

Canadian Parents for French - Manitoba



ANNUAL REPORT

2007-2008

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French, your



to new opportunities...

Canadian Parents for French - Manitoba

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.”

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-MB 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, Citizenship and Youth.

Board of Directors 2007-2008



Connie Lucian, President (2007-2009)

Connie grew up in Saskatchewan and graduated from Mount Royal Collegiate in Saskatoon. She attended two years at the University of Saskatchewan before moving to Winnipeg where she enrolled in Red River Community College (RRCC). She completed her Business Administration Degree from RRCC in 1987. Connie went on to work in Winnipeg for a few years before moving to Vancouver where she met her husband. In 1992, they decided to move to The Pas. They now have two children in Grades 6 and 8. She became active with CPF when her son asked to learn French. They then decided to move into the Immersion program. She believes, in the competitive world we live in, that children should be given every opportunity to have as many open doors as possible. Learning a second language is just one of the ways to achieve this goal. Connie brings to CPF-MB an insight of the challenges faced by our northern communities and schools.



Philip Fenez, Vice-President (2007-2009)

Philip and his wife have three school age children, ranging in ages from 6-10 years old. They live on a small hobby farm located in La Barriere, Manitoba (between St. Norbert and LaSalle). He has been a stay-at-home parent for the last ten years and acts as a substitute bus driver for the Seine River School Division. He has sat on the St. Norbert Immersion Advisory Council since 2004, serving first as the Extra-Curricular Coordinator and then as its President. He has a strong sense of what it means to be a volunteer; being an integral part of community life. He is passionate about French opportunities being available to all students.



David Hyckie, Past-President (2007-2008)

David is retired from 31 year career of teaching and administration in French Immersion. He is a parent of a French Immersion graduate and strongly believes in the benefits of learning a second or third language. He also fondly remembers his family's great experience teaching and studying for two years in France.



Phil Fafard, Director (2006-2008)

Phil is a Manager with Service Canada. He and his wife, Cathy have four children – the oldest child in Senior 4 and the youngest in Grade 4. He is currently involved in his community as a club coach (softball, hockey and soccer) He previously served as the President of the CPF chapter in Dauphin. Phil believes in the benefits of having a second

language as well as bilingualism. Having worked within the local chapter setting, Phil brings a real perspective of the issues facing rural parents and chapters to the Board of CPF-MB.

**Christine Sutherland
Director (2007-2009)**

French has always been a very important aspect of Christine's life. Christine grew up in Dauphin, MB where there was only an immersion program that ran until the end of grade eight. She attempted to continue her French education through correspondence, but unfortunately did not have any of the resources to pursue her French education. Her parents did not speak any French, so she had no resources at home to help her. At the time her parents did not know of any means that could have assisted them to help her. This is why Christine is specifically interested in serving on the CPF-MB Board. She really wants to assist in creating an awareness of services available to students and parents, so that every learner can have an opportunity to receive their Grade 12 French Diploma.

**Jocelyne Godin
Director (2007-2008)**

Jocelyne Godin was born and raised in The Pas. Her interest and enthusiasm stems from her upbringing in a Francophone family. She attended university in Saskatoon where she completed her Bachelor of Education with a major in French. Jocelyne then ventured out to Paris, France for 10 months where she worked as an "Au Pair" and continued her French studies. She returned to The Pas and became one of the two teachers to start in the new French Immersion program. Jocelyne taught Kindergarten and Grade 1 for a total of seventeen years. Later she began teaching Grade 5 French Immersion along with one class of Grade 5 Basic French where she remained for 6 years. During her teaching career in The Pas, she was the French Immersion school representative on two different occasions for a total of 5 years. This entailed attending meetings in Winnipeg at least 3 times a year and each time reporting back to the French Immersion staff. A change in her life brought her to teach in Selkirk where she has been teaching Grade 6 for the past two years.

Jocelyne has two children, André and Emmanuelle who went through the French Immersion program. They are currently attending college and university in Brandon. She has always had a great interest in learning and teaching the French language. Her dedication and enthusiasm for the French Immersion

program has brought her to participate in many extra-curricular activities throughout her teaching career. Jocelyne believes that by becoming a member of the Board of Directors of CPF-MB, it will continue to keep her well engaged in promoting French in Manitoba.

**Paulette Vielfaure Dupuis
Director (2007-2009)**

Paulette retired at the end of June, 2007, after 20 years dedicated to Second Language Learning.

Since 2002, Paulette was Principal of École Centrale, a French Immersion, Kindergarten to grade four Early Years school in Transcona. During this time she represented the River East Transcona school division as a member of AMDI (MB Association of French Immersion Principals).

From 1997 to 2002, Paulette was the Languages Consultant for the school division. As Consultant, a large part of her duties consisted of addressing parents and students on the benefits of French Second Language Learning and the support CPF provided. Her duties also included: participation on various committees, hiring and supporting Basic French, French Immersion, and Ukrainian teachers from Kindergarten to grade 12 in 27 schools, preparing and presenting workshops on Second Language teaching strategies, keeping teachers informed of curricula, consultation and collaboration with Languages Consultants across the city and province and representing Second Language Programs and teachers' issues on Divisional and Administrative committees.

Paulette's partnership with CPF has always been a positive one. She would be very proud to serve on the CPF-MB Board of Directors. Working as part of a team whose mandate is one to which she remains very committed, it is a perfect opportunity for her to continue to contribute to FSL learning in MB.

President's Report

As I complete my first year as President of CPF-Manitoba (CPF-MB), I am very proud to reflect on what we, as a collective CPF-MB team have accomplished.

CPF-MB's mission statement dedicates us to the "promotion and creation of French second language learning opportunities for young Manitobans". The continued realization of this mission is very evident by means of our ongoing French-Second-Language (FSL) projects, which are superbly managed by our Executive Director, Catherine Davies and her dedicated staff. In 2007-2008, these included the 24th Concours d'art oratoire, Bilingual Career Exploration Days, French for Life, Camp Sdeil, Cultural Tours, Improvisation Workshops, Theatre Projects, French MultiMedia kits and French for Parents in Rural Manitoba.

Thompson held its 25th Anniversary Celebration, which was attended by the CPF-MB Past President, Dave Hyckie. Two new Manitoban Chapters were formed; Pembina Trails and Stonewall. We wish these new Chapters every success in their future endeavours.

We also met with representatives from Division scolaire Franco-manitobain (DSFM) to establish contact with them and express our willingness to collaborate in areas of common interest to further French Language learning.

The French for Life project worked diligently on creating its professionally developed CD/DVD. This is one of those long awaited tools that I believe will get great use. It is simple to use and carries messages for all audiences. I recall the first viewing of the initial presentation; once members got a peek they couldn't wait to get their hands on it! Wait till you see the finished product. It's wonderful! Sincere thanks to our partners (l'association manitobaine des directrices et directeurs d'immersion française (AMDI) and the Manitoba Association of Teachers of French (MATF), and also to the Bureau de l'éducation française (BEF) for supporting this project and its wonderful materials.

