



**CANADIAN
PARENTS
FOR FRENCH**
MANITOBA

[ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015]

President's Report, Executive Director's Report, Chapter Reports



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Mission

“We are part of a National network of volunteers who are dedicated to the promotion and creation of French second language learning opportunities for young Manitobans.”

Values

“We value commitment to our mandate, the acquisition and dissemination of knowledge, and the taking of initiative and responsibility in order to achieve credibility and effectiveness.”

Vision

“A Manitoba where French and English speaking people live together in mutual respect with an understanding and appreciation of each other’s language and culture, and where linguistic duality forms an integral part of society to support the vision of a bilingual Canada.”

Canadian Parents for French-Manitoba has been instrumental in the growth and development of French second language programs in Manitoba since its incorporation in 1981. The organization receives funding from Canadian Heritage and Manitoba Education and Advanced Learning.



Paulette Vielfaure Dupuis, President

As we gather for the 2015 CPF-MB Annual General Meeting, we are once again provided with opportunities to reflect upon and share the year's successes, discuss how we can best address our challenges, and make decisions for the future. This time together also allows our CPF-MB family to solidify its partnerships, develop new friendships and supports, and refocus on mutual goals. It is my wish that we return home with renewed commitment, enthusiasm and energy!

In 2014-2015, CPF-MB Chapters continued to work diligently at the grassroots level, keeping French-second-language (FSL) learning a priority. Time and again, I was impressed and inspired by the dedication and tenacity demonstrated on behalf of all families who have chosen the path of linguistic duality for their children.

Across Canada, CPF-MB continues to be recognized and respected as a progressive, innovative and effective voice for FSL learning. It is invited by numerous partners and stakeholders, to bring its voice to the table, and to be part of on-going discussions and plans for strengthening and promoting FSL learning in Manitoba. This sharing and networking serves to make us stronger and even more effective!

The staff at CPF-MB, led by our Executive Director, Catherine Davies and inspired by the mission of *"promoting and creating FSL learning opportunities for young Manitobans"* continued to perform feats of ground-breaking scope.

The dedicated, enthusiastic and vision-filled board members brought a wide variety of experiences, talents and expertise to the table. A heartfelt **"Merci!"** goes to the board, chapters and staff for their generous gifts of time and unfailing support, provided to me in my role as President and to the CPF organization as a whole.

Looking forward, we remain committed to our cause, to ensure that youth have the opportunity to learn both of Canada's official languages, are infused with knowledge, tolerance and open-mindedness, and a greater insight into other cultures. After all, they are Canada's future global citizens and leaders! Their understanding and appreciation of differences can only contribute to more open dialogue and a reduction of conflict amongst people and nations.

CPF-MB efforts and strategies may change with the times, but its goal remains the same:

"A Canada where French and English speaking people live together in mutual respect with an understanding and appreciation of each other's language and culture, and where linguistic duality forms an integral part of society to support the vision of a bilingual Canada."



Catherine Davies, Executive Director

April 01, 2014 – March 31, 2015

Canadian Parents for French-Manitoba (CPF-MB) activities were enabled by funding awarded through:

- The federal department of Canadian Heritage under the *Enhancement of Official Languages* program, *Promotion of Linguistic Duality* component
- The provincial department of Manitoba Education under the *French Second Language Revitalization (FSL) program*
- The provincial department of Manitoba Education under *The Canada-Manitoba Agreement on Minority Language Education and Second Official Language Instruction.*

CPF-MB activities were successful due to the valuable contributions of:

- devoted volunteers from chapters across the province;
- dedicated provincial Board Directors;
- committed provincial staff;

Many achievements were a result of continued support from several partners, including:

- *Bureau de l'éducation française (BEF)*
- *Université de Saint-Boniface (USB)*
- *Société franco-manitobaine (SFM)*
- *Éducatrices et éducateurs francophones du Manitoba (EFM)*
- *Association manitobaine des directrices et directeurs d'immersion française (AMDI)*
- *Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT)*
- *100 NONS*
- *Association canadienne des professeurs d'immersion (ACPI)*
- *Polar Bear Productions*
- *Conseil jeunesse provincial (CJP)*
- *Success Skills Centre (SSC)*
- *Cercle Molière*
- *Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages (OCOL)*
- *Conseil de développement économique des municipalités bilingues du Manitoba (CDEM).*
- *Dirty T-shirt Productions*

Activity Component 1 - Informing and Influencing

CPF-MB successfully made more people aware of the value and benefits of official language bilingualism through French-Second-Language (FSL) education. The impact of such raised awareness is attested by the metrics of the CPF-MB and French for Life websites/social media, the delivery of FSL promotional presentations to parents, students and educators, and the number of public displays.

