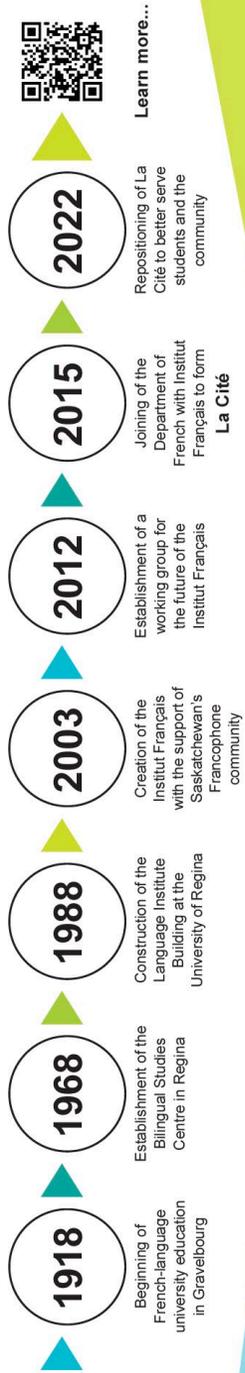


# Vision 2027

La Cité universitaire francophone



# OUR STORY



Learn more...

La Cité is the result of a series of transformations:

1968 – Establishment of the Bilingual Studies Centre on the University campus for French-language university education in Saskatchewan.

1988 – Construction of the Language Institute Building at UofR for the development and implementation of French university programs.

2003 – Revision of the Language Institute's mandate with the participation of Saskatchewan's Francophone community to create the Institut français.

2012 – Establishment of a working group to examine the future of the Institut français in the broader context of French-language education at UofR.

2015 – The Department of French and Institut français merged to form La Cité universitaire francophone, with the authority to manage its own programs and grant degrees.

2022 – Toward a full-fledged faculty within the campus.

## Background and Cornerstone

Since its establishment, La Cité has been challenged to achieve a coherent strategic and operational plan that underlines the reasons for its existence, provides a strategic diagnosis of its present status, aligns its future direction with the strategic direction of the University of Regina, as well as harmonizes its aspirations with the expectations of its funding partners, stakeholders and the Francophone community in Saskatchewan.



La Cité's primary challenge is to ensure the development of an educated Francophonie and contribute to the longevity of the French language in Saskatchewan and the Prairies. In order to strengthen the institution's capacity to provide quality post-secondary education in the minority language, La Cité must increase its access to French-language learning opportunities for its students.

But it must also do so within the linguistic context of the Canadian Prairies. The weight of the majority context in which it exists will always exert such a high level of linguistic assimilation pressure that the individual struggle for survival will come at the expense of the ability to flourish.

Fostering a diverse and inclusive community by promoting the development and vitality of the French language and education in French among students, staff, and faculty at the University of Regina who live in a predominantly Anglophone environment requires an appreciation of and commitment to the benefits of bilingualism and partnerships.

It is within this context that this strategic plan was developed – a context that recognizes the challenges facing La Cité and also recognizes the incredible richness that its activities offer and bring to the university.

# Vision

**La Cité universitaire francophone constitutes the main hub for French-language university programming, research and services offered at the University of Regina and across the province.**



**La Cité**

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FRANCOPHONE

# Mission

The mission of *La Cité universitaire francophone* is to fulfill the university education needs of Saskatchewan's Francophones, whatever their first language. *La Cité* plays an active role in the cultural, linguistic and professional development of the Fransaskois community by offering credit and non-credit courses and programs.

In this context, *La Cité* initiates, encourages, develops and supports research and the dissemination of academic work in French on issues of concern for Francophone minority communities. *La Cité* fosters an accessible and stimulating Francophone environment and living space on the University of Regina campus.



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## Vision 2027



La Cité universitaire francophone de l'Université de Regina, with its status as a full-fledged Academic Unit, is at the forefront of efforts to meet the educational needs of la francophonie in Saskatchewan. Through its dedicated faculty and staff, it works as a key ally with community partners and rises to the occasion by creating the conditions for the Francophone community, and a broader life in French, to flourish. La Cité offers diverse educational French-language and bilingual pathways at the university level, on campus and throughout the province. These programs allow those who speak French and those who want to learn the language to take part in the opportunities and the wealth of experiences offered by the many shapes a bilingual life can take in Saskatchewan.



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## Vision-Associated Objectives



To provide university education in French in Saskatchewan.



To support its students by providing them with tools and personalized services for academic coaching and professional development in French.



To provide a unique experiential component, based on interactive, dynamic and stimulating instructional principles for the student.



To support research that will contribute to the vitality of the Franco-Saskatchewanian community.



To provide an environment within the University of Regina that values the cultural and linguistic identity of Franco-Saskatchewanians.



To foster the growth and development of the French language and culture in Saskatchewan.