An item of interest watched closely throughout the country was the announcement that New Brunswick was cancelling its Early French Immersion program. As Canada's only bilingual province this was very concerning and had many of us wondering if the same thing could happen in Manitoba. After many months of negotiations and a private citizens court battle, New Brunswick has now come to a compromise that we hope will ensure that Early Immersion will continue as an option within that province. CPF continues to work to make our French Second Language learning the best it can be, here in our province, as well as across Canada. We thank Minister Bjornson and the staff of the BEF for their continued support of FSL learning in Manitoba.

Throughout the past year I have been involved in the planning of a CPF-National Strategic Plan. The goal is to have this approved at the National AGM in October 2008, so that new direction can be given to CPF as a whole. It has been an intensive and exhaustive procedure. Over 90 recommendations have been worked into five common High Level Goals, with strategies being developed to accomplish each goal and performance measures set to determine success. I believe that with this document we will strengthen what CPF stands for and continue to move forward the agenda of French Second Language learning for all Canadians.

In closing, I would like to thank all those who work untiringly toward our French language goals: our funders Canadian Heritage and the Bureau de l'éducation française (BEF), our many partners Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface (CUSB), Conseil des ministres de l'Éducation (CMEC), Société franco-manitobaine (SFM), Éducatrices et éducateurs francophones du Manitoba (EFM), L'Association manitobaine des directrices et directeurs d'immersion française (AMDI), Manitoba Association of Teachers of French (MATF) Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT), Conseil jeunesse provincial (CJP), Envol 92.1, Action-Médias, and of course our illustriously talented CPF-MB staff, Catherine Davies Executive Director, Janet Steithorson, Administrative Manager and Jocelyne Russell, Project Coordinator. I would also like to extend my gratitude to the CPF-MB Board members Philip Fenez, David Hyckie, Phil Farard, Jocelyne Godin, Paulette Dupuis, Christine Sutherland and Ménéoukia Blanchette-Buscio.

It's been a great year and I truly enjoyed working with you all. I say a fond farewell to David Hyckie and Phil Farard who are moving on to the next chapter in their lives and I welcome the new Board members who are joining our team.

Connie Lucian

Executive Director's Report



Catherine Davies

April 2007 - March 2008

2007-2008 was another active and productive year for Canadian Parents for French – Manitoba (CPF-MB).

All CPF-MB initiatives / activities were enabled by funding awarded through:

- The federal department of Canadian Heritage under the *Enhancement of Official Language* program, *Promotion of Linguistic Duality* component
- The provincial department of the Bureau de l'éducation française under the *French Second Language Revitalization program*
- The provincial department of the Bureau de l'éducation française under *The Canada-Manitoba Agreement on Minority Language Education and Second official Language Instruction*

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

- Committed volunteers from Chapters across the province
- Dedicated provincial Board members
- Enthusiastic provincial staff
- Supportive partners such as Collège universitaire de Saint-Boniface (CUSB) Conseil des ministres de l'Éducation (CMEC), Société franco-manitobaine (SFM), Éducatrices et éducateurs francophones du Manitoba (EFM), L'Association manitobaine des directrices et directeurs d'immersion française (AMDI), Manitoba Association of Teachers of French (MATF) Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT) and Conseil jeunesse provincial (CJP)

A number of CPF-MB activities were also specifically sponsored by:

- CUSB
- SFM
- Service Canada

1. CPF-MB continued to increase reinforcement of positive public attitudes toward linguistic duality through a variety of activities including, but not exclusive to the following:

a. Chapter Support Services

In April 2007 the first Chapter teleconference meeting was held. This provided the Chapters with an opportunity to discuss local issues with the Branch President and Executive Director. The CPF-MB Executive Director / Staff / Board Directors also visited Chapters in The Pas, Thompson, Flin Flon and Portage-la-Prairie, attended Chapter AGM's in Morden and Selkirk and the Thompson French Immersion 25th Anniversary Event. Such activities served to encourage good and open communication between the Branch office and its Chapters, as well as assisting the Branch to better understand and respond to Chapter needs.

Throughout the year a number of Chapter challenges were brought forward. These included the difficulty of recruiting French Immersion (FI) teachers and maintaining enrolment standards to ensure the continuation of FI programs in rural and northern communities. CPF-MB continued to address such issues through the work of the French for Life project.

Planning for succession for Chapter Executives remained a concern in many communities. This has become more difficult for Chapters as volunteers experience burnout and become overwhelmed. As a result the Branch continued with its endeavours to provide support to assist with this issue. Additionally, at the CPF-MB AGM in October 2008, a Chapter workshop specifically addressed this matter. Also at the AGM, Chapters were asked for feedback with regards to Branch services; what they liked and suggestions for improvement. Overall, the results were positive and they are happy with what the Branch provides.

Two new CPF Chapters were established; Pembina Trails and Stonewall. Pembina Trails made concerted efforts to maintain milieu French Immersion environments and Stonewall was successful in advocating for a French Immersion program in its community.

Rebates from membership fees enabled Chapters to maintain and initiate FSL related activities within their local communities and once again Chapters had the opportunity to apply for funds of \$200 or \$250, to assist with financing of new and innovative French Second Language (FSL) related initiatives / activities. Funds were awarded to those initiatives that served to increase reinforcement of positive public attitudes toward linguistic duality and / or provide young Manitobans with opportunities that would assist them to learn about the French language and culture through extra-curricular activities. Applications were of high quality this year and as a result the following initiatives were supported by CPF-MB: *Le Petite Café, Rockin' CPF French Concert, Family Movie Night, Springtime in Paris, Fou du française, Soirée d'information pour les élèves en année, Festival du Voyageur Days, FSL Family Fun Night, CPF Welcome Package and Purchase of French Literature.*

CPF-MB provided 14 *Certificates of Merit* to Powerview and The Pas for French

Immersion high school graduates from those communities. The certificates addressed the need to acknowledge students who acquired more than 7 and less than 14 credits.

The pamphlet *FI An Overview for Parents* was revised and 500 distributed in response to CPF-MB Chapter feedback and needs. Other FSL promotional materials were also disseminated including: 350 *Core French*, 1750 *Math and English Skills*, 1750 *I'm Learning French*, 1750 *I'm Staying in French*, 1500 *Intensive French* and 400 copies of the new *CPF Early Childhood Activity Book* (ECAB). The ECAB proved to be very popular and a number of Chapters are now planning to provide a copy to every child when they enter the FI program.

b. Membership Services

Membership information / contact information was provided to Chapters to assist with membership maintenance and the Branch office provided welcome packages to new members and informational packages to renewing members. Membership was closely monitored and remained stable at approximately 1700; expired memberships being followed up via telephone, mail and e-mail and a membership drive was orchestrated in November 2007.

The CPF-MB website was updated on a regular basis, with appropriate various links being added as appropriate. Partners, members and other interested parties were encouraged to use www.cpfmb.com to access information and publicize events and between April 2007 and March 2008 website visits and hits reached an all time high; 7,202 visits and 158,229 hits.

The rotations of the French Multi Media Kits were fully booked for the 2007-2008 school year. The Kits provided a variety of French learning resources to FSL students and their parents. Through a variety of interesting mediums, FSL students and their families had access to materials that enabled them to experience French as a living language, in the home environment, acquire a better appreciation of the French language and its value and cultural context, participate in a second language learning experience together and outside of the formal school environment. 85% of bookings for the senior kits were made by schools with students in Basic French programs. Thus demonstrating that a definite need was addressed, as this group typically does not have easy access to materials in French in their schools / school libraries.