In its meetings with the Minister of Education and other decision makers, CPF-MB emphasized its belief that access to a broad range of quality FSL programs, is a right of all students regardless of their school, school division, or region of the province in which they reside. Ongoing challenges related to the provision of such equitable access in rural and remote areas of the province were discussed, including:

- the shortage of teachers willing to relocate to remote and rural areas;
- the need for linguistically competent teachers;
- an inadequate number of courses available in French to enable graduation with a French Immersion diploma;
- an insufficient number of students (particularly at the high school level), to justify offering a variety of courses taught in French;
- logistical challenges due to high demand for French Immersion in urban areas.

To assist FSL advocacy endeavours at the grass roots level and to inform FSL decision-makers, stakeholders, partners and chapters, CPF-MB distributed and circulated research and publications. These addressed issues such as specialist support for disabled students in FI, the importance of culture in second-language teaching and learning, immigration as a key factor in the development of official language communities, first language use in second language classrooms, and the impact of not having an early FI program.

When appropriate, parliamentary monitoring bulletins were shared with decision makers and partners. These were mostly related to the general work of the Standing Committee on Official Languages. Feedback from recipients ascertained that this information was of interest, as it assisted in enhancing understanding of official languages rights, potential changes to such rights, and how related policy and legislation is being developed and presented.

Activity Component 2 - Supporting and Engaging

Evaluations attested that the FSL promotional resources and presentations that were provided/delivered to parents, assisted them to make fully informed decisions about FSL education. Parents particularly appreciated information concerning the range and the availability of FSL programs in Manitoba. They also indicated that they had a better understanding of the unique benefits of the Early Immersion program. CPF-MB partnered with USB and provided French for FSL Parents courses in the communities of Lorette and Beausejour. Participants indicated that they:

- gained confidence and felt better equipped to become more active participants in the French language education of their children;
- had a better understanding of what is involved in second language acquisition;
- felt more comfortable with the prospect of enjoying and participating in French cultural experiences within their own community, and within the francophone community;
- could better relate to the French learning experience of their children.

Also of note, was the:

- increase in CPF-MB membership; at over 2,000, it was the highest in the history of the organization and it reflected increased interest by parent members in FSL issues;
- the rate of French Immersion enrolment; at 22,725 students, it remained at an all-time high and it reflected an increased confidence in parents with regards to choosing an FSL option for their children.

CPF-MB continued to support and provide French socio-cultural experiences for students. As a result over 10,000 young Manitobans participated in a variety of activities, including:

- *Concours d'art oratoire;*
- *French Immersion Summer Camps;*
- *French Immersion Drama Extravaganzas;*
- *French Cultural Tours;*
- *MB-QC Student Exchange Program;*
- *Chicane électrique.*

Evaluations attested that students who participated in the various French socio-cultural activities were positively affected by these learning experiences. For example, *Concours d'art oratoire* and *Chicane électrique* validated that French is relevant outside of classroom and academic arenas; Cultural Tours and Drama Extravaganzas demonstrated that French is a means by which one can express oneself creatively; French Camps served to maintain the momentum of French language learning throughout the summer months; and the Manitoba-Québec Student Exchange Program provided a significant, multi-faceted (studying, family life and socializing) and meaningful learning experience.

The *CPF-MB FSL Initiative Incentive Fund* enabled the following CPF chapter/community events:

- *Summer Art workshop en français* (Beausejour);
- *Une Nuit au Cinema* (Brandon);
- *CPF Year End Barbecue* (Pembina Trails);
- *CPF Field Trip to Batoche, SK* (Flin Flon);
- *Festival du voyageur French Lunchtime* (Portage-la-Prairie);
- *Petit Café* (Powerview);
- *CPF Toques* (The Pas);
- *Elan* (Selkirk);
- *French Cooking Class* (Stonewall);
- *Expressions Vives!* (Swan River).

All of the above were successful in that they:

- reinforced positive public attitudes toward linguistic duality;
- provided young Canadians with opportunities to experience the French language and culture through extra-curricular activities;
- gave families opportunities to experience the French culture together in their local communities.

Activity Component 3 – Recognition and Collaboration

CPF-MB successfully made students, volunteers and supporters of FSL learning, feel valued for their FSL achievements and contributions. This was achieved through the provision of certificates, awards, bursaries, and tokens of recognition and thanks.

