Aidez-nous

Help us to secure the future of French Louisiana.

Pour devenir membre volontaire d’Action Cadienne, remplir ce formulaire et l’envoyer avec votre chèque à l’adresse suivante:

Action Cadienne
P.O. Box 30184
Lafayette, LA 70503-0184

To become a voting member of Action Cadienne, fill out this form and mail it with your check to the address above.

Membership Fees

Contribution: $25 Annual dues
Grand Prie: $100 Five years
Associate: $50 Life member
Fleur de Blanchais: $100 Patron
Beauvaisit: $75 Benefactor

Nous acceptons tous les dons.
We accept donations in any amount.

Un peu d’histoire

The first Europeans to establish settlements in the New World were French planters. In 1604, they established a colony in eastern Canada known as Acadia.

With the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, the Acadians became subjects of the British Crown. They were, however, guaranteed several rights including the right to preserve their religion, the right to speak their language, and military neutrality. In spite of their case of neutrality, the Acadians were forcefully deported by the British in the winter of 1755. The men were imprisoned by subterfuge while British soldiers went through the countryside, forcing the women and children from their homes, plundering crops and grain and then burning the settlements.

Describing the events, Col. John Woolsey, British officer, wrote: ‘... the inhabitants, sadly and with great sorrow, abandoned their homes. The women in great distress, carried their newborn or their youngest children in their arms. Others pulled carts with their household effects and crippled parents. It was a scene of confusion, despair and desolation.’

Of the population of nearly 16,000, approximately one third fled to endure terrible hardships in hiding. They were the ancestors of the Acadian population of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Thousands died during the deportation. The remnant of the Acadians, after years of privation and wandering, arrived to build a new life in Louisiana.

Throughout most of its history, the state of Louisiana has published its official documents in French and English.

The Constitution of 1819 even provided “that the French language may be taught in those parishes or localities where the French language predominates.”

In July 1913, however, the state legislature approved an act that effectively eliminated the French language as a vehicle of education.

This eventually led to the suppression of the language in the schools through the use of physical punishment and public ridicule of small children.

ACTION CADIENNE
CAJUN ACTION

Association à but non lucratif pour promouvoir la langue française de la Louisiane
Nonprofit association for the promotion of the French language of Louisiana

Ensemble on est capable.