## Vision-Associated Objectives (cont.)

- ▶ To contribute to the University of Regina's living and learning community by consolidating the francophone physical, social and cultural space on campus.
- ▶ To foster the growth and development of the French language and culture in Saskatchewan.
- ▶ To ensure the overall success of its students through a range of personalized academic coaching and professional development services in French.
- ▶ To provide a unique experiential component, based on interactive, dynamic and stimulating instructional principles for the student.
- ▶ To support research that will contribute to the vitality of the Franco-Saskatchewanian community.
- ▶ To provide an environment within the University of Regina that values the cultural and linguistic identity of Franco-Saskatchewanians.

# Position Statement

*What we're doing...*



**FOR:** University of Regina students



**WHO WANTS TO:** continue their university education in French and want to perfect their French



**OUR OFFERINGS ARE** individual courses and education programs in French



**THAT:** enable students to learn and live in French on the University of Regina campus and also enable Franco-Saskatchewanians and other regional students to live life in French and English without leaving the province

## Position Statement (cont.)

*Our competitive advantages (why we will succeed)*  
*La Cité...*



Provides Saskatchewan students with the opportunity to enrol in programs where they can take courses in English as well as French within the province.



Offers French language learning programs and university courses in French.

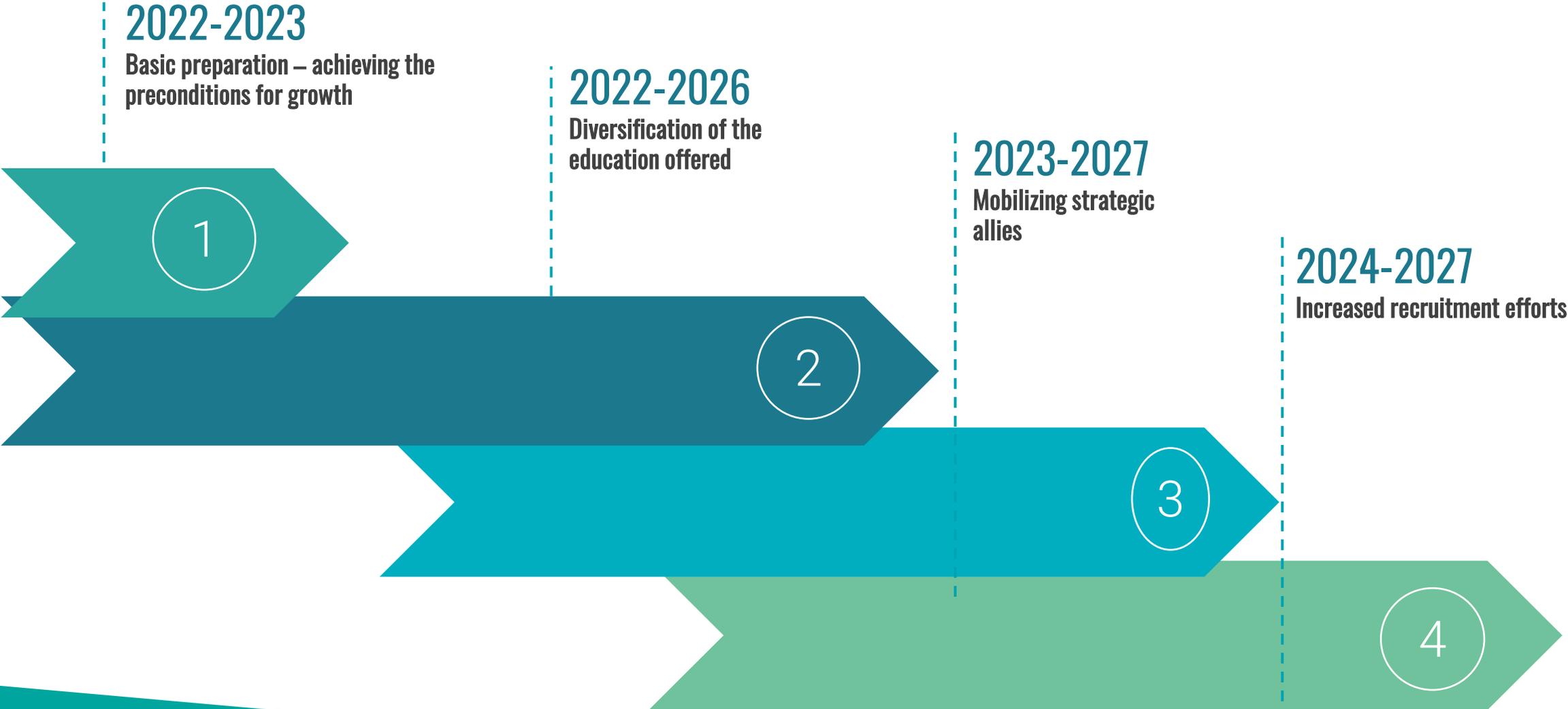


Has access to University of Regina's resources and offerings.