Additionally, feedback from recipients indicated that acknowledgements also built a stronger sense of pride in FSL achievements and a sense of community within the FSL arena and with francophone partners. On another level, such gestures continue to be extremely important, as many CPF-MB/FSL activities would not be possible, without the ongoing and in-kind support, which is generously provided by many individuals.

Greater cohesions between CPF-MB and FSL and francophone partners and stakeholders were achieved and attested by ongoing collaboration on matters of mutual interest, as well as a number of joint initiatives, including:

- *French for Life-Rejuvenation* and *French: An Opportunity of a Lifetime!* (Association manitobaine des directrices et directeurs d'immersion française);
- *Concours d'art oratoire, Chicane électrique* and *French for FSL Parents in Rural Manitoba* (Université de Saint-Boniface);
- *Linking Immigrants to French and English (LIFE) in Manitoba* (Success Skills Centre);
- *MB-QC Student Exchange Program* and the *Review of Concours d'art oratoire* (Bureau de l'éducation française);
- *Concours d'art oratoire* and *Là tu parles-café-citoyen* (Société franco-manitobaine);
- *Petit Canada* and *Les Jeux de la Francophonie Canadienne* (Conseil jeunesse provincial);
- *Chicane électrique* (100 NONS);
- *French for Life-Rejuvenation* (Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages);
- *Festival théâtre jeunesse* (Cercle Molière);
- *A Celebration of Cultural Diversity!* (After School in French).

Activity Component 4 - Administer and Govern

CPF-MB endeavored to ensure that its human resources were qualified and engaged by providing training and information sessions for chapter representatives/volunteers, branch volunteers and branch staff. Topics included:

- CPF Protocol re: Prevention of Child Abuse;
- CPF Emergency Response Protocol;
- CPF Organizational Branding;
- CPF Chapter Challenges and Successes;
- MB-QC Student Exchange Program;
- CPF-MB Bursaries/Scholarship;
- Le Centre DELF des divisions scolaires du Manitoba;
- Chicane électrique for FSL Students.

CPF-MB – finding creative ways to learn and live in French!	
CPF-MB 2014-2015 Statistics	
16,880	Page views/visits on www.frenchforlife.ca
11,309	Page views/visits on mb.cpf.ca
7,290	Participants in Concours d'art oratoire
5,196	Attendees at FSL promotional presentations
2,735	Participants in French Cultural Tours
2,000	Members of CPF-MB
1,000	Users of the French Multi Media Kits
672	Certificates of Merit awarded
663	Twitter Followers
290	Facebook Followers
232	Participants in French Theatre Workshops
179	Presentations/Forums
115	Awards and tokens of recognition
74	Participants in Camp Soleil
66	Public Displays
19	Participants in the MB-QC Student Exchange Program
13	Joint initiatives with chapters and FSL and francophone partners
13	Bursaries/Scholarships (Université de Saint-Boniface)
1,000	French: An Opportunity of a Lifetime packages distributed
1,000	LIFE (Linking Immigrants to French and English) in MB booklets and posters distributed

A note about the MB-QC Student Exchange Program

Since 2010, CPF-MB has promoted the *MB-QC Student Exchange Program*. This 6-month experience has a resounding, and life-changing impact on youth. It provides a significant, multi-faceted and meaningful learning experience; studying, family life and socializing, while being immersed in the French language and culture. Facilitated by the *Bureau de l'éducation française (BEF)* of Manitoba Education, its highly subsidized cost makes it accessible to all students. Parents wishing to find out more about the program should visit Manitoba Education and Advanced Learning website at www.edu.gov.mb.ca.



Manitoba · Québec
Six · Month
Student Exchange Program

Looking ahead.....the 2015-2016 school year

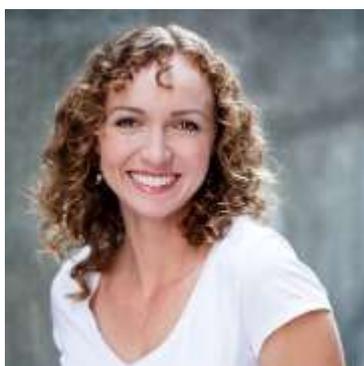
The 2015-2016 school year will see the launch of the rejuvenated *French for Life* project. With a fun look, new logo, posters and engaging videos for younger students and parents, CPF-MB will be well equipped to promote the benefits of learning French-as-an-official-language. To book an interactive *French for Life* presentation for your students, chapter, or parent/educator group, contact **Raissa** at 1-204-222-6537, or rbado@cpfmb.com. Raissa can also be contacted to book *French: An Opportunity of a Lifetime* presentations, which are specifically designed to motivate older students to continue their French language education and their studies in French.



