



CANADIAN PARENTS FOR FRENCH BRITISH COLUMBIA & YUKON

Who are we?

President: Sandra Arthur

VP: Christine Malmberg

Treasurer: Cedar Payne

Secretary: Vacant

Ecole Bayside Rep: Rachelle Hill

Ecole Keating Rep: Joel Dutil/
Karen McNeil

Ecole Deep Cove: Monique Hiltz

Ecole Stelly's: Sandra Arthur/
Christine Malmberg

Members at Large: Liza Glynn,
Cait Espinoza, Andrea Calder.

Our Contacts

**Canadian Parents for French
Saanich Chapter**

Website: www.cpf.bc.ca/saanich

Email: CPF.Saanich@gmail.com

Join our conversations:
[facebook.com/CPF.Saanich](https://www.facebook.com/CPF.Saanich)



Our Vision Statement:

“CPF-Saanich Chapter is the resource to parents and students for continued French language learning in an engaged community”



What do we do?

Welcome to our 2019 Winter newsletter! **Canadian Parents for French – Saanich** is a group of dedicated parent volunteers covering four schools within Saanich SD63 - Deep Cove Elementary, Keating Elementary, Bayside Middle School, and Stelly's Secondary. We come together once a month, to coordinate and fund French cultural activities for our children, raise funds for our programs, communicate with teachers and administrators on ways to foster our children's French language experience, and provide access and resources for parents of children in French Immersion and core French programs.



Please join CPF!

Help support FSL students in your community by joining or renewing your CPF membership online at bc-yk.cpf.ca/

Why

CPF offers tools, help, and exclusive members-only privileges (i.e. discounted French book purchases, summer camps at our annual Resource Book Fair etc). Join the conversations on our website and connect with like-minded people to support your children's education. **80% of your funds are used 100% to finance French events, special activities and French books at local FI Saanich schools.** Without your funds we will be unable to offer the great additional support to our local schools that are much needed. At only \$25 per year to receive a year's membership, it will greatly add to our ability to deliver MORE to your students' French study experience.

Join Canadian Parents for French at: www.cpf.ca

Don't forget to apply to join the Saanich Chapter.

Merci!

Reading Matters:

"... the first step to literacy is simply being immersed, through conversation and storytelling, in a reading environment; the second is to read a lot and often."

Susan Engel, senior lecturer in psychology and the director of the teaching program at Williams College.



This is why we arrange the popular Bonjour, Bonne Nuit events at our Elementary schools each year. This is a great activity that involves our older French Immersion students at Middle School, who come and mentor the younger children and read, play games and help them practice their French. Our next event will be scheduled at Ecole Keating - look out for details on our Facebook page!

Registration for French Immersion.

Our CPF volunteer representative, Monique Hiltz, was delighted to meet the many parents at the Kindergarten Information Night January 23rd At Kelset. This was a chance for parents to become:

Informed... and Involved... To Learn About...

- * The Early French Immersion Option within SD 63.
- * Play as a way of learning.
- * Reaching and teaching for the success of every child.
- * Beginning literacy, language and numeracy development.
- * A typical day in kindergarten.
- * Opportunities to be involved at school.

Due to the popularity of the French Immersion program and limited space, a lottery will be used to determine placement for new FI Kindergarten registrations.

Registration requests received at your FI catchment school during Kindergarten Registration Week **Monday, January 28 to Friday, February 1, 2019** will be included in the lottery.

The lottery will follow Saanich Schools enrolling priorities:

1. re-enrolling students (not applicable to new Kindergarten students)
2. siblings of re-enrolling students
3. catchment area children
4. non-catchment children
5. out of district children

Visit this link to learn more

<https://bit.ly/2B7J97M>



Events & activities supported so far 2018/19

CPF VIEWPOINT

"It is simply unacceptable for some children to be enriched and for others to be turned away in our public education system. These school districts need to do better." - Glyn Lewis, Executive Director of CPF BC & Yukon

More students are being turned away from #Immersion programs because of caps. Voice and share your viewpoints via our Facebook page.

