept-Rivières RCM, le ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation, and the Société du Plan Nord.

MANICOUAGAN