The review of *Concours d'art oratoire* (CPF's French speaking competition) will move into its second phase. The goal of this project is to enhance the experience of participating students and better reflect the needs of the learners of today. CPF-MB hopes to facilitate a pilot of a new, or modified model of *Concours* during the 2016-2017 school year.



The fall 2015-2016 CPF-MB *Cultural Tours* are already fully booked. However, in the spring of 2016, Laura Lussier will visit schools to facilitate the CPF-MB *French Immersion Drama Extravaganzas* for students in grades 7-9. Laura's engaging and relaxing style will enable students to feel comfortable and confident, as they expand and build upon their French vocabulary and oral skills in a fun environment. To book an *Extravaganza* for your students, contact **Catherine** at 1-204-222-6537, or cdavies@cpfmb.com.



Canadian Parents for French - MB presents

A Drama Extravaganza en français!

\$185 per workshop

Call Catherine at CPF-MB - 1.204.222.6537

Toll free: 1.877.737.703

Email: cdavies@cpfmb.com

Once again *CPF-MB Certificates of Merit for French Immersion and French: Communication and Culture* will be available to 2016 high school graduates. This form of tangible evidence will address the need to acknowledge the achievements of

high school graduates with 7-13 French Immersion credits, and high school graduates who have continued their French: Communication and Culture studies through grades 11/12.



In response to specific requests, *French for FSL Parents* courses will be offered in the chapter communities of Brandon and Portage-la-Prairie. Parents will be able to participate in a French learning experience, which will challenge their abilities and introduce them to new ways of communicating with their children. It will also enable interaction with peers who have made similar educational choices for their children. Dates and venues have yet to be confirmed.



Further information will be provided periodically via electronic communiqués, to CPF-MB members, chapters, partners and stakeholders.

Au revoir Michael!

Michael Hudon joined CPF-MB in September 2008. Throughout the years, he contributed to a number of initiatives, including *Concours jeune artiste du Manitoba (JAM)*, *French for Opportunities and Careers*, *Stadacona to Québec dans un instant!*, *Histoire en direct-MbTV*, *Concours d'art oratoire*, *French: An Opportunity of a Lifetime*, promotion of the *MB-QC Student Exchange Program* and promotion of French courses for FSL parents. Michael even served his time as a *Camp Soleil* Coordinator! However, his primary work with CPF-MB was the *French for Life* project.

Michael's talents as a public speaker, researcher, webmaster, promotional specialist and workshop facilitator, all served to ensure the success of *French for Life*; a project which has influenced the increase in French Immersion enrolment in Manitoba, which is now at an all-time high! It is therefore fitting that one of Michael's final assignments was a visit to Parliament in Ottawa. Here, he addressed the Standing Senate Committee on Official Languages and provided insight into the *French for Life* project, as well as challenges and good practices regarding the promotion of second-language learning in countries with two or more official languages.

As a French Immersion graduate, Michael has been an exemplary role model for students. His personal experience of French language acquisition, his knowledge of French language learning, and his understanding of the francophone community and culture in Manitoba, have also made him an invaluable member of the CPF-MB team. **Michael's respectfulness, good sportsmanship** and amazing sense of humour made him a joy to work with. He will be sadly missed.

Michael - the CPF-MB Board, chapters and staff give you their sincere thanks for your dedication to our organization and to FSL learning in our province and across Canada. We wish you all the very best with your future endeavours!



CPF-Beausejour

Andrea Swain, President
Andrea Thibault, Vice-President
Sherry Swain-Pellier, Secretary
Janet Trudeau, Treasurer

CPF-Beausejour had an exceptionally exciting 2014-2015 school year, working with the mission of supporting students, parents, teachers and school administrators, to provide opportunities to learn and use the French language in our community.

Forty active members attended the chapter monthly meetings in record numbers. And, it was a delight to have twenty-five people in attendance at a special presentation entitled "*Becoming Bilingual: Opening Doors in the 21st Century.*" This was delivered by Suzanne Dienstbier, K to 6 Program Leader of the Sunrise School Division. Suzanne also presented information regarding new curriculum projects, the DREF, and the *Passeport Culturel*. Her presentation was very well received and it further inspired the chapter to play an active role in supporting the school community and the families in our community.