French for FSL Parents courses were held in northern and rural communities where such opportunities are not usually available. Evaluations from participants were exemplary. Once again this initiative proved to be an extremely valuable parent support. Specifically designed to help parents understand the basics of the FSL curriculum and learning, the course covered basic French language and strategies to assist parents to support their children as they progress through FSL programs.

c. Promotion, Publicity and Information Dissemination

The CPF-MB display units were used during visits to Chapters, at the provincial Concours, French for Career Options and the Brandon Bilingual Career Symposium and approximately 800 brochures and 400 promotional items were distributed to students, parents, teachers and other FSL stakeholders. These all promoted various aspects of FSL learning and continued to be valuable visual tools that stimulated interest in CPF-MB and FSL programs available in MB.

CPF-MB newsletters were distributed throughout the province to CPF members, partners, funders, FSL stakeholders, CPF-MB Chapters, CPF Branches throughout Canada, MLAs / MPs. The newsletter continued to be a valuable medium through which pertinent MB related FSL information was disseminated and brought to the forefront. The February 2008 edition was a "French for Life Special Edition". This provided up to date FSL information for parents and stakeholders, fun activities for children, and it also served to highlight the successes of this promotional project from its commencement in 2005.

The French for Life (FFL) promotional project continued to be managed, facilitated and coordinated by CPF-MB, in partnership with the MB Association of French Immersion Principals (AMDI) and the MB Association of Teachers of French (MATF). FFL served to promote FSL learning with students, parents, teachers, administrators and school trustees as the primary target groups. Related activities included the delivery of presentations, conducting radio interviews, advertising via billboards, benches and transit mediums in Winnipeg, Brandon, Flin Flon and The Pas, answering enquiries from the general public, teachers and administrators, researching and updating information on the website, distributing promotional items, developing a FFL Parent and Teacher Handbook, DVD and CD Rom. The following statistics for a 15 month period demonstrate the scope of this project: website hits - 170,000, promotional items distributed - 24 000, estimated billboard viewings - 14,200,700, estimated bench advertisement viewings - 30,100,900, estimated transit advertising viewings - 10,600,400, presentations delivered - 288 (delivered to 6892 students, 758 teachers and 809 parents).

French for Career Options was facilitated by CPF-MB in May 2007 in partnership with CUSB and CJP and in March 2008 CPF-MB facilitated a Rural Bilingual Career Symposium in partnership with Brandon University. Overall, evaluations were positive and the projects were successful in that French Immersion and Basic French students were provided with information that they could use to assist them in making pertinent career and life decisions that encompass the use of both official languages and informed them of the advantages and increased opportunities that being bilingual presents to them in their choice of career.

2. CPF-MB continued to reinforce its capacity to influence policy and decision-makers, through a variety of activities including, but not exclusive to the following:

a. Communication with Politicians and Other Elected Decision Makers

Significant decision makers were invited to attend and participate in CPF-MB events. Those who accepted included the MP for St. Boniface, the Leader of the Liberal Party in MB, the Assistant Deputy Minister representing the MB Minister of Education, the MLA for Tuxedo, the PC Education Critic and the Representative of the Commissioner of Official Languages. All were directly exposed to parents, students and teachers involved in FSL programs and activities. Such situations provided the opportunity for information, challenges experienced, and successes to be shared with decision makers with the potential to influence the future of FSL in Manitoba.

The CPF-MB Management Committee met with the Commissioner of Official Languages in September 2007. Topics discussed included: the concept of mandating French as a second language vs. mandating a second language, securing future / sustainable funding for FSL needs and the areas of concern that generated the French for Life project, i.e. lack of standing of Basic French, complacency regarding FI programs, attrition in FSL programs and perception of FSL teaching as a career option.

In February 2008 The CPF-MB President, Vice President and Executive Director met with the Minister of MB Education, Citizenship and Youth. This provided an opportunity to bring forth concerns pertaining to: changes for FI graduation requirements, challenges facing FI schools due to changes in demographics (as in Pembina Trails SD), further transparency of non Action Plan / FSL Revitalization funds, provincially funded projects and funding challenges and attracting FI teachers to MB.

b. Communication with Those Responsible for FSL and FFL Education.

Throughout the year CPF-MB attended meetings with AMDI and MATF representatives (members of the French for Life Steering Committee), BEF, CUSB, SFM, EFM and MAST (members of French for Life Advisory Committee), the Organizing Committee for the BEF's French Immersion conference, BEF's Project Officer, CASLT's Executive and Vice-President, MATF President, Superintendent of Louis Riel School Division, BEF's Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Finance and the Interlake School Division Board.

Meetings with the French for Life Steering and Advisory Committees enabled utilization of valuable FSL educational expertise and served to further develop partnerships with FSL associations.

Attendance at the meeting of the organizing committee for the BEF French Immersion Conference enabled CPF-MB to provide input and influence the content and structure of the event from a parental perspective. This conference was held in December 2007 and the CPF-MB Vice-President and Executive Director attended and led a round table discussion on "Working with Parents".

Also the “French Immersion Handbook for School Leaders” was launched at this event. It has since proved to be a valuable tool for FSL stakeholders including parents.

Meetings with the CASLT Executive and Vice President and President of MATF provided CPF-MB with the opportunity to demonstrate that it supports FSL programs in general and provides services / responds to needs of both French Immersion and Basic French groups as appropriate. CPF-MB had been questioned as to its support of Basic French activities and so provided clarification; 70 % of CPF-MB activities are inclusive with regards to Basic French.

As a result of the Intensive French program being discontinued in the Louis Riel School Division, CPF-MB responded by sending a letters of concern / disappointment to the SD Superintendent and attending school board meetings to support parents in their quest to maintain the Intensive French program. Unfortunately, the decision to discontinue the Intensive French program in the Louis Riel School Division was not revoked. As a result, the St. James Assiniboia School Division is the only division in Manitoba that offers this program.

At The 2007 CPF-National AGM, the President and Executive Director of CPF-NB expressed concerns relating to the possible discontinuation of Early French Immersion programs in New- Brunswick. Along with other CPF branches, CPF-MB responded by writing letters to the NB Premier and Minister of education opposing this possible action. They also had a meeting with MB decision makers to inform and ensure that such a scenario would not be repeated in Manitoba. The New Brunswick situation and the situation concerning Intensive French in MB (previously referred to in this report) served to demonstrate that FSL stakeholders cannot afford to become complacent with regards to supporting French Second Language learning in Canada.

CPF-MB supported the newly established Stonewall Chapter and attended a number of meetings with the Interlake School Board re: the establishment of a FI program in Stonewall. Such efforts were successful, as a French Immersion program will be offered in this community commencing September 2008.

c. Communication with those responsible for Post-Secondary Education.

CPF-MB and CUSB worked collaboratively in the planning of several 2007-2008 FSL Revitalization projects / activities. CUSB also remained a member of the FFL advisory committee, providing valuable post-secondary educational expertise for the French for Life project.

The new partnership with Brandon University allowed the needs of students in rural MB to be addressed i.e. it enabled, for the first time, the facilitation of a bilingual career related event outside the City of Winnipeg.

