News Release
Towards a Vibrant and Innovative Francophone Community

A Round Table bringing together key players from Ontario's Francophone Community

Spurred in part by the Ontario government's decision not to fund a new French-language university, as well as changes to the role of the Office of French Language Services Commissioner, students at the University of Toronto’s Faculty of Information have organized a round table to discuss how to best tap into francophone talents to produce and promote original content, innovative programming and services for the francophone community in Ontario and beyond. It will take place Friday, March 29, 2019.

Round Table participants include:

- Francois Boileau, the province's Commissioner of French Language Services
- Didier Leclair, prize-winning author
- Florence Ngenzebuhoro, Director General of the Centre Francophone de Toronto
- Monique Beaudoin, Health Promotion Coordinator at the Centre de santé communautaire du Grand Sudbury.
- Serge Paul, from the Conseil Scolaire Viamonde
- Caroline Joly, from the Conseil de la Cooperation de l’Ontario

"As bilingual information professionals, the students and I firmly believe in the value of paying attention to the needs and services provided to the communities who speak Canada's other official language, especially in a diverse province such as Ontario, where English still dominates,” says Associate Professor Nadia Caidi, who taught the Faculty of Information’s first course on these issues (and in French) last fall. “Our students wanted to broaden the conversations we were having. The Roundtable is a direct response to our in-class discussions. We wanted to meet key actors in the community and engage together in productive collaborations. The response has been phenomenal."

To be conducted in French, the Round Table is jointly sponsored by the Faculty of Information and the Centre de Recherches en Education Franco-Ontarienne at OISE, and supported by a range of partners including the University of Toronto Libraries.

The Round Table, which will run for a half day including lunch, should result in fruitful discussions and will also give a chance to journalists to interact with participants during the breaks.

For details: English, French

Questions: Ann Brocklehurst (416) 978-7184

Inforum, 4th floor
Bissell Building (attached to Robarts Library)
140 St. George St.
Toronto, Ontario
M5S 3G6