

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**

**La Passerelle-I.D.É. and its Advisory Committee Call to Action Against Racism Welcome the Ontario Ministry of Education's Decision to Eliminate the PANA Program**

Toronto, August 29, 2025 — [La Passerelle-I.D.É.](#) and the [Advisory Committee Call to Action Against Racism](#) welcome with relief and satisfaction the announcement by the Ontario Ministry of Education regarding the elimination of the *Programme d'aménagement linguistique* (PANA), an initiative that for far too long has perpetuated systemic inequities within the Francophone school system.

Following the withdrawal of PANA, the Ministry has published [Policy/Program Memorandum 172](#), which outlines support measures to ensure that all students acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed academically and achieve their goals and aspirations. This new policy represents a promising direction for the future of education in Ontario. It is essential that the entire educational community — including school boards, unions, families, and community partners — actively collaborate to ensure the effective and equitable implementation of these measures.

This decision marks an important victory for Francophone families, particularly those from racialized communities, who have courageously denounced the deeply harmful and racist impacts of this program. For years, PANA contributed to the marginalization and stigmatization of many racialized Francophone students by confining them to limited and inequitable educational pathways under the guise of linguistic support.

La Passerelle-I.D.É. played a leading role in denouncing this injustice, notably by highlighting the consequences of PANA during the historic first bilingual conference [Resolutions: Defeating Racism Together](#), held in Ottawa on October 16 & 17, 2023. This conference gave a voice to students, families, and education professionals who had experienced or witnessed the program's discriminatory effects.

*"The elimination of PANA is a concrete step toward truly equitable education for all Francophone students in Ontario. It is the result of the tireless work of families, students, and activists who refused to remain silent in the face of a fundamentally unjust policy,"* said **Leonie Tchatat, Founder and Director of La Passerelle-I.D.É.**

However, this achievement, as significant as it is, does not mark the end of the struggle. La Passerelle-I.D.É. and its Advisory Committee Call to Action Against Racism reaffirm their unwavering commitment to working toward an inclusive, anti-racist education system that respects the linguistic and cultural rights of all students.

We call on school authorities and decision-makers to build on this momentum by pursuing a profound reform of the Francophone education system in direct collaboration with the communities concerned.

## About La Passerelle-I.D.É.

La Passerelle-I.D.É. is an organization dedicated to defending the rights of Francophones, particularly those from racialized communities, and has been active in Ontario for over 28 years. Through awareness, mobilization, and advocacy initiatives, it works to build a more just, equitable, and inclusive society.

## About the Provincial Bilingual Conference *Resolutions: Defeating Racism Together*

*Resolutions: Defeating Racism Together* aims to create a space for dialogue and reflection on innovative ways to combat racism. The event brings together experts, activists, policymakers, and changemakers to explore the most promising solutions in this field.

<https://www.passerelle-ide.com/resolutions>

## About the Advisory Committee Call to Action Against Racism

The Advisory Committee is composed of 10 members, leaders of Francophone communities in Ontario and across Canada. Its mission is to contribute to the development of a call-to-action strategy and an anti-racism strategy addressing the lived experiences of Black people of African descent and members of racialized Francophone communities. This strategy will expose systemic inequalities and racism within our society and propose concrete solutions for decision-makers, institutions, organizations, and communities to eradicate racism experienced by Black people and racialized communities in Ontario (Canada).