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*As an up-and-coming authority on language rights in Canada, Samuel Gagnon is poised to make a lasting impact. His passion, commitment, and intellectual rigor make him a rising star in the legal and linguistic landscape of Canada. Audiences across the nation can look forward to gaining insights and inspiration from this dynamic young speaker who is at the forefront of shaping the future of language rights in Canada.*

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## SPEAKER PROFILE

# SAMUEL GAGNON

Acadian Culture, Language Rights, Youth Engagement

Samuel Gagnon is an Associate at the Moncton law firm Ellsworth Johnson Michaud. In 2020, he earned his Juris Doctor degree from the Université de Moncton and was subsequently called to the New Brunswick Bar in 2023.

Samuel's interest in language rights and the protection of minority communities has been a passion since his teenage years. He has dedicated himself to advocating for the rights of Francophone minorities, consistently working towards creating a more inclusive and equitable society.

Samuel's journey commenced with a volunteer position as a board member of Francophonie jeunesse de l'Alberta in 2011, culminating in his term as President from 2013 to 2015, underscoring his early dedication to advocacy for linguistic and cultural rights. He later continued to act as a Mentor, teaching accredited high school Leadership classes within the organisation until his departure from Alberta in 2017.

In the summer of 2017, Samuel assumed a paid role as an Agent de projets with the Association canadienne française de l'Alberta, where he contributed his skills to projects aimed at bridging language and cultural divides. This experience was followed by a similar role in 2018 as an Agent de projets at the Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Alberta, where Samuel continued to enrich the legal and linguistic landscape.

Within the academic realm, Samuel played pivotal roles as Vice-Président Académique and later as President of the Association des étudiantes et étudiants de droit de l'Université de Moncton from 2018 to 2020, actively shaping the academic environment for his fellow students.

From 2010 to 2017, Samuel, worked on the organisation of the Parlement Jeunesse de l'Alberta, providing a powerful voice for the youth and personifying his dedication to active civic engagement.

Samuel's international influence is exemplified by his role as Adjoint de direction and associate researcher at the International Language Rights Observatory from December 2019 to April 2023. In this prestigious, part-time position, Samuel expertly combined administrative acumen with academic prowess, underscoring his commitment to the field of language rights.

Samuel's dedication to fostering dialogue and cooperation extends to his engagement with organizations such as the Simulation du parlement Européen Canada-Québec-Europe, where he served as Executive Vice-President – Logistics, in 2014.

His dedication to fostering inclusive and vibrant linguistic communities is readily apparent through his involvement in the Association des universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean, and at the national level, through his role as the Alberta representative with the Fédération de la jeunesse canadienne française and as President of the Parlement jeunesse pancanadien.



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