In addition to those in regular attendance at chapter meetings, there were many other students and parents who took part in various chapter activities. Some 2014-2015 highlights are:

Extra-Curricular Art Class

For the second year in a row, the chapter hosted a ten-week, extra-curricular art class for students ages 6-12. It was held in the art room at École Beausejour Early Years School and was attended by 28 students, in two back-to-back sessions. The art teacher's commitment to the French language and to the teaching of art, made for an enriching experience for the students involved.

Caroling at the Town Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Once again, the chapter participated in the Chamber of Commerce Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. Twenty-five children participated (including two students from the English stream!). An amazing chapter volunteer, further enhanced this learning opportunity, by hosting two lunch hour practices for the students. She helped the students learn the lyrics to three traditional Christmas carols, so the students were very prepared when they showcased their singing and French language skills at the event.

Math Club

Two parents took the initiative to coordinate a Math Club for three one-hour evening sessions in April. The chapter coordinated the registration and provided French speaking volunteers, who provided a simultaneous translation for the English speaking parents, who coordinated the activities. The club was very well received and well attended with 17 children ranging in age from grade 1 to grade 5. There were also several helpful grade 6 volunteers and adults,

who helped convey the math games and activities in French. The chapter hopes to host this activity again during the 2015-2016 school year.

Goldeyes Game

Fifty-seven people took part in the *franco-fun Goldeyes Baseball Game* in June. A big thank-you to the school board for providing a school bus and driver to transport families safely to and from the event. It was a great event, with many families attending their first ever baseball game.

Summer Art Workshop

Thanks to the CPF-MB French-Second-Language Initiative Incentive Fund and the keen vision of the art teacher, the chapter hosted a successful two-day Summer Art Workshop *en français*. Art and yoga were combined to create a unique opportunity to learn new French vocabulary and explore activities not usually available to students in the CPF-Beausejour community.

Other CPF-Beausejour initiatives included:

- awarding the annual chapter scholarship;
- recognizing teacher and administrative assistant appreciation days;
- hosting a booth at the Four Year Old Readiness Clinic;
- attending Kindergarten orientation to meet new families joining the French Immersion program.

Additionally, CPF- Beausejour provided financial support to:

- offset the cost for 139 students attending Festival du Voyageur;
- assist funding of the grade 7 cultural trip to Québec.

CPF-Beausejour recognizes the tremendous support it receives from the administrators and teachers from École Beausejour Early Years School and École Edward Schreyer School. Both schools are very committed to a strong French Immersion program and to providing French learning opportunities to all students. Some examples include:

- a teacher at the elementary school hosted a special parent session on the topic of helping children in French Immersion with reading support;
- high-school teachers supported two students to participate in the Manitoba-Québec Exchange Program. One Manitoban student, along with her Québec partner, attended a chapter meeting and shared their respective experiences with the group;
- high-school administrators are refining the school schedule to make it more possible for students in grades 10-12 to take more core subjects in French. This is a very exciting

prospect for students and families who are committed to graduating with a French Immersion Diploma;

- school administrators have secured positions for two French language resource staff for the upcoming school year.

The community is very fortunate to have such dedicated administrators and teachers; their efforts are greatly appreciated and do not go unnoticed! CPF-Beausejour also recognizes and thanks all of its hard working volunteers, with special thanks to Pat and Gerry Thibault and Ashley Bargenda. All of these individuals have dedicated their time to various activities throughout the entire year!

Looking ahead to the 2015-2016 school year, CPF-Beausejour hopes to continue offering additional opportunities to students and parents to speak and experience French outside of the classroom. Anticipated activities include:

- a Hip-Hop dance class (still on the hunt for an instructor!);
- another after school Art class and a summer workshop;
- another session of Math Club.

The chapter also plans additional promotion of chapter activities in the school newsletters, on the electronic sign at the elementary school, and by profiling more of CPF-Beausejour meeting minutes and promotional materials on the school websites.

Finally, a big THANK YOU to CPF-MB for its continued support, as we strive to fulfill the CPF mandate of “recognizing the value of learning French and actively promoting opportunities for young Canadians to learn and use French.”

CPF-Brandon

Kerry-Lynn Gudz, President
Kami-Rae Caswell, Vice-President
Terri-Lynne Hlady, Secretary/Treasurer

The CPF-Brandon chapter continued to focus on membership recruitment and its work with the Brandon School Division regarding planning for the incoming flux in French Immersion enrollment at the senior level.