Our CPF school representatives have been busy discussing ideas with teachers, students and parents. Here is a glimpse of some of the activities delivered and funded by CPF. AND there is more to come!!

Please [contact us](#) if you are interested in being a part of this dynamic group of volunteers. We are always seeking volunteer support. You do not need to speak French to support CPF - we really look forward to hearing from you.

SAVE THE DATE!

Join us at our next
meeting!

February 21, 2019, 6.30 - 8.00 pm



What	Where	Date	Time
French Cafe	Ecole Bayside	TBA	Under discussion
K-12 Celebration	Ecole Bayside	11 April 2019	5.30-7.00 pm
Concours Finals	Vancouver	May 4, 2019	https://bc-yk.cpf.ca
Bonjour Bonne Nuit	Deep Cove	Nov 2018	2.35-4.00 pm
Maple Man	Keating	Jan 24, 2019	All day!
Bonjour Bonne Nuit	Keating	to be advised	Stay tuned!
Maple Man	Deep Cove	Feb 25, 2019	Stay tuned!
French for the Future	Stelly's	April 2019 tbc	Stay tuned!
Maple Syrup Fundraising	All schools	Feb-March 2019	Look out for our posters
French Drumming/ Karate	Bayside	Under discussion	Stay tuned!
Film Festival	All schools	Dates tbc	Stay tuned!
French theatre	Ecole Stelly's	May 5, 2019	8.30-10.00 am
Verbathon	Elementary/Middle	Kits have been supplied	Tournament 2019 tbc

MAPLE MAN!

Saanich students and teachers enjoyed a visit from Rene, the Maple Man! A great atmosphere greeted our visitor, as many had come to school dressed in their best plaid shirts! The Maple Man shared the history of how maple syrup was discovered followed by a tour of his own farm in Quebec. The children enjoyed listening to his music and joining in by playing special wooden spoon instruments and drums. The younger students had fun learning new French words and remembering the secret "French password" to receive a sample of the delicious maple taffies!

Thanks to CPF Saanich and parent volunteers who attended to help with the taffy distribution.

We would also like to thank our District for working together with CPF Saanich Chapter



Membership Draw update:

The local membership draw recently took place:

Congratulations to our Saanich Prize winners -

First Prize:

Heather Kopeck - Fraser Creek Cottage, near Prospect Lake, Victoria, BC - kindly donated by Andrea Calder.

Runner up prizes:

Kim Cook - CPF Wool Hat/pin

Tara Keeping - CPF Water bottle

Rachelle Hill - CPF Shopping bag/pin

Jackie Ehgoetz - French book - Sandra Arthur

Liza Glynn - French book- Sandra Arthur

Jennifer Carson - CPF Lanyard pen



to finance and organize this event. Also, the B.C. Ministry of Education and Heritage Canada for their contribution, as well as our Canadian Parents for French - BC & Yukon for the support with these grants.

This was a great cultural event that was shared with all the students.

Don't worry Ecole Deep Cove, Maple Man is booked and will be visiting your school in February!

SMART PHONES

We know all kids love their smart phones. If they have an Instagram feed here's an idea: Suggest they check out "Talk in French" on their Instagram feed or other links such as Word of the Day in French.

<https://www.instagram.com/talkinfrench/?hl=en>

Why not also recommend they switch the language setting on their Smartphone to French (there is even French Canadian!) This is especially helpful if they have a Siri-enabled iPhone. They'll be able to hear he or she speak in French!

Don't forget that many social media platforms can also be set to French. - Get their friends to join them and make it cool to "aimer" et "partager" en français!

CPF FUNDRAISING

There are many fundraising requests going out to families and we thank those people who supported our recent Spring Bulb



fundraiser. Without these extra funds, CPF Saanich would be limited to what we can offer to our schools. Rest-assured we are using funds raised to support the many French learning opportunities for our students in Saanich, many of which are included in our Event guide within this newsletter.

