



**CANADIAN
PARENTS
FOR FRENCH
MANITOBA**

2021

**NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

For more information, please contact
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Michael Hudon**President, nominated for 1-year term (2021-2022)*****Previously: 2019-2020 Director, 2020-2021 President***

Michael believes that second-language learning is of vital importance to the educational achievement and social development of young people and understands the correlation between language and culture. As a French Immersion graduate and with past experience working for the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages, Michael has unique experience that will contribute positively towards fully realizing the organization's purpose and vision. He has extensive public speaking experience and is skilled in adapting messages to impact a variety of audiences.

Michael has two children participating in a rural French immersion program. He believes strongly that rural and northern immersion programs are important to the vitality of these communities and must be defended and actively promoted by decision makers at all levels of governance of our educational system.

Michael would be honored to continue advocating for equitable access to quality FSL learning opportunities for youth in Manitoba as President of the CPF-MB Board. He will contribute through respectful debate and transparent decision-making. He understands organizational operations and is confident this will continue to support his decision-making with respect to governance.

Lyka Capulong**Vice President, nominated for 1-year term (2021-2022)*****Previously: (2020-2021) Youth Director***

Lyka is a proud graduate of the French Immersion Program and comes from an immigrant family, so multilingualism has always been part of her life. Presently, she is continuing her French studies at the Université de Saint-Boniface and plans to become a teacher. Lyka believes that learning another language is a gift, as learning French has allowed her to participate in many opportunities.

As Vice President, Lyka welcomes the opportunity to inspire others and promote bilingualism. Through CPF-MB, she will be able to connect with more representatives that share her mindset that promoting and creating resources for youth is a primary importance. She has thrived in a bilingual lifestyle, and wishes to share her input and experiences to encourage younger generations to do the same.

Lyka has experience on other Boards. Currently, she is a member on the administrative council for Conseil Jeunesse Provincial (CJP), here in Manitoba. She is also part of her university Green Club. Previously, she served as Vice-President of the Conseil Immersion in high school.

Melanie Young**Director, completing 2-year term (2020-2022)**

Melanie has been involved with CPF since 2003. In The Pas, she contributed and served in the positions of Chapter President and Secretary. In the past, she actively volunteered with 4-H, Band Boosters, The Canadian Red Cross, and The Autism Society of Manitoba.

Melanie's four children were in the French Immersion program. All of them have autism, so she has a unique insight and in-depth understanding of the challenges that children face in being able to access the program and within the program, as well as how they can flourish through its benefits.

Furthermore, Melanie has attended many provincial and national CPF conferences. Here the sharing of her experiences with like-minded parents was enthusiastically welcomed.

With such extensive knowledge and a pertinent business background, Melanie is looking forward to continuing her involvement with CPF at the Branch level, where her attributes are an invaluable part of the team.

Gilbert Le Néal**Director, nominated for 2-year term (2021-2023)**

Born and raised in Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes, Manitoba, Gilbert attended school both in his home town and at Collège de Saint-Boniface before undertaking postsecondary studies at the University of Manitoba.

Gilbert's career in education spanned a period of 39 years as a teacher, a Mathematics consultant and an education officer with the Bureau de l'éducation française. He remains active as a consultant and as an occasional employee for the Province of Manitoba.

Fluently bilingual, Gilbert is married, has two children, and enjoys outdoor activities and travel.

Christopher Afatsawo
Director, nominated for 2-year term (2021-2023)

As a proud product of an FSL education, Chris is 100% bilingual and takes pride in giving back the same opportunity and privilege to the younger generation through teaching. He has taught French from preschool through undergraduate levels in both Africa and Canada.

Chris holds degrees in French at both the Bachelors and Masters levels with a focus on first and second language acquisition. He was a research associate in a Pan-Canadian study of francophone schools in a minority setting, and has also done studies on youth, both immigrant and non-immigrant, and their participation in society.

Having participated in various capacities at relatively high-level decision making committees and associations both in Canada and internationally, Chris believes he can offer even more to youth in Manitoba by supporting CPF-MB activities at the Board level.