Chapter representatives met with the Brandon School Division post-election, to introduce themselves to the newly elected trustees and to reconnect with re-elected trustees. A directive from that meeting resulted in the chapter's attendance at a Futures Committee Meeting. As a chapter, it is important and pertinent to keep building on this relationship as we move forward.

Another chapter focus was to raise awareness of CPF and the resources that are available to members within the French Immersion community. This was achieved through school newsletters, bulletin boards and meetings with educators and administrators.

The chapter developed its own Facebook page, recruitment posters and a chapter email. It also presented to, and provided information to potential French Immersion parents at Kindergarten Information sessions

In order to learn more about other CPF chapter communities and activities, a contingency from CPF-Brandon visited the Mardi Gras event of CPF-Portage-la-Prairie.

Other CPF-Brandon activities included a French Movie Night, which was held at the community dual-track immersion school. Draws for three one-year CPF memberships were held and other door prizes given away. Monies raised from this movie night were used to sponsor the grade 8 Québec field trip.

Looking ahead, the chapter wants to build its membership, so that it can effectively keep French Immersion in the forefront and it looks forward to the 2015-2016 school year!

CPF-Dauphin

Monique Lefebvre, President
Phil Fafard, Co-President
Jennifer Andrews, Vice-President
Lisa Kristjanson, Secretary
Patti Beaudin, Treasurer
Cathy Fafard, Co-Treasurer

It was a year of restructuring. New members assumed responsibilities, experienced members stayed on to coach, and a new executive was elected at the chapter Annual General Meeting in the Fall of 2014.

One of the goals for CPF Dauphin this past year, was to advocate for more French Immersion (FI) teachers at the high school level. Several meetings were held with senior administration at the school division and high school levels. As a result, one more teacher was hired to teach FI, and there will be two FI teachers for the 2015-2016 school year.

CPF- Dauphin continued to support educational trips to enhance cultural and language learning. In February, grade 5 students from École Macneill attended the *Festival du Voyageur*, and in June the grades 8 and 9 students from Mackenzie Middle School and the Dauphin Regional Comprehensive Secondary School, participated in a trip to Québec City. Currently, a trip to France and Spain is being planned for next year.

Also in February, the École Macneill administration and CPF- Dauphin joined efforts and provided a Kindergarten French Immersion Information Session.

This year, over 200 students from grades 3-8 participated in *Concours d'art oratoire*, and two students went on to proudly represent the Mountain View School Division at the provincial *Concours*.

This year, the chapter provided two monetary awards; one to a grade 8 French Immersion student and one to a grade 12 French Immersion student. These awards served to acknowledge academic excellence in French and the continuation of French language education.

CPF-Flin Flon

Dori Sapergia, Vice-President
Kristi Schaerer, Treasurer
Debbie Sapergia, Secretary

Canadian Parents for French – Flin Flon and Area consists of a dedicated group of parents who work hard to promote quality French experiences in Flin Flon and the surrounding area. This report highlights a few key events of the past school year.

Trout Festival Parade on Canada Day

The chapter was proud to take part in the Trout Festival. French Immersion students represented CPF-FF and Area, as they rode a Western themed float in the Canada Day parade.

French Camp

The chapter hosted two weeks of French Camp this summer. French Camp was held at the ski lodge from July 7 to 11 and from July 14 to 18. French activities were facilitated each day by Melanie Larouche and two junior counsellors. Week two of French camp ran at full capacity, but it was difficult to get high enrollment for week one, as many families who were interested had also joined soccer camp. French camp is a valuable asset to our local community. Opportunities to hold camp are considered on a year to year basis.

30th Anniversary Celebration

The 30th Anniversary Celebration was a night to remember, complete with entertainment, a student art auction, tasty snacks and great company. The evening was definitely a team effort and there were many people to thank for its success. Thanks to Angela Simpson from Flin Flon School Division, Janet Clark from Creighton School Division, and Connie Lucian from the CPF-MB Board of Directors for the greetings they brought from their organizations. Special thanks to Alain Lachapelle for being our bilingual emcee for the evening. An incredible performance by Marie Josée Clément was enjoyed by everyone. Thanks also to the student artists who donated their artwork for the silent auction; all available artwork was purchased throughout the evening. A huge “Merci” to Sylvie who recapped the past 30 years of the French Immersion Program in Flin Flon and to Natalie and the great group of high school FI students who served the cake to all those in attendance. And finally, thank you to all the FI teachers, past and present CPF Executive members, parents and students who came out to make the evening an overwhelming success.

