

**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Les Rendez-vous de la Francophonie unveils its 28th edition!**

Ottawa, October 1, 2025 – The Dialogue Network, proud organizer of the Rendez-vous de la Francophonie (RVF), is thrilled to unveil the key elements of its 2026 edition! From March 1 to 31, the RVF will celebrate under the theme:

**Activate your Francophonie!**

To activate your Francophonie means to get moving, reach out to other Francophones and Francophiles, and create more opportunities to connect. Whether it's through a sporting event, a cultural outing, a festive gathering, a creative workshop, or an outdoor activity, each event is a powerful way to show that the French language and culture are alive and bring us together.

**Spokespersons**

Throughout the month of March, the country will come alive with the energy of the Rendez-vous de la Francophonie. For this 28th edition, two dynamic spokespersons will take the lead:

- **Katherine Plouffe**, professional basketball player and Francophile from Alberta
- **Mehdi Cayenne**, singer-songwriter from Ontario, originally from Algeria

“My career gave me the opportunity to spend seven seasons in a high-level professional league in France, and I took that time to learn French! It's amazing to now be able to connect and engage with more people,” shares Katherine.



Credit : Canada Basketball

“I’ve taken my music from Ontario to Italy, France, and Armenia. Each experience adds a branch to my tree, and every branch grows from the same root: connection. That’s why I can’t wait to come see you—in your hometown,” says Mehdi.



Credit : Frédérique Bérubé

## Programming

As we gear up for the edition starting on March 1, the RVF website is your go-to! With year-round activities, the upcoming edition boasts the following new features:

- **Comedy tour**

The comedy tour is back, hitting cities across the country! Hosted by Jonathan Dion, a Franco-Ontarian comedian, this year’s tour features Mario Jean, Stéphanie Morin Robert, and other surprise guests. Dates and venues will be announced soon on RVF.ca.

- **School show: Expérience Évasion**

Expérience Évasion is an interactive, one-of-a-kind performance, given in French. It is the first show of its kind to bring the thrill of an escape game to secondary school students, who are invited to work together to solve interactive puzzles within a set time limit. Book your show now!

- **Microgrants**

The RVF microgrant program is now open until November 14! Designed for non-profit organizations, the program offers dozens of microgrants of up to \$2,000 to help organize local activities in March 2026.

- **Théâtrophone**

Once again, the RVF is pleased to work with Théâtrophone to promote French audio theatre productions. Enter the contest today for a chance to win one of 15 audio plays to enjoy before the end of the school year!

Over the coming weeks, the RVF will gradually unveil even more elements of the 2026 programming to keep you on the edge of your seat. March promises to be a vibrant and engaging month!

Follow us on social media for real-time updates, subscribe to our newsletter, and visit RVF.ca now to access educational tools, games, podcasts, playlists, and much more.

“Canadian Francophonie is vibrant and dynamic, enriched by the contributions of Indigenous Peoples, newcomers, and all those who choose to learn and live in French. In 2026, the Rendez-vous de la Francophonie will activate this vitality with a wide range of activities and contests!” says Ajà Besler, Executive Director of the Dialogue Network.

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### **About**

The Rendez-vous de la Francophonie is one of the many cultural events celebrating International Francophonie Day. An initiative of the Dialogue Network, the RVF is made possible through financial support from the Government of Canada.

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