We are repeating our popular maple syrup fundraiser later this year so we can add more fun French learning opportunities for our students. Please look out for details!

It's competition time!

In May every year, Canadian Parents for French BC & Yukon Branch hosts the Provincial *Concours d'art oratoire*.



The CPF *Concours d'art oratoire* offers hundreds of prizes to participants: university scholarships, trips to Ottawa, books, medals, merchandise, cash and more. Last year, more than 10,000 students in grades six through 12 participated in the Concours in communities throughout BC, almost 300 students participated in the Provincial Concours, and 4 students participated in the National Concours in Ottawa. Teachers and parents have been organizing Concours for over 25 years, and for many students, it's now part of the curriculum.

Key 2018 Concours dates

- **March 25, 2019:** Online Provincial registration opens
- **April 12, 2019:** Provincial registration deadline
- **May 4, 2019:** Provincial Competition, Simon Fraser University,
-

Good luck to the students at Bayside Middle School as they prepare for this years' Concours d'Art Oratoire competition.



French as a Second Language Teacher Shortage



Do have friends with students in French Immersion classes in Saanich? CPF Saanich Facebook page provides many helpful posts on local French news, interesting links, upcoming events, fun links, reports and resources and much more. Please share our page and ask your friends to like and join our conversations!

Please do join our community, get engaged and contribute to helping us offer additional French learning opportunities for our students.

Find us at:

[facebook.com/CPF.Saanich](https://www.facebook.com/CPF.Saanich)

French Immersion enrolment has been steadily increasing throughout Canada and in particular British Columbia. Saanich district student population had decreased since 2002/2003, however, the number of students enrolled in French Immersion has increased!

With the continued success of French Immersion there have been some challenges and one in particular that is now labelled a crisis : finding French teachers to fill the classrooms.

With a significant number of teachers expected to retire over the next few years (or so), French Immersion teachers are going to be in even higher demand than they are now! High School students, consider becoming a French Educator! Visit university websites to learn what it takes to become a teacher!

<https://continuingstudies.uvic.ca/education-learning-and-development/programs/teaching-english-as-a-foreign-language>

In the spring of 2018 the federal government announced \$62 million in new monies for French teacher recruitment and retention.

Last March, BC Education Minister Rob Fleming went to France and Belgium to sign bilateral agreements to help French speaking teachers come to B.C.

Finally, this past fall the provincial government opened 37 new French teacher training positions at SFU and UBC Okanagan. Finally, some positive action but we need more!



We believe that French Immersion kids in this School District should be offered an equally rich and diverse curriculum as other BC students. Let us know what you think!



Delighted to welcome Cindy Lister, Grade 6 French Immersion, Bayside Middle School AND Coordinator of French Immersion Program, Saanich School District at our recent CPF Saanich Chapter meeting.

In photo Left to right:

Cedar Payne, Sandra Arthur, Rachelle Hill, Cait Espinoza, Cindy Lister, Christine Malmberg.

Check out the Bursary for Professional Development in French/University Courses in French Bursaries to assist Core French, Immersion or Francophone Program teachers to attend credit and non-credit courses to improve their French academic and linguistic qualifications.

Application form available at: <https://www.bcedextranet.gov.bc.ca/bursary/>

Shared at the Canadian Parents for French CPF *Network Conference 2018 –The State of French-Second-Language Education in Canada* research reports examine how well French-second-language (FSL) programs are faring across Canada. The reports address a variety of long-standing and emerging issues in FSL education, like equitable access to FSL programs developing more effective FSL programs, student proficiency, additional learning opportunities and more. You can find it on this link:

<https://cpf.ca/en/files/The-State-of-French-Second-Language-Education-in-Canada-2018.pdf>



In French Immersion?
Join CPF today!
More member \$ =
More French Fun

Membership
Only \$25 p.a.

**CANADIAN
PARENTS
FOR FRENCH**
BRITISH COLUMBIA
& YUKON

Furthering bilingualism by promoting and creating opportunities for students to learn and use French