All Enquiries concerning post secondary education opportunities were directed by CPF-MB to the Universities of Winnipeg, Manitoba and Brandon, as appropriate.

Post secondary establishments were encouraged to use the CPF-MB “I’m teaching French because.....” promotional materials to stimulate interest in the teaching of French as a viable career option.

d. Consolidating and Developing Partnerships

The CPF-MB partnership with SFM continued to grow and strengthen. This was demonstrated in May 2007 by SFM sponsoring an award for the Impromptu Category of Concours “Prix Société franco-manitobaine” its involvement in the award ceremonies and provision of volunteers for this event. SFM also continued to direct parents of FSL students to CPF-MB and in turn CPF-MB directed many enquiries to the SFM informational services 233 ALLO.

CPF-MB continued to support the CMEC and this was demonstrated by pieces included in the CPF-MB newsletter for CMEC projects such as ODYSSEY, ACCENT and EXPLORE (all provide valuable recreational and work experiences within a French language culture and environment).

French for Career Options 2007 and the Rural Bilingual Career Symposium 2008, provided an opportunity to establish partnerships with employers indicating a need for bilingual employees. Also, as previously described in this report, CPF-MB established a new and mutually beneficial partnership this year with the University of Brandon and for the first time CPF-MB embarked on a partnership with Camp Arnes to facilitate a Pilot FI Youth Camp.

Meetings were held with representatives of other FSL organizations such as Alliance Française, CJP and SEVEC. Areas of mutual interest were identified and discussed and it was determined that there may be potential for future collaboration on issues of joint interest.

3. CPF-MB continued to assist young Canadians to learn about the French language and culture through extra-curricular activities through a variety of activities including, but not exclusive to the following:

a. Cultural Tours

The Cultural Tours provided approximately 3,000 Manitoban youth living in urban, rural and northern areas with an opportunity to experience French Canadian Culture. A total of 13 schools were visited in a number of communities: A total of 13 schools were visited in a number of communities: Thompson, Flin Flon, The Pas, Swan River, Portage-la-Prairie, Brandon, Morden, Powerview, Beausejour, Dugald and Transcona. Activities included a concert and workshops that targeted French second language students in Grades 5/6 and Grades 7/8. The workshops introduced French Canadian poetry and songs, with students having the opportunity to become poets for the day. Students also composed their own texts following a provided format and composed a song together, a ‘cadavre exquis’ – round-robin style that was then put to original guitar music by the facilitator. The students were then able to

perform their song during the concert, which included original and traditional French Canadian songs that had the students singing and dancing along.

b. Theatre Project

The Theatre project took place in April 2007. Nine schools in Winnipeg and rural Manitoba were visited (3 more than last year) and 279 students participated; 78 Intensive French students in Grades 5/6, 57 Basic French students in Grade 7 and 144 Basic French students in Grades 9-12. The mediums of drama and script writing were utilized to broaden the views of students with regards to the uses and possibilities of using the French language as a means of communication and expression.

One month before the scheduled events, teachers were provided with a list of vocabulary that would be used during the project activities. This enabled teachers to prepare students in advance by making them aware of the terms that would be used during the project activities. Students were then provided with an original play with the theme "Academic Cheating: Bad, Worse and Ugly". They then wrote their own conclusion and went on to present their final productions to audiences comprising of other students.

Students were able to use their written and verbal French skills in a comfortable non-intimidating environment, and many discovered they had the ability to develop and utilize French skills in a variety of creative ways. All participants were exposed to the cultural and artistic elements of learning and using French, and enjoyed a fun and enjoyable French language confidence-building experience.

c. Camp Soleil

Camp Soleil was held in 8 MB communities and was attended by approximately 123 students aged 6 to 10 years. Students were encouraged to spend their entire day speaking French, and were provided with an opportunity to use the French language outside of the classroom in a fun environment, which encouraged creativity, imagination, and an insight into French as a day-to-day language. All activities for this year's camp focused on the theme of "The Beach": Interaction / familiarity, games, stories, day trips, crafts and sports were all designed to encourage the use of new and varied vocabulary in relation to this theme. The students learned in an atmosphere of fun and humour, while being immersed in the French Language.

d. Pilot Youth Camp

A 5-day residential camp, was offered in the summer of 2007 to French Immersion students aged 11- 14 year olds. The primary goal of the camp was to address the need to ensure that French Immersion students are affected positively in their language learning outside of the classroom. The camp also served to address the need to maintain the momentum of French language learning throughout the summer months when many French Immersion students have little or no opportunity to continue practicing, expanding and using the

French language skills they acquired in the previous school year. More particularly the camp sought to target older French Immersion children who were: too old for existing CPF-MB FI camps i.e. these cater to children aged 6 to 10 years, too young to take on summer jobs and were at an influential stage of development and decision-making i.e. many children in this age group abandon their study of French and leave French Immersion programs.

The funding amount awarded for this pilot project was restrictive in that it did not enable CPF-MB to provide the staff, location and facilities for the project. In essence CPF-MB was dependent upon its partner for these aspects. As a result, CPF-MB was unable to ensure that its mandate was followed and that optimum usage of French was encouraged at all times. Overall, the desired objectives of the project were not acquired. CPF-MB went on to conduct a survey of its membership to determine interest in future projects of this kind and from the results it was determined that it was not currently viable.

e. Concours d'art oratoire

This year approximately 9,000 students competed at the school and divisional levels of Concours, as a result of 950 schools being contacted to solicit participation. 19 school divisions and 9 independent schools were involved. There were 25 categories (5 more than in previous years). The 5 new Core Extended French Core categories brought MB in line with National Concours criteria.

The provincial final was held at Le College universitaire de St. Boniface (CUSB), and was attended by 145 finalists from across the province, making 2007 the largest provincial finals ever. All students placing 2nd and 3rd in each category received a plaque. Students placing 1st in each category each received a plaque and a trophy for display at their respective schools. Also, 1st place winners in Grades 7/8 received a cash prize of \$100, and in S1/S2 and Impromptu S3/S4 a cash prize of \$200. The students placing first in the S3/S4 categories were each automatically awarded a \$2,000 scholarship for the University of Ottawa and also had the opportunity to compete for further \$20,000 scholarships when they went on to represent Manitoba at the National Concours event.

f. Improvisation Workshops

Improvisation workshops were held in May 2007 and March 2008 in Thompson, The Pas, Swan River, Dauphin, Portage-la-Prairie, Elie, Powerview and Winnipeg. A total of 11 schools were involved and approximately 540 FSL students participated; 380 from Grades K-8, and 160 from Grades S1-S4.

The program was presented entirely in French. Drama, theatre and improvisation were incorporated into all activities. Students were provided with an opportunity to learn the expressive story-telling technique of improvisation and use their French vocabulary and language skills simultaneously. Participants experienced an enjoyable "real life" event that was geared to enhancing aspects such as character development, communication, techniques and styles, spontaneity, creativity, team work, mime and rules. Older students were encouraged and

motivated to continue their FSL learning, were made more aware of their potential for communication in French, and therefore a more positive attitude toward the French language and culture was enhanced.