Has access to funding from Canadian Heritage and other funding sources associated with the development of French in a minority context.

# Mission, High Level Time Period



## Mission 1: Preconditions for growth



### Associated Objectives

- Be officially recognized as a full-fledged faculty within the University of Regina
- Strengthen student support systems
- Active and regular social activities, in French, to ensure that students and the community, regardless of their level of French proficiency, feel a strong sense of belonging



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## Mission 2: Diversification of the education offered



### Associated Objectives

- Identify potential areas of collaboration with various faculties at the University of Regina.
  - Building on recent successes, broadening the range of programs in French at the University of Regina (i.e., Bilingual Option in Nursing, Integrated Pathway in French and Francophone Studies and Law, Bilingual Minor in African Studies, Bilingual Option Bachelor of Social Work Program, Certificate in Medical French).
- Initiate collaborations with senior leaders from the faculties of engineering and applied sciences, business administration, and environmental science programs (i.e., Geography and Environmental Studies, Environmental Biology, Geology and Environmental Geoscience, Resource and Environmental Studies) to provide students with the opportunity to take courses in these programs in French.



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## Mission 3: Mobilization of strategic allies



### Associated Objectives

- Involve more of La Cité's alumni as key group to promote La Cité's offerings to Saskatchewan's Francophone population.
- Partner with La Cité's sister institutions to develop university education paths entirely in French.
- Contribute to the vitality of the Fransaskois community by producing bilingual graduates to meet the need for French-language services in areas of strategic interests.



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## Mission 4 : Increase recruitment efforts



### Associated Objectives

Develop an international recruitment plan in partnership with the university (*UR International*) and in line with the province's objectives.

- Get involved in more recruitment events with the university to further expand the scope of its recruitment activities across the province.
- Target the francophone countries like Congo RDC, Algeria, Morocco



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# Strategic Pillars



## Engagement

*Claiming its presence on the University of Regina campus in order to increase and strengthen the means to promote both partners.*



## Partnerships

*Positioning itself as a force multiplier for French-language education in Saskatchewan. To achieve this, it must get more involved in establishing reciprocal relationships that generate interest and increase the societal relevance of its academic and sociocultural efforts and guarantee the availability of education services.*

## Engagement: Objective and strategy

**Involved in the overall development plans of the university and the Franco-Saskatchewanian community in order to maximize the level of stakeholder engagement.**

- Engage with University of Regina recruitment in order to make potential students more aware of the value of La Cité and what it has to offer for a community living in a minority context.
- Expand educational paths with the university's other faculties to **provide students with a wider range of bilingual educational paths** at the university with the aim of attracting more students.

**Promote equity, diversity and inclusion by providing to all students on campus wishing to be served in French a holistic support in French.**

- Create a student support system, both academically and in terms of well-being, to promote student success, in keeping with the University's strategic objective to achieve and maintain parity among the campus's underrepresented groups.
- Promote social opportunities to ensure that students and the community, regardless of their proficiency level in French, **have a strong sense of belonging.**
- Identify and remove barriers to continuing studies in French at La Cité, regardless of the students' fluency in French.

## Partnerships: Objective and strategy



**Secure continual support from the provincial and federal governments by aligning La Cité's academic activities with the ambitions of these two groups over the long term.**

- **Demonstrate how La Cité can be an important partner in international recruitment which, in turn, can help increase the rate of immigration to the province.**
- **Lobby for investment that would enable La Cité to offer courses in areas associated with the industries that the province wants to grow, in an effort to stem the exodus of Francophones from the province and promote the objective of growing the province's population.**
- **Align and combine La Cité's lobbying efforts with those of the university.**
- **Develop a case for La Cité's social impact that draws on the testimonies of former students and community members who can talk about how La Cité helped improve their quality of life in Saskatchewan.**

# Values



**Community engagement**, with respect to our social and environmental responsibilities, including social justice



**Pluralism**, i.e. valuing differences, inclusion, well-being and belonging



**Discovery**, i.e. excellence in teaching and research



**Innovation** to support the growing, changing needs of the Franco-Saskatchewanian community and those who want to join it

# Anticipated Outcomes of the strategy



## Engagement

The program diversification and the excellence in service teaching would help students consider La Cité for their post-secondary education instead of going elsewhere or give up on any effort to become bilingual (FR/EN).

Students with access to more support, such as tutoring, are more likely to keep engaging with La Cité's programming.



## Strategic ally

By aligning course and program development with the province's growth objectives, La Cité will position itself as an asset to both the university and the province.



## Longevity

By increasing its workforce and aligning its actions with the province's and the university's objectives, La Cité will develop a long-lasting financial portfolio.



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