Promotional Material to Gain Awareness and Promote a Second Language

In hopes of building awareness within our community and the surrounding area, French information packages and promotional material were taken to Flin Flon Guidance Nursery School and Kindervention.

Bomber Game Duty/Contract – Lobby Event Staff

This year the chapter held a contract with the City of Flin Flon to provide lobby event staff for the Whitney Forum during Bomber games. This was a fundraising opportunity that allowed CPF-FF and Area to make social connections and to build recognition within the community. It called for French Immersion parents and CPF members to volunteer their time during all Bomber home games throughout the SK Junior Hockey season. This contract needs ongoing commitment over the winter months and it tends to require a lot of continuous effort to manage, so it is considered on a year to year basis.

\$1,000 French Immersion Bursary for HCI Graduate

Each year CPF-Flin Flon and Area offers a French Immersion grade 12 graduate a \$1,000 bursary, to be used toward their post-secondary education. The chapter is always proud to support young graduates and their families, unfortunately, there wasn't a graduate who met the criteria among the 2014 graduating class.

Giving Back to Our French Immersion Children

Each year CPF-Flin Flon and Area looks at ways it can help our students directly. Once again in June, each grade 8 graduate was presented with a grade 8 French Immersion Certificate of Achievement. This recognized all the hard work put forth in their academic career to date. A large amount of French literature was also donated to the École McIsaac School library and in the coming year, the chapter will make a \$500 donation towards the grade 5/6 trip to Batoche.

CPF-Pembina Trails

Genevieve Atnip, President
Lisa Wolinski, Vice-President

CPF-Pembina Trails had another great year. Unfortunately, we could not have our annual Family Halloween Dance, due to the school gymnasium being under construction. However, we were able to contribute to the community in other ways.

In February, the chapter supported the École St. Avila Community Evening. Here, many families and staff enjoyed sleigh rides, tobogganing, broom ball, face painting, hot chocolate and cookies. There was also live French music and entertainment in the new gym. A good time was had by all!

In the Spring, the chapter made a significant donation to enable the purchase of a bilingual school sign. The school had never had such a sign; so we are very pleased and very proud that we were able to assist in such a significant way!

CPF-Portage-la-Prairie

Rhonda McCutcheon, President
Tricia Bott, Vice-President
Helene Dreger, Secretary
Diana Wing, Treasurer

CPF-Portage-la-Prairie had a great year. It started with the 3rd Annual Halloween Soirée for French Immersion students in grades K-4. Here, groups of students experienced different activity stations, which included cookie decorating, face painting, gourd decorating, a music/games area and a fantastic photo booth area. Four middle school and six high school students helped out and this was a great way for them to practice their French language skills.

In November, the chapter facilitated a hotdog fundraiser at the elementary school and in December accompanied a group of students to the local Salvation Army facility. Everyone helped with the packing of 220 food hampers for less fortunate people in the Portage-la-Prairie community. It was a wonderful evening of giving through volunteering.

In January, the chapter had valuable assistance from a high school student. This young lady helped plan chapter activities and even took the lead on some projects.

In February and with the help of the CPF FSL Initiative Incentive Fund, the chapter funded part of the *Voyageur Day* at the elementary school.

In March, the chapter held its annual Café. Middle school students enjoyed making and serving the food, with a little help from parents and staff. This year the theme was “Mardi Gras”. Students had made up decorations beforehand and these really added to ambience of the festivities. So too, did the entertainment provided by the high school Jazz choir!

Once again students participated in *Concours d'art oratoire* and the chapter rewarded the top contestants with a small monetary gift.

In April, the chapter helped with the organization of the grade 8 French Immersion tour of the high school. This provided a great opportunity to encourage students to continue their French Immersion education all the way through grade 12.

CPF-Portage-la-Prairie also provided water, watermelon, and a huge cake for the middle school BBQ. This was a wonderful way to start the summer break!

Camp Soleil was hosted for a week in July and a week in August. The camp staff provided an excellent program of activities for the 30 camp participants. A highlight was an outing to a local museum, where a French tour had been arranged.

CPF-Portage-la-Prairie activities would not be possible without the many helping hands of parents, staff and the increasing group of high school volunteers. Sincere thanks go to each of you for your assistance and contributions. Merci!

CPF-Selkirk

Carmen Pedersen, President
Sherilyn Arndt, Vice-President
Sherisse Power-Evanshenko, Secretary-Treasurer

In September, CPF-Selkirk participated in the 'Meet the Teacher Night", facilitated a CPF membership drive, met parents of the new kindergarten students and shared CPF information.