4. CPF-MB continued to maintain good governance of the organization through a variety of activities including, but not exclusive to the following:

a. Administration

CPF-MB effectively managed recruiting, staffing, accounting, budgeting, auditing, capital expenditures, research, purchases, database maintenance, reporting, and funding applications.

Reports, evaluations and financial documentation were provided to Canadian Heritage and MB Citizenship, Education and Youth, as required and on time.

CPF-MB staff meetings were held on a regular basis to ensure effective monitoring and coordination of operational activities and guidance / mentorship was provided as necessary and possible, following staff appraisals.

b. Funding and Corporate Sponsorship

Funding applications for Special Projects 2007-2008 (Concours, Camp Soleil, Improvisation Workshops, Cultural Tour, Theatre Project and FI Youth Camp) were successful.

Funding applications for FSL Revitalization Projects 2007-2008 (French for Parents in Rural MB, French for Life, Bilingual Career Symposium in Rural MB and French Multi-Media Kits) were successful.

CPF-MB secured CUSB bursaries for 2008 for FSL and FFL Grade 11/ 12 winners of the provincial Concours as well as other support in the form of provision of facilities, ambassadors and volunteer gifts. Sponsorship from SFM was also secured in the form of the "Prix Société franco-manitobaine" for the winner of the Grade 11/12 Impromptu category of Concours 2008.

CPF-MB acquired grant assistance from Service Canada through the Career Summer Placement program for Camp Soleil 2007.

In April 2007 a meeting with a Representative of Service Canada initiated dialogue concerning potential funding for CPF-MB career related initiatives. Further meetings took place in the fall of 2007 and winter of 2008, however it was deemed that criteria for the project did not match Service Canada specifications, despite exploration of different avenues with the assistance of Service Canada representatives.

c. CPF-MB Board Meetings

The CPF-MB Board met in April, June, September, October and December, 2007 and in February and March 2008. Directors represented city, rural and northern FSL perspectives.

The CPF-MB Management committee met in April and June. Aspects covered included Executive Director appraisal and meetings / relationships with FSL partners.

The CPF-MB Editorial Committee communicated and met sporadically from April 2007 to February 2008 in relation to the May and October 2007 newsletters and the February 2008 newsletter.

The CPF-MB Nominations Committee communicated sporadically via e-mail and presented progress reports at regular Board meetings. A document detailing nominations for the CPF-MB Board of Directors for 2007-2009 was mailed to all CPF-MB members in July 2007 in accordance with bylaw requirements.

The CPF-MB Bylaws Committee proposed changes to the organizational policies. These were presented to and approved by the CPF-MB Board. The Bylaws Committee also met in May to review the organizational Bylaws. Proposed changes to Bylaws were mailed to all CPF-MB members in July 2007 in accordance with bylaw requirements and were passed at the 2007 CPF-MB AGM.

d. Provincial AGM

The Provincial AGM and related activities were held on October 12, 13 and 14, 2007.

Approximately 45 delegates attended the formal meeting. Attendees included but were not exclusive to CPF-MB Board members and staff, MB Chapter representatives, Canadian Heritage and BEF representatives, the CPF-National Liaison Officer, the Representative of the Commissioner of Official Languages, the Leader of the MB Liberal Party, the Progressive Conservative Education Critic, the Assistant Deputy Minister of MB Education, Citizenship and Youth, The Director of the Continuing Education Department of CUSB and the Vice President of AMDI.

The formal agenda included a review of the Annual Report, presentation of Chapter reports, election and appointment of Board members, audited accounts, financials, budgets etc.

A Chapter development workshop followed by a round table discussion provided Chapter representatives with the opportunity to share FSL issues and challenges pertinent to their particular communities. It also provided further insight to the Branch regarding Chapter needs that later assisted with the strategic planning process which was part of the December, 2007 CPF-MB Board meeting.

e. Branch Strategic and Long-Term Planning

The issue of Chapter revitalization remained a priority and was the focus of the Chapter development workshop during the weekend of the provincial AGM in October 2007.

At the June 2007 Board meeting the CPF-MB Board of Directors also directed that activities / projects requiring proposals to be submitted in December 2007 to the BEF would remain the same as for 2006-2007. However, when meeting during the 2007-2008 school year the CPF-MB Board of Directors would decide upon proposals for activities / projects that will require submissions in December 2008. To assist CPF-MB, Chapters were asked to identify their particular needs during the round table discussion of the AGM activities, as previously mentioned in this report.

Additionally, other FSL organizations such as AMDI, MATF and CUSB were contacted and asked for input re: activities / projects with the potential to be facilitated in collaboration, to ensure optimum use of all areas of FSL expertise.

f. National AGM

The 2007 CPF-National AGM and related events were held from October 18 – October 21. Delegates from Manitoba included CPF-MB President and Executive Director. As well as the formal AGM agenda, other activities focused on the National Strategic Planning process.

g. CPF President Meetings

Branch Presidents from across Canada met in June 2007 in Toronto in conjunction with a CPF-National Strategic Planning Session. The CPF-MB President was able to provide input from a parental, volunteer and Manitoban perspective.

h. CPF Executive Director Meetings

CPF-MB participated in teleconference Branch Executive Director meetings in May, September and November 2007, and January 2008. Executive Directors met face-to-face in October 2007 during CPF-National AGM activities and in March 2008. The CPF-MB Executive Director was able to provide input from an operational and Manitoban perspective.

i.. Chapter, Board and Staff Training

A former CPF-SK Chapter Development Officer delivered a workshop to CPF-MB Chapter representatives, provincial Board members and staff following the provincial AGM. This focused on how to get people involved in Chapter activities and how to encourage individuals to take on Chapter leadership positions.

CPF-MB was fortunate in receiving governance training from CPF-National for its Board of Directors in June 2007. This process helped to ensure that Board

members were aware of and had an understanding of their roles in accordance with the Carver governance model.

CPF-MB Chapter Reports

CPF Beausejour Chapter 2007-2008 Report President, Tamara Strecker

- Shared our \$225 FSL Initiative Incentive funds with Brokenhead River Regional Library to cover the cost of the purchase of 23 French language books.
- Participated at “Meet the Teacher” nights at Beausejour Early Years School (BEYS) and Edward Schreyer School (ESS).
- Volunteered at Kindergarten registration and at the Three Year old Readiness Clinic where we answered any questions concerning the French language program.
- Sent French Immersion and CPF information brochures to Happy Times Nursery School and to the resident school day care program.
- Sent out Welcome packages to Kindergarten, and returning Grades 1 through 12 students.
- Sent “It’s not too late to register in French Immersion” sheets to all incoming Grade 1 students.
- Displayed CPF posters and posters created by our French Immersion children in school hallways.
- Held our AGM in October. Here the Assistant Superintendent, Paul Magnan spoke on “Sunrise School Division French Immersion – Past, Present and Future”.
- Booked a visit from Sandy Drysteck of the BEF for October 2009. The topic of discussion will be French, a language of choice”.
- Contributed \$300 for BEYS concert with Damien Lussier and another \$300 for Festival du Voyager field trip costs.
- Donated a gift basket to the BEYS Spring Tea.
- Hosted February’s Free French Friday Movie night, which featured **Ratatouille!**
- Held Petit Café in March; service was in French and French cuisine was served. Bon appetite! Mark your calendars for a repeat French experience! Parents and teachers accomplish great things!
- Treated Beausejour School’s 5 secretaries to a Chinese Buffet lunch and 4 lucky French teachers to Hydro Therapy Massage.
- Awarded the CPF Beausejour Chapter \$100 scholarship to Ashley Lazar who is an ESS student.
- Held our 50/50 draw on June 15. The first prize winner was Bonnie Holigroski, and the second prize winner was Catherine Graham who received a beautiful watercolor print.
- Proceeded towards our goal of additional exterior signs for Ecole Edward Schreyer and “Proud to offer French Immersion since 1981” on BEYS. Our intention is to greet our students this fall with age appropriate French finesse.
- Scheduled French Camp Soleil for July 28 to August 1; the theme is “We are going camping”.

