Poitiers, France (AP) — Some 150 Acadians from Louisiana and Canada ended a five-day celebration Friday to mark the 200th anniversary of the return of Acadian communities in the Poitiers region of Central France.

Acadia was a 17th and 18th Century French colony consisting mostly of what is now Nova Scotia.

Led by Mayor Kenny Bowen of Lafayette led a 130-member Louisiana delegation that included Rep. Stephen Dupuis of St. Landry Parish, personal representative of Gov. Edwards. During their stay, the visitors saw an Acadian exhibition at the Chatellerault City Hall, visited the main center of Acadian resettlement, took part in historical and economic discussions with local civic leaders and attended a reception at the Cultural Center of Chauvigny.

The celebration closed with a banquet in a Poitiers hotel Friday night.

Bowen said French government officials took an active part in the celebrations.

Express Appreciation

"We expressed to them our appreciation of the French government's program to reinstitute French language teaching in Louisiana schools with the help of 156 teachers sent from France," Bowen said.