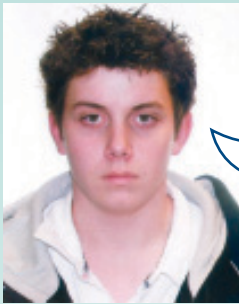




Living en Anglais

Devin Mens is an English-speaking student who attends Québec High School in the city of Québec. Québec High School is one of many schools in the province of Québec that provides education for Anglophones. Like Francophone schools in Alberta, Devin's school comes from the right of Anglophones in Québec as an official-language minority.



Devin Mens

I'm bilingual, but English is my first language. I'm a lot more comfortable in English. My family speaks English at home.

I feel it's important for me to attend an English school because English is my mother tongue. I feel like I should be educated in my first language. Also, English is the language that has the most possibilities in the field I want to go into later on in life. I want to work in the sciences, and that's mostly in English.

I think my life is similar to students who live in places where English is the majority language. The biggest difference is probably everyday stuff — like having to know French terms at the grocery store. Outside of school and home, I have to speak French most of the time. For example, I'm on a baseball team, and every one of my teammates is Francophone.

I don't worry about losing my identity, living in Québec. If anything, living here makes my Anglophone identity stronger. Because there aren't very many of us here. In the city of Québec, less than 5 percent of people are Anglophones. You're more aware of the fact that you're an English-speaking person when you're in a French-speaking society.



How does Devin represent the concerns of a minority-language speaker?



The city of Québec is the oldest permanent European settlement in Canada, established by France in 1608. It is the capital of the majority French-speaking province of Québec today.