- Asked parents whose children are registered in French Immersion to participate in an information phone tree that assists in informing families of French events taking place close to home. They were directed to contact any CPF member, including President Tamara Strecker @ 268-1124.
- Commenced planning for CPF and our children to ride in Beausejour's Double "B" Rodeo Parade in September 2008.

Now we are looking forward to next year's season of learning and continuing in French Immersion.

Merci.

CPF Brandon Chapter 2007-2008 Report President, Joyce Farough

The Brandon Chapter had a quiet year. We chose not to have a book fair due to lack of time, and relied solely on our Mon's Pantry order for fundraising.

We did not have a camp this year, as we usually hold it the last week of August and this year that particular week was already taken by another Chapter. We have discussed this problem with the CPF-MB office and at the Chapter teleconference meeting.

Concours had a new format this year and it worked really well. The Grade 8 trip to Quebec in June was also successful and planning and fundraising for the next trip has already started.

We continue to be present at Parent Council meetings, School Board meetings and forums, and wherever else people are making decisions that concern students.

This is my last year with CPF and we are currently in a state of reorganization. I am looking forward to seeing how the new CPF Brandon Chapter looks!

Barb Harrison, Treasurer

CPF Dauphin Chapter 2007-2008 Report President, Maggie Campbell

The Dauphin Chapter of CPF was active again in 2007-2008 with a variety of events and activities that helped to promote FSL and the FI program offered in Dauphin. Many of these are not new to the chapter and include:

- Fundraising for the Quebec school trip.
- Cultural tours, and associated media articles.
- Supporting kindergarten registration.
- Participating in parent partnership meetings.

- Organizing and staffing display booths at the Family Fun Night, and the Olde Market Square event.
- Supporting speech competitions at École Macneill and MacKenzie Middle School.
- Supporting a Bon Voyage night for Quebec Trip participants.
- Hosting Camp Soleil in July.

Along with these activities, the Dauphin Chapter

- Supported an Improve workshop at École Macneill.
- Supported Middle School students Improve event for École Macneill students.
- Met with local High School administration to discuss options to grow the Immersion programming at the high school level

We continue to explore ways to provide more opportunities to our students wanting to continue their FSL learning in the High School. The School Division works in partnership with other Divisions to provide videoconferencing courses.

Over the next year a focus will be building our membership base and getting current members more active with our chapter activities.

We are appreciative of the support received by the National and MB Branch staff, local teachers, administrators and the local School Board. Most of all however, these events and activities would not be possible without the help of various volunteers and the commitment of our local executive.

CPF Flin Flon Chapter 2007-2008 Report **Co- Presidents, Jane Hair and Diane Kritzer**

Below is a summary of activities which the CPF Flin Flon Chapter participated in / coordinated last year:

- Awarding of a major Bursary to a high school graduate.
- Annual General Meeting with potluck attended by FI parents and children.
- An evening performance of a French musician together with a potluck dinner attended by FI parents and children.
- Bookfair fundraiser.
- Sliding party at our local ski lodge (this is an annual event).
- Freeze Frame Company attended in June 08.
- Sent kids to the CPF-MB Career Symposium in Brandon in March 2008.

CPF Morden Chapter 2007-2008 Report

President, Maureen Terra

Last October, I had the opportunity to again represent the Morden Branch at the CPF-MB Provincial AGM.

On March 28th, in partnership with École Morden Middle School and the Morden Collegiate Institute, we used our CPF-MB FSL Initiative Incentive Fund to host a french rock concert by Western Canadian Music Award Winning francophone group, YA KETCHOSE. The concert was enjoyed by Grades 5 to 12 French Immersion and Grades 7 to 12 French students!

Friday May 9th, 2008 marked the return of our Family Dance. This year, we returned to the Thornhill Community Centre. We were astounded at the support from the many local businesses who donated prizes, food and refreshments, making our silent auction a huge success.

This year we sponsored another Grade 12 French award at Morden Collegiate Institute, in the amount of \$100.00. This was given to the Grade 12 student who had shown outstanding academic achievement in the French 40S. In addition, thanks to our fundraising, we were in a position to establish a fund for future awards.

During the week of August 5th to the 8th, we hosted Camp Soleil for 8 registrants; with thanks to organizer Carol Schofield.

Lastly, in an effort to express our sincere thanks to our members and volunteers, who have donated a fair amount of time and effort as board members and coordinating these events, we again made our Annual General Meeting a "Wine & Cheese" event for relaxing and socializing!

CPF Pembina Trails Chapter 2007-2008 Report

President, Debbie Calvo-Yaworsky

This has been my first year as both a member and president of our brand new chapter of Canadian Parents for French. We called our chapter Pembina Trails. As I completed my first year as President I am very proud to reflect on what we, as a collective team have accomplished.

The beginning of our year could have been described as pretty tumultuous. We did not know if our school community was going to be able to remain together. Our little school was facing an overcrowding issue and the school division wanted to send a portion of the students to another school. Members from the CPF-MB Executive met with members of our chapter to give suggestions on how we could keep our school together. We would like to thank Catherine Davies and Paulette Dupuis who had suggested that we give a formal presentation for the school board, they also supplied us with many useful facts that we later used in our presentation. In the end we are keeping our school community together and this was due to all the hard work our presentation committee did and the help from Catherine and Paulette. We

would also like to thank Catherine and The Management Committee of the CPF-MB Board of Directors who met on this matter to discuss our situation and then later corresponded directly to the Superintendent of Pembina School Division encouraging them to keep our French Immersion School a Milieu school and not to change it to a dual track school.... Thank you again for all your support!!

We successfully applied for our first CPF-MB FSL Initiative Incentive funds and received \$250.00 to put on a French movie night which turned out to be very successful and we are looking forward to doing it again in the upcoming year.

Jocelyn from French For Life came to the grade 5 room and grade 6 room and the kids loved her presentation!! Thank you Jocelyn.

Finally we put on our first Camp Soleil. This turned out to be a very successful event. We had a slow start but in the end we ended up with 16 campers. I would like to thank Jodi Hutchison for organizing the whole event and I would also like to thank Cori-Lee Paterson for finding half of our campers. We look forward to putting one on again next year.

For the 2008-2009 year we hope to book a cultural tour and try out other new activities. Our goal is to continue to promote the use of French in all aspects of our children's lives and the surrounding community. Finally, I would like to thank all our members for all their hard work and time they continually give our families.

Merci une mille fois!!

