



RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

PETITION No.: **421-02697**

BY: **MRS. NASSIF (VIMY)**

DATE: **OCTOBER 1, 2018**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **JOYCE MURRAY**

Response by the President of the Treasury Board and Minister of Digital Government

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

SUBJECT

EMPLOYMENT

TRANSLATION

REPLY

The Government of Canada recognizes the importance of the contribution that the language industry makes to Canada's linguistic duality, to mutual understanding between communities of different languages and cultures, both in Canada and abroad, and to the promotion of our culture, as the industry ensures and protects linguistic quality in Canadian society and beyond. That is why the Government stands behind and promotes the economic vitality of Canada's community of translators and interpreters, especially as this community and the Government adapt to the rapid digital transformation in society.

The Government is implementing changes to enhance the quality and capacity of the services offered by the Translation Bureau. These changes will reposition the Bureau as a centre of excellence. They include various initiatives that seek to improve the quality of services, strengthen relationships with professional associations, universities and clients, ensure effective resource management and planning, and guarantee that linguistic tools made available to public servants meet their needs.

In October 2017, the Government hired a Chief Quality Officer at the Translation Bureau to restructure all of the Bureau's initiatives linked to quality. In May 2018, the Translation Bureau signed an initial agreement with the Ordre des

traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec to support its mentorship program. Other similar agreements will follow.

In 2017-2018, the Translation Bureau hired over 150 students through an initiative that seeks to support the training of a new generation of individuals qualified in linguistic services. The Translation Bureau remains committed to hiring over 50 students per year over the next five years and will also continue to hire specialized resources to meet specific needs.

Employment opportunities in the language industry remain strong in many provinces. The industry as well as practitioners are represented in Canada by about a dozen associations of provincial or national scope. These associations actively support the professional renewal of the industry, the accreditation of translators, interpreters and terminologists, the recognition of competencies, enhancements to professional practice, adapting to technological changes, the safeguarding and improvement of market conditions and the visibility of the profession.

The Government will also continue to invest in strengthening the language industry and language-related technologies and in maintaining and developing the Language Portal of Canada, a Web site that provides a broad range of free language resources to help people study, work and communicate effectively in our official languages. These tools and resources are available to support Canadian language industry practitioners in their craft and contribute to the enhancement of their competitiveness, both nationally and internationally.