The chapter was awarded monies through the CPF-MB FSL Initiative Incentive Fund and this was used to subsidize "Elan", which had 50 grade 10-12 student participants.

In November, Paulette Vielfaure Dupuis, CPF-MB President, attended the chapter AGM.

The Lord Selkirk School Division held its divisional level competition of *Concours d'art oratoire* and three students went on to compete at the provincial *Concours*.

In February, students attended Festival du Voyageur and the chapter facilitated a local fundraiser that involved the sale of authentic home-made *tourtières* and sugar pies.

CPF-Selkirk had a successful summer Camp Soleil; this provided a variety of fun activities for its 19 campers and participant and parent evaluations were very positive.

Additionally, and throughout the school year, the chapter encouraged interaction between students in the elementary grades and students in the more senior grades. For example, grade 8 did paired reading with grade 2, grades 10-12 did peer editing with grade 5, and grade 10 assisted with grade 1 math activities. All interactions were *en français!*

CPF-Selkirk thanks all educators and parent volunteers for their continued support and is looking forward to welcoming the families of the 34 maternelle students registered for the 2015-2016 school year!

CPF-Stonewall

Maureen Skyhar, President
Claudine Milbrandt, Vice-President
Shawna Legault, Secretary
Kelly Kimball, Treasurer

CPF-Stonewall had a busy and successful year. A grant was received that enabled the continuation of the preschool program “Le français pour les petits”. There was great feedback from those parents, who participated in this program with their children.

The chapter also received \$350 through the CPF-MB FSL Initiative Incentive Fund, which supported a French Cooking Class for students in grades 4, 5 and 6. This was a great way for participants to experience and learn about the French culture.

The Royal Bank of Canada awarded the chapter \$1000 and three volunteer hours. This was used to increase CPF awareness through both École R.W. Booby Bend and École Stonewall Centennial.

CPF-Stonewall is planning more exciting French language and cultural activities for the upcoming 2015-2016 school year. These include a French bingo event and a talent/karaoke show!

CPF-Swan River

Mike Yablonski, President
Tammy Connolly, Secretary
Meredith McGinnes, Treasurer

On Tuesday, January 20, 2015, CPF-Swan River held its first official meeting following a period of little activity. A group of invested parents and teachers joined together and rejuvenated the chapter. A new executive was elected, signing authorities changed and preliminary discussions held with regards to promoting French language learning, fundraising and planning future activities.

One focus of CPF-Swan River continued to be engaging more parents to consider joining CPF. To raise awareness of CPF in general, and the chapter in particular, a mass email was sent to parents of students enrolled at École Swan River South School, and in March a membership give away was held.

Another focus of the chapter was the support of French Language learning and cultural activities in the community; monies were provided to assist several initiatives including French speaking competitions.

Looking ahead to the 2015-2016 school year, CPF-Swan River plans to:

- provide Welcome Kits to Kindergarten students;
- host/support special luncheons;
- explore the viability of popcorn sales;
- send the chapter president to the CPF-MB AGM in October 2015;
- support a trip to Festival du Voyageur in Winnipeg in February 2016.

CPF-The Pas

Sheryl Bernstrom, President
Michelle Sabet, Vice-President
Monique Levesque, Secretary
Tara Manych, Treasurer

CPF-The Pas maintained a strong membership of 35, however it struggled to fill its Executive positions. Consequently, the existing Executive focused on supporting its regularly funded activities; *Concours d'art oratoire* and the provision of the CPF \$500 bursary. It also purchased and distributed French buttons for Halloween and Christmas.

The chapter continued to wholeheartedly support the committee of local teachers of French; *Educateurs francophones de Kelsey* (EFK). This year EFK organized activities for the 201 students enrolled in early year, middle school and high school French Immersion programs.

CPF-The Pas embraced the DELF program and has earmarked funds to support those children of CPF members who wish to partake in this examination.

Once again the chapter was selected to host Camp Soleil and a few new members were enlisted through camp registrations.

Having filled all of its Executive positions at its June 2015 AGM, CPF-The Pas is looking forward to an exciting 2015-2016 school year.

Finally, the chapter sincerely thanks its longstanding dedicated members; Melanie Young, Kathi McConnell-Hore and Connie Lucian. Each have given years of dedication and the longevity of CPF-The Pas is in large part due to their continuous devotion and efforts. MERCI Melanie, Kathi et Connie!



**CANADIAN
PARENTS
FOR FRENCH
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