Debbie –Calvo Yaworsky, President

CPF Portage la Prairie Chapter 2007-2008 Report President - Delnora Rice

The CPF Portage la Prairie Chapter had another successful year of events and activities.

In October, Delnora attended the CPF MB provincial Annual General Meeting in Winnipeg and found it quite inspiring and informative. A report was given to the Chapter at its November meeting.

The artwork donated at the CPF-MB AGM for fundraising purposes raised \$417.00 by raffle sale.

The Chapter donated \$399.00 in total to École Arthur Meighen School and Ecole Crescentview School to purchase additional tapes, CDs, games, books etc, to add to the resource box established last year. We hope to add on an ongoing basis to the resource box, which is available for parents and students to borrow from the library.

A Family Fun Night was held in December. There were approximately 25 children along with their parents participating in the event. This was very successful in spite

of the poor weather that day. We used the same format as last year, which included storytelling with dramatization, crafts and snacks.

The Chapter AGM was held in December. The Executive remained in the same positions.

Catherine Davies, Executive Director CPF MB visited twice, once at a Chapter meeting to discuss current projects that CPF was working on. The second visit was to make a presentation to the Home and School organization at École Crescentview School to help dispel some misconceptions about CPF and its role in the school system.

Portage looked into hosting another French Class for Parents but was not successful on its own due to the high cost. We were not eligible for CPF-MB support as we were awarded it last year. There is a very strong interest for the course so hopefully we will be able to provide it again in the future.

The French Immersion Information Session was well attended this year and resulted in 31 registered students for kindergarten for the 2008/2009 year. CPF Early Childhood Activity books were purchased for inclusion in registration packs given out to kindergarten registrants.

Springtime in Paris was our highlighted event for the year with the aid of the CPF-MB FSL Initiative Incentive Fund. The event recreated a French Café with students serving. All services were provided en Française and cue cards were provided to help customers respond accordingly. This was a wonderful and successful exercise.

French entertainment was provided by Alex Mahe whose performance at École Crescentview School was very much enjoyed by the students, teachers and some parents.

We invited the local newspaper to cover our activities, which often resulted in articles and/or pictures being published.

The M&M fundraiser produced a very small return and we may lose the opportunity to host this in the future.

Medals were purchased for winners in the local Concours d'art Oratoire competition. These were well received by the recipients. We garnered a 1st and 2nd place in the provincial competition of which we are quite proud.

The Chapter participated in the provincial Chapter teleconference to discuss issues faced by Chapters across Manitoba.

We've seen continued growth annually in the Camp Soleil registration. This year there were 22 participants, one more than last year.

The Chapter will send a representative to the CPF-National AGM in October.

We are continuing to work hard to increase membership and foster good relationships within our schools. Thanks to all who helped us achieve our goals in the past year.

Merci.

CPF Powerview Chapter 2007-2008 Report President – Carrie Peloquin

École Powerview School has a very small CPF Chapter with a Board of four and about ten parent volunteers who help us achieve great things for our school year after year. We have a long history of about 25 years and hope to have many more.

September: Chapter President and Treasurer prepared the annual statements needed for the CPF-MB provincial AGM in Winnipeg. Preparations were made for two board members to attend this AGM.

Communication was opened with the administration and teachers to ensure that everyone was aware of the school set up and all the staffing issues that may affect our French Immersion program.

The CPF-MB Fall Cultural Tour was booked and set up with the office staff and the teachers that were to attend the program. The tour was with Damien Lussier.

October: CPF- Powerview held its AGM. The Board was elected with Carrie Peloquin staying on as President, Tammy Johansson as Vice President and Colleen Boulette as Treasurer. Monique Hawranik stepped down from our Secretary position after many years. Paulette Dupont came on as Secretary.

Sunrise School Division granted us an opportunity by hiring of Paulette Dupont to do French Enrichment in our school. This is very beneficial to our students and staff and brought opportunities for additional French programming. Talks began with regards to ideas for the French second language grant and ideas for us to do something new. As a result Cercle Moliere Le Bouche Orrielle tour was booked for the Spring. Fund-raising and Membership enhancement ideas were also discussed.

CPF sent letters home with the Maternelle students along with copies the new CPF Early Childhood Activity Work Books; these were courtesy of our chapter. This was a token of welcome from CPF Powerview to encourage the parents to join CPF and to feel free to come to us with questions and concerns. This also served as a great welcome to our NEW full day Maternelle program students. Along with the work books we also purchased some French games, word cards and other educational French materials for the New Maternelle class to enjoy.

January: The French second language grant was completed, with Paulette Dupont putting together a full day of activities and workshops for our students. The Gosselin Brothers “Improv’ your French” workshops were booked and setup with teachers. It was arranged that the French for Life representative would come to Powerview and

do some promotions in the school with Paulette Dupont. Concours D'art Oratoire information was discussed with teachers and administration to ascertain that participation was desired. After much discussion Sunrise School Division opted out of the event. However, Carrie put forth a desire to participate and invited the rest of the division to do so with us. This took a lot of time and work with CPF MB because we had to participate as an individual school and not a division.

QSP magazine sales were booked for our Spring fund raiser.

An article was written by Carrie for the local newspaper. This promoted the success of our new Maternelle full day program.

A fundraiser was facilitated with the RCMP for a hockey tournament and proceeds from the 50/50 draw went to our Chapter. Fundraising was also done using the picture that was donated by CPF-MB to our Chapter. A draw for the picture was made at the Concours D'art Oratoire evening.

Winter Carnival Plans were underway with the teachers and administration helping with a lot of the planning of events.

February: The Winter Carnival was on February 8th. It was a fantastic day with a lot of fun for all. Pancakes were served by the Knights of Columbus. K-8 English and French students participated in six outdoor activities. Classrooms were decorated with French art work and activities in the gym included a huge tug of war. It was a wonderful day thank you cards were sent to all who made the day possible.

Festival du Voyageur Week was facilitated with many French activities being enjoyed throughout the school. Staff Appreciation week was organized with the Parent Advisory Committee donating \$ 150.00 donated to the staff luncheon.

March: - Concours d'art Oratoire was held with many students performing and showing great talent. Prizes were given to the students and gifts were given to the judges.

Le Petite Café was enjoyed by the community. A small restaurant set up in a classroom by the enrichment program and our Grade 5-6 FI classes. The restaurant looked like Paris, had French ambience and served French Cuisine. Once again the event was a huge success.

Magazine sales helped to further raise funds for both CPF and our Playground committee.

The Gosselin Bothers were in the school and delivered a great Improv' workshop for the 7-12 students. Le Cercle Moliere was also in the school with a workshop for younger students.

French Week was held and enjoyed by the students in our K-8 classes with French activities throughout the week.

June: A meeting was held to decide on the Graduation Award applications and

recipient; Graduation certificates and a plaque were awarded. A CPF Board Representative attended the Graduation and passed out the awards.

CPF Selkirk Chapter 2007-2008 Report President, Carmen Pedersen

The new Executive was elected at the November 2007 AGM.

Chair	Carmen Pedersen
Vice Chair	Pat Bird
Treasurer	Julie Reid
Secretary	Chris Selby
Member at Large	Janine Pruneau

We received \$250.00 from the CPF-MB FSL Initiative Incentive Fund. Janice Burbella, a high school French Immersion teacher, used the funds to support a field trip to Winnipeg for Grade 11 students involved in ENVOL FM

ENVOL FM was a great success. Ten students in Grade 11 attended the action media workshop and produced a radio program in French. All the students received a CD copy of the aired broadcast. This was an important example of incorporating a CPF sponsored event into the school curriculum using oral, written skills and showing practical application of the French language.

Camp Soleil, Round the Campfire, was well attended. It was held in Selkirk at Ecole Bonaventure from July 21-25. Twenty one students attended and enjoyed all the great learning events including a field trip to Lower Fort Garry. A wrap up luncheon for students and parents was sponsored by our Chapter on the last day of camp.

École Bonaventure is holding a pilot project event called Strong Beginnings this September. Strong parental involvement at this event and the parent/teacher meetings coming up will allow us the opportunity to promote our Chapter, encourage new membership and hold a fundraising event using a beautiful picture donated by CPF Manitoba.

Upcoming goals are to promote the French for Life; Parent and Teacher booklet, and to work more closely with the French Immersion teachers at the high school level.

As of August 31, 2008 we have 28 members.

CPF Springfield Chapter 2007-2008 Report President, Maya Kathan

There has not been a lot of activity in the Springfield Chapter this year. There was not a Languages Consultant at the decision of the Sunrise School Division. When I contacted the School Board and the Principal at École Dugald School they said that the Languages Consultants' duties would be taken on by the individual schools. This person had a key role in organizing the Concours d'art Oratoire but this year the

school decided not to participate in this event. However, the students in grades 5-8 at École Dugald School attended a Divisional French Immersion Activity Day in Beausejour.

The Springfield Chapter paid for an ad in the local newspaper, which promoted the French Immersion Program at our school.

The school had a Festival du Voyageur Week which was organized by the teachers. The Chapter applied for the FSL Initiative Fund from CPF-MB and directed this money towards this event.

The French Immersion Program enrolment and retention remains excellent at our school. Enrolment numbers have increased and 2 new high quality portables have been added on to the school.

CPF Stonewall Chapter 2007-2008 Report President, Monica Conger-Morrison

In September 2007 we surveyed parents in the community as to whether they were interested in establishing French Immersion in Stonewall again. From there we met at a general meeting to discuss the possibility of implementing the program in our town. We also had the pleasure of having Jocelyn Russell give a talk about the advantages of bilingualism in our country. We then formed CPF Stonewall Chapter and got together every other week to discuss our plan to promote the program and to recruit students into Kindergarten.

In December we participated in the town's Santa Claus parade to distribute promotional materials to the community. We also had the opportunity to speak with the local media and to have articles and editorials written regarding our program and our intentions of beginning a French Immersion class in the fall of 2008.

In early 2008, we met with the school board and presented our list of interested Parents / students. We continued to call interested people and to do local interviews to acquire the magical number of 23! We then met again with senior administration and the school board in March where the Superintendent recommended against implementing the program as we only had 22 students on our list. The board then voted in favour of the FI program. All seven members voted for it!! We were thrilled to say the least!

Our Chapter then organised a Family Fun Day where we celebrated FI's return to Stonewall. We also invited our teacher to attend to meet and get to know the families in an informal setting. Fun was had by all!!

At the end of June, we gathered several French resources from a former parent and teacher of French Immersion who lives in Stonewall and passed these along to our teacher. Today was the first day (albeit half) of school for this Kindergarten class. It was a long road to get to this point but it was unquestionably

worth every effort!!

Monica Conger-Morrison
President CPF Stonewall Chapter

CPF Swan River Chapter 2007-2008 Report President, Christine Chmelowski

Not a whole lot to report from Swan River, yet it was a busy year. Here is a brief overview of our activities:

- CPF-MB Cultural Tour
- Halloween - Family "Danse en français"
- Family Picnic lunches in the gym
- Movie night - français (The Bee Movie)
- Special Lunches
- Assisted with Festival du Voyageur activities at school
- Bingo - en-français
- Financial assistance for Grade 7 - 9 SEVEC exchange trip
- Financial assistance for Grade 5 - 6 trip to Winnipeg for Festival du Voyageur
- Fundraising - purchased DVD player and kids' bike to add to the picture that was donated by CPF-MB. Sold raffle tickets and made over \$1000 ☺ HUGE THANKS to CPF MB!!
- FSL Initiative Incentive Fund - used to purchase books and CPF memberships for new Maternelle Grade 1 students. (This nearly doubled our membership!)

The best part of our recent year has been working with a NEW administrator that supported us and was willing to not only try new things, but take part in them too! Looking back on the last few years, we are definitely seeing the fruits of our labour and it is only getting better and better, as we now officially have a new, FRENCH-speaking superintendent who's indicated that she wants to help RECRUIT and RETAIN quality teachers in our schools. This is wonderful news, as our Immersion program has undergone many shifts and changes in teaching staff for this coming year, and is setting itself up to be a very strong and long-term viable program. All this to say, we are no longer the cranky Chapter, but becoming the warm-fuzzy, how-can-we-help-you Chapter. ☺

Chris Chmelowski, President

CPF The Pas Chapter 2007-2008 Report President, Melanie Young

We had a successful Camp Soleil August with 18 students attending. We also had one child from our area participating in the Camp Arnes pilot. However, we started off the year with a very unsuccessful Petit Café where we actually had a loss but we used our CPF-MB 2007 FSL Initiative Incentive funds for it so it didn't set us back too far. Our biggest challenge this year was the lack of parental involvement. It is

very hard to plan and execute events when there aren't enough parents helping out. We sponsored lots of events but only had one event for the students, which was a French story hour on the coldest night of the year in January 2008. We also contributed to the annual Walking Tour, Cultural Tour, Improv, Music and Fine Arts Festival. We held a book fair in December. We raffled off our picture donated by CPF-MB along with three other prints which enabled us to have the money to sponsor these events. We also helped fund the high school trip to Brandon to the Bilingual Career Symposium and a three day camp for the middle year students at a local camp in the spring. We updated our bursary requirements so that our applicants have to have been active in CPF activities in the past and need to apply in French. As well we reserve the right to not award the bursary if we don't find a suitable candidate. We did some public awareness activities such as decorating a library window with CPF information, attending a Preschool Wellness Fair, and having our Kindergarten Information Night. Finally, we used our 2008 FSL Initiative Incentive funds along with our own funds to purchase new literature for all three school libraries which have French Immersion as well as Alpha Jeunes for the Regional Library. Our greatest largest challenge for the upcoming year will be to build our chapter with not just people but with people who are willing to attend meetings to make decisions for our chapter. Currently we have positions on our executive vacant which hopefully will be filled before the Provincial 2008 AGM.

Melanie Young
President, CPF-The Pas Chapter

CPF Thompson Chapter 2007-2008 Report President, Tina Ehlbeck

Report was not submitted.

CPF-MB SINCERELY THANKS ALL OF OUR
VOLUNTEERS, FUNDERS, SPONSORS,
CONTRIBUTORS, PARTNERS, COLLEAGUES,
PARENTS, CHILDREN AND FRIENDS FOR
ANOTHER GREAT YEAR!

French